

January 2009



Brayton International
2009 Plant Tour

Plant Tour Location

Brayton International
250 Swathmore Ave
High Point, NC

For more information including rates, times and directions go to www.triadapics.org.

Remember to register on-line before 7:00 PM on Wednesday before the plant tour for best rate.

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January 2009 Plant Tour

Tuesday, January 13th at Brayton International in High Point

Brayton International 2009 Plant Tour

The Piedmont Triad Chapter of APICS is proud to once again be invited to Brayton International, a division of Steelcase, for a plant tour to experience the continuous improvements that are being implemented to keep them a competitive and leading producer of furniture for the contract market. The tour will be on January 13, 2009 at the plant location at 250 Swathmore Ave in High Point. Registration begins at 5:30 pm with a catered full entrée buffet dinner starting at 5:40 pm. The plant tour will be opened with an overview of the business by Plant Manager Brian Quinn. The evening should conclude by 7:45 pm.

Come and see firsthand how Brayton has utilized many of the leading edge tools and techniques to maintain its competitiveness. You will see how the key strategies and objectives are visually communicated and monitored from the plant level to the section level on a daily basis. You will experience how the 5-S process has led to organized workplaces that allow the product to flow smoothly while being visually managed.

Brayton employees take great pride in bringing quality designs to market. From the products they build, to the building they produce them in; they always consider their impact on the environment. A strong emphasis on customer care and field sales support sets Brayton apart from their competition. Brayton's products engender a dignified sense of hand craftsmanship from the frame's interior construction to the detailed stitching and upholstery of textiles. Brayton strives to be the most customer responsive design leader in their industry.

Brayton International was founded in 1973. Its founding principle was to bring to the contract market an American manufacturing source of international designs. A principle that continues to intensify to this day.

In 1987, Brayton International was acquired by Steelcase Inc. and became one of the first members of the Steelcase Design Partnership. Brayton's overall objective is to offer award-winning designs that are produced in America by skilled craftsman who are trained in Old World traditions. In the age of global economy, the demand for well-designed, high quality furniture at a competitive price has never been greater. Brayton International is ready to meet that demand.

Brayton International built its reputation meeting specific needs for the architectural design community. Its design flexibility allows them to manufacture products designed for a wide variety of applications. Brayton can vary dimensions, accommodate custom finishes, and alter the visual appearance of its products without compromising the structural or design integrity of these pieces. All Brayton International products pass BIFMA testing.

Due to its design flexibility and commitment to function, Brayton found a niche in the healthcare market with Health Design, which was created in 1992 and continues to enjoy excellent annual growth. Today Health Design is known as Brayton Healthcare.

Map to Plant Tour at Brayton International in High Point

250 Swathmore Ave, High Point, North Carolina



For more information, go to the chapter website at www.traidapics.org.

Happy New Year!

In 2009, we wish you new hope, higher aspirations and greater possibilities.

The Piedmont Triad Board of Directors

Leadership Thought: January 2009

Happy New Year!

As business leaders, we are engaged in solidifying business plans for 2009. It is my hope that we are leading differently this year than last.

There are businesses that have been successful for years by simply repeating the same old formula just in a bigger way each year. Because it was personally profitable to a certain point down the chain of command, the business became a machine that generated reward in return for the effort of standing obediently within it – a machine that didn't really require or want people to lead it; but rather it depended on people who could follow the rules of the game and smile appropriately while the machine was marketed as a leader in the industry - inspiring innovation - living in possibility. We heard from a financial institution, "We're growing our business by helping clients grow theirs." From an American auto manufacturer, "Our challenge: Reinventing the automobile." And from a mortgage company, "Get the home loan that's right for you." And the people believed it was so.

Think for a moment about the following quotes from the news –

- Speaking about how financial managers at Merrill Lynch viewed their work in relation to their bonuses paid in 2006, Paul Hodgson was quoted in *the New York Times*, "What happened to their investments was of no interest to them, because they would already be paid."
- Kevin Coupe commented in *Morning News Beat* – "It isn't really a surprise, but when those three CEOs from General Motors, Ford and Chrysler flew on separate private jets to Washington, DC, to beg for taxpayer money - and did so without a real plan on how to spend it or any willingness to accept personal culpability - it was clear they were tone-deaf to notions of business ethics or even, I would submit, responsibility to shareholders."

These are not examples of positive care-driven leading; these are just examples of poor leaders. Learn from them what *not* to do: Study and understand from the goodness and wisdom within yourself what *to* do.

Leading is about generously sharing what we know in a way that *brings success for all*. I am more determined than ever to share and evoke thought about the nature of leading for long term positive results. I will think differently about leading this year and find the most effective ways to communicate thoughts that will help all of us become better leaders in our families, businesses and communities.

Have you thought about how you will lead in 2009? How will it be different than last year? How will you help those around you succeed?

Camilla Deyton

Executive Vice President

Lean Six Sigma Boot Camp

Earn Your Six Sigma Green Belt in Only Five Days!

**Classes Conducted at the Clarion in Greensboro on Jan 20th, Feb 3rd, Feb 10th, Feb 17th and Mar 3rd
Register by Jan 14, 2009**

The Piedmont Triad Chapter, in conjunction with Mr. Clyde Parker of STARsixsigma, Inc., will present a workshop that will allow successful participants to earn the Six Sigma Green Belt in five (5) days. The sessions are scheduled for Tuesdays from 8:00 to 5:00 pm. The facilitator, the entertaining and highly qualified Mr. Parker has earned the Six Sigma Black Belt and conducts this program so that it complies with AWQ standards.

Cost for this program including all materials listed below, lunch and breaks is only \$1,499 for APICS Piedmont Triad Chapter members and \$1,749 for non-members. Register and pay online at the Piedmont Triad Chapter website at http://www.triadapics.org/event/100_538001.aspx:PROG=SMNR.

Successful participants of this program will be well prepared to lead their organization into significant improvements as well as building a strong foundation for future personal growth and preparation for obtaining the six sigma black belt.

Laser-Focused Success

Tomorrow's World Class business environment requires advanced skills to stay in the game and compete for customers. Lean Six Sigma is a time-tested and proven leader of progressive business and manufacturing skills.

The effectiveness of Lean Six Sigma is growing! It is widely sought after by hospitals, all centers, financial organizations, logistics operations and building & construction firms.

STARsixsigma is a no-nonsense, disciplined training company with a proven track record attested to by thousands of satisfied participants worldwide.

Bottom-Line Benefits

- Maximize operational efficiency
- Eliminate process defects
- Master – 5 S principles for organization
- Examine the value of process mapping
- Learn basic lean manufacturing and Six Sigma tools
- Facilitate organizational change for World Class transition
- ✓ Complies with ASQ Standards

STAR clients insist on STARsixsigma time and time again for their training needs.

- ✓ **Unique Take-Away Materials**
 - ❖ Free CD with text material and worksheets to use with Lean Six Sigma projects back on-the-job
 - ❖ PowerPoint Project Templates
 - ❖ Comprehensive reference notebook with all approved Lean Six Sigma material and references

For More information including directions go to www.triadapics.org or contact Dave Lehman at vp_education@triadapics.com or by phone at 336.854.0908 or 336.681.8703

Excellent in Leadership

In 1994, The Piedmont Triad Chapter established the “*Excellent in Leadership*” nomination and award program. Since that time the chapter has received and had the opportunity and pleasure of presenting thirty-four “*Excellence in Leadership*” awards. We are counting on our members to help us continue to search and carry on this tradition to those who model “*Excellence in Leadership*”. If you know of someone who exhibits excellent leadership characteristics, you may submit their name for consideration.

Those nominated should be persons who significantly contribute to the successful operation of their company, their division, their department or their work team. They should be individuals who inspire others to excel in what they do.

To nominate someone for recognition in the “*Excellence in Leadership*” program, please consider the following: nominations must be received by March 1st, to be considered. Nominations must be submitted as a single page typed letter suitable for framing – preferably on company letterhead. Leave ¼” margin all around to allow for framing and include 2 blank “second sheets” of matching stationery to use in award preparation. Nominations must state the reasons this person should be considered for the “*Excellence in Leadership*” recognition.

Nominations must be mailed (not faxed) to **The Piedmont Triad Chapter** at PO Box 19432, Greensboro, NC, 27109-9432 and early enough to be received by the deadline, March 1st, 2009. It would be helpful if you would protect the nominating letter and extra sheets so they are not folded or damaged in the mail. If you have questions, you can e-mail them to Barbara Swann at vp_chapterdevelopment@triadapics.org.

The Chapter Board of Directors will present the awards during the chapter meeting held on April 14, 2009 at the Volvo Communications Center in Greensboro.

Leadership Quotes

“The two hardest things to handle in life are failure and success”.

Unknown

“The pessimist may be right in the long run, but the optimist has a better time during the trip”.

Unknown

“GREAT MINDS discuss ideas, average minds discuss events, small minds discuss people”.

Admiral, Hyman Rickover(1900-1986)

There is only one thing about which I am certain, and that is that there is very little about which one can be certain”.

Somerset Maugham (1874-1965)

“Maybe if we did a better job of listening, history wouldn’t have to repeat itself”.

Unknown

2008-09 Piedmont Triad Chapter of APICS Scholarship Awards



North Carolina A&T University Award Winner

The 2008-09 PTC Scholarship Award winner representing the North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University is Mr. Brandon Baylor. Mr. Baylor is pursuing a Bachelors degree in Business Administration with a major in Management and will graduate in May 2009. Brandon was recommended very highly by Dr. Joanne Sulek Utley of the Business department. He is planning on entering into the Materials Management field and is looking forward to utilizing APICS to help him succeed.

University of North Carolina at Greensboro Award Winner

The 2008-09 PTC Scholarship Award winner representing the University of North Carolina at Greensboro is Ms. Tina Smajlovic. Tina is pursuing a double major and will graduate in May 2009. Her Bachelor of Science Degrees will be in International Marketing with a focus in Supply Chain Management and in German. Being fluent in German and Serbo-Croatian as well as having a basic knowledge in Spanish and French will be a strong foundation for her career. She also has had the opportunity to live in Germany for 12 years giving her an even greater understanding of international activities. Ms. Smajlovic was recommended by Dr. Larry Taube because of her stand out achievements in studies within the Department of Information Systems and Operations Management.



Wake Forest University Award Winner

The 2008-09 PTC Scholarship Award winner representing the Wake Forest University is Mr. Sean Patricia who is enrolled in the Babcock Graduate School of Management. Sean has a B.A. in Economics from the University at Albany, SUNY. He is currently enrolled in the MBA program with a focus on Operations and Strategy. Mr. Patricia has been working in the Supply Chain arena as a Logistics Manager for Penske Truck Leasing. Sean is the WFU Operations Club representative to the PTC board of directors and has participated in board meetings as well as the monthly professional development meetings. Sean was recommended by Dr. Brooke Saladin of the Babcock School of Management faculty.





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www.triadapics.org

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For more information, go to the chapter website at www.triadapics.org or contact Dave Lehman at 336.854.0908 or by email at vp_education@triadapics.com.

Newsletter Options

If you would like a copy of the chapter newsletter, you can easily download from the chapter website at www.triadapics.org. If you would like to be added to the chapter's electronic e-mail distribution list, you can register directly from the chapter website at www.triadapics.org or e-mail Barbara Swann at vp_chapterdevelopment@triadapics.org with your request.

Location for Jan Plant Tour

Brayton International
250 Swathmore Ave
High Point, NC

Share your News And Views with your friends and colleagues in:

- ❖ Operations Management
 - ❖ Planning
- ❖ Production Control
- ❖ Inventory Control
 - ❖ Logistics
- ❖ Information Systems
 - ❖ Other