Smoke Signals

Sam Savajian

Statitrol Corporation

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AWARDS OF THE YEAR...

Jerry Cline, Training Coordinator, has offered the following "tongue-in-cheek" awards for the successful completion of personal development courses for 1976:

To:
Duane Pearsall - How to Become Secretary of Defense Without Even Trying...
Bill Thayer - Master of Basketweaving II
Ken Klapmeier - Bachelor Degree in Bionic Replacements
Art Mooney - How to Maintain Your Checkbook Under Extreme Stress
Mary Tuck - Hitchhiker Extraordinaire (or What to Do When You Run Out of Gas on the Freeway)
Sam Savajian - Chief, Disaster Control
Dick Moore - How to Efficiently Evacuate a Building Without Intent

We would personally like to congratulate Jerry Cline with the Book-of-the-Month Award for his unsolicited subscription to one of the better-known "girlie" magazines, which crops up in his office once a month. Chin up, Jerry! And count your blessings...at least the cartoons are funny!

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DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES...

4 yrs. - Jean Sonsthagen, Ann Mora, Vivian Seymour
3 yrs. - Dee Cleveland, Delphine Thompson, Priscilla Wiederhold
1 yr. - Linda Biddle, Binh Nguyen, Jean Otis, Kemp Hipple, Loc Tran, Vickie Jackson, Linda Lasater, Mary Luebke, Margaret Enax, Chong Chestnut, Ray Balzer, Rittamae Wines, Gail Ruben, Delores Benson, Gaylene Cougar, Carole Van Llerop, Carol Magin, Terry Taylor, Vera Baumfalk, Ruth Buchwald, Dong OK Chang, Donna Loucks, Brian Roche, Karen Headley, Mary Ann Clecior, Brad Brown, Shirley Spillman, David Jensen, Dixie Snyder, Mark Towne, Scott Keller, Loretta Malcom.

Congratulations to all of you, from all of us!

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STATITROL SPONSORS JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT GROUP...

This year, Statitrol is sponsoring a Junior Achievement Group. Junior Achievement is an international education program in which high school students organize and manage their own small-scale companies under the guidance of adult advisors from business and industry. Junior Achievement represents the very foundation of Duane Pearsall's beliefs in small business and the free enterprise system. Our advisors for the J.A. group are Tom Bellinghausen, Dennis Nieuwenhuis, Margie Hatchell, Reva Atchison and Jim Hambrick.

The group has chosen to call themselves Gusher Enterprises International, and the product they have chosen to market is "RACK-IT" coffee mug or accessory rack, to keep your kitchen, bedroom, etc. organized. The group is comprised of about 15 high school students. Gusher Enterprises International has elected its officers and established its operating budgets and procedures. A Corporate Charter was drawn up and presented by Duane Pearsall at the last meeting. The company has also completed production of 26 units; seven were sold the first week.

Gusher plans to be the first J.A. group to market internationally. With some assistance from Statitrol's International Marketing Manager, Frank Lineaweaver, they hope to work through some of our present International Distributors to help our J.A. group succeed in this exciting venture.

They are selling their decorative "RACK-IT", pictured below, for $7.40, including sales tax. Students will be visiting Statitrol's two plants the week of December 13, so you will have an opportunity to see the product, and perhaps purchase one. They make excellent Christmas gifts.

Place your order for Christmas delivery.

Your support for our first Junior Achievement Group will be appreciated.

"RACK-IT"
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

This is the time of year when each of us needs to count his blessings, and reflect on what has happened in 1976. For some, it has been a difficult year; for others, a very good one.

Statitrol has experienced the excitement of rapid growth and expansion, and more recently, we have also experienced disappointments. We have, however, survived crises of greater magnitude in the past, and we look forward to 1977 with strong feelings of optimism.

What makes Statitrol "special" is its people, and they are its greatest asset. We also have exciting new products in development which hold the promise of healthy, long-term future. More important, we have learned to build our products with greater efficiency and higher levels of quality.

It has been a good year for our Company, and 1977 promises to be even better!

My personal wishes to each of you for a Happy Holiday Season, and a new year filled with joy and happiness.

- Duane Pearsall

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ON THE MANUFACTURING SCENE...

Many dramatic changes have occurred in production over the last month. Changes in customer demands have necessitated interdepartmental transfers within manufacturing to meet these needs. We are fortunate in having employees who are versatile (and flexible) enough to transfer from one product to another and still maintain top efficiency.

Over the past weeks, the product line experiencing the highest percentage of growth has been our "old faithful" 040, (which incidentally is holding up our "cover Christmas tree"). From July thru September, there was more than a 300% increase in orders on this detector. Cause of production limitations, we found it necessary to go into overtime in this area, in order to avoid delinquency on customer requirements.

We also have four new products introduced in the last few months; the 900A Line-cord, which is the standard 900A equipped with an AC cord, giving Statitrol more diversification in its products. In anticipation of increased demand, Steve White's entire line (#4) was moved to line #2, which has greater production capabilities and can utilize the new environmental chambers.

Mike Fitzpatrick has assumed responsibility for line #4, which has two new products, the 800F and a revision to the 800C. Both of these products are going "full-steam" in anticipation of increasing orders.

The new 900D (presently in Industrial Engineering) will be turned over to production next month, and will be added to Steve White's growing line of products.

Line #1 (previously 800A) is now known as the 800A8115-1, and, due to increasing requirements, we've found it necessary to produce this unit at both plants (mostly because of bulkiness). This line is improving daily and it appears the training curve is just about finished.

Steve Wamboldt's Environmental Test and Final Test and Pack line has produced a record 1400 units (into stock) in one day. This is another area which has made product transition with top efficiency.

As a final note, several of the lines have gone into a team concept, with groups of 6 individuals plus a lead operator working together to complete all operations from module assembly thru final assembly. The main idea for using this concept is to improve overall quality and to allow assembly operators greater job knowledge in all aspects of manufacturing a complete alarm. Although still in the learning curve on this new project, one of the teams (#1, Lead Operator, Joan Phipps) has produced 306 units in one day. Performances such as this give encouragement not only to other employees, but also to supervisors and managers that the team concept does have a top potential in production.

My personal congratulations to all of you on your continued cooperation. - Del Novak

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COMPANY COMMENTS...

Lucky Lady! Bernie Meadors spent a month traveling throughout Germany. FANTASTISCH, BERNIE!!!

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Statitrol Bowler of the Month... Kathi Becker, who bowled a surprise 196...her average is 88! Talk about "sand-bagging"!

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Don Otis (Jean's husband) was on his way to vote (for the first time) in the last presidential election, when he noticed two little schoolgirls raising the American flag. After a quick "double-take", Don noticed the flag was upside-down - the signal for distress. He'd found the polling place!

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Dan Cary asked us to announce his transfer to Plant II on November 1. On November 15, Dan Cary transferred back to Plant I. (Dear Dan, you were missed!)

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Test Equipment Group (Plant II) takes pride in announcing that Darrell Decker has not had a cigarette in three months. Congratulations, Darrell!!

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An "unidentified" lady at Plant I is up for the "Foot-in-the-mouth Award" after requesting a stick of dynamite to blow up her smoke-test chamber from an unidentified man. (Duane, we thought everybody knew you!)

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Proud father, Dennis Chamberlain, was given a baby shower by some of his "ladies" after announcing the birth of his son, Eric Matthew, on November 20. Congratulations, Dennis!

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Our "quality" people presented us with a classic "malfunction" statement taken from a returned unit. To quote: "Horn does not sound; pilot light keeps turning on and off". Three cheers for our blinking diodes!!!

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Congratulations to new "mama", Gaylene Cougar, on the birth of her son, Michael, November 16.

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After Personnel announced that all employees would be gifted with turkeys during Christmas week, Bob Baker and Lou Fearing (who share an apartment) opted to sell their turkeys because (as each stated separately) "our pad isn't big enough for another turkey!".

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Belated Congratulations to Jeanette and Glenn McPeek (pictured below) on their 25th wedding anniversary. Many, many more!!!

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FROM STATITROL’S MEDICS...

We pass out the pills, attend to your ills... We want you to know we care!

We do our best, when put to the test... Anytime, anyplace, anywhere!

We attend to the lumps, the scrapes and the bumps, a burn or two...that's why we're hired!

We laugh and we cry, tell the truth - and we lie, are exhausted...but we never tire.

We're a special breed, with a special need, and appreciate that you understand.

In this season of cheer, happy Christmas and New Year...good health and peace across our great land.

- From Mary Tuck, R.N.
  Mary Lou Ray, R.N.
  Ann Haseltine, R.N.

(And they wrote it all by themselves!!!)

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OUR CHRISTMAS TREE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN WITH STATITROL MORE THAN 5 YEARS: Duane Pearsall, Ben Orr, Larry Sandy, Steve Weaver, Al Mayer, Linda Roberts, Paul Staby, Pete Erickson, Pete Smith, Bev Carey, Dick Moore, Jim Grater, Dave Antonio, Sam Savajian, Faye Jones, Virgie Sharp, Emma Stevens, Jane Sharp, Peggy Crider. (Not pictured - Josie Haakenson.)