



Cooling towers and cluster strategic planning are the topics of the June 18 meeting

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Manufacturing Plant Tours	2	Mr. Curtis graduated from Evangel University in 1993 with a bachelor's degree in business management. While attending college he worked as a summer telemarketing intern at Tower Tech. After graduation, Curtis went to work selling new towers on a direct basis. Since 1992, Tower Tech has sold more than \$165 million in new towers and Curtis has been involved in more than \$18 million of those sales for both HVAC and industrial applications.
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strategic analysis and planning exercise which will realign the cluster with current and future opportunities. Utilizing a series of organizational development tools, the cluster will analyze the external environment and its impact, as well as, the internal functionality of the cluster. The end result will be a two-year implementation plan that offers a proactive approach and will tactically position the cluster so it is prepared for the new economy. We look forward to your input as we analyze the cluster to better fit industry needs.

June 17th sexual harassment supervisor training course

The Water Cluster will be conducting a sexual harassment training course at 7:30 a.m. on June 17, at the CIT conference room pertaining to California assembly bill 1825, a bill regarding employer sexual harassment practices.

The bill requires that all **companies with 50 or more employees** provide at least two hours of sexual harassment training to all employees in supervisory positions. Companies are required to make certain that all newly-hired supervisors complete a training course within six months of their hire date and that all existing supervisors complete a minimum of one course at least once every two years.

The training course will focus on providing employers with the education and skills they need to create a work atmosphere that is non-tolerant of harassment and discrimination.

The course will provide employers with information in the following areas:

- Federal and state provisions regarding sexual harassment in all of its forms
- The prevention and rectification of sexual harassment
- The avoidance of discrimination and retaliation
- The various methods of treatment for sexual harassment victims

The course is highly interactive and specifically includes examples of sexual harassment in an attempt to enhance the learning experience.

If you have any questions or would like to register for this course, e-mail Laura Ramos at lramos@csufresno.edu, or call (559) 278-2066.

Students and companies benefit from CIMT'S annual career expo

CIMT's annual career expo, held on March 19th at the Holiday Inn in downtown Fresno, proved successful for both students and employers. Approximately 80 students, all from manufacturing-related programs in the surrounding community colleges, were given a chance to network with representatives from local companies looking for interns. Students participated in workshops that instructed them on employer expectations and proper interviewing etiquette.

While learning was the objective, activities like HR jeopardy ensured that fun was on the agenda.

Just before lunch was served, students engaged in "mock interviews- practice interviews where they received feedback on their interviewing techniques from human resource specialists. Mock interviews allowed the students to apply the knowledge they gained during the workshop in a very hands-on way.

Motivational speaker Jane Yow's clever words had participants listening intently as she spoke about the impact that attitude has on one's life. Her good humored demeanor and enthusiastic spirit enthralled the audience and was the appropriate ending to a successful event.

CIMT's Event Coordinator Laura Ramos says, "The primary purpose of our career expo is to create an opportune place for students and employers to network and satisfy both their needs. Students are looking for internships and companies are always looking for interns. I received e-mails from employers inquiring about several of the students in the days following the expo."

If you have any questions regarding the expo e-mail Laura Ramos at lramos@csufresno.edu or call (559) 278-2066.



Welding students receive guided tours through manufacturing plants

Wednesday March 11, 2009 marked a stimulating and informative day for students from a local community college. Front line supervisors from Floway Pumps and Fresno Valves & Castings gave a select few of Fresno City College's welding students guided tours through their manufacturing facilities. While students gained knowledge in all the areas of manufacturing, the tour primarily focused on the welding portion of product development. These guided tours enabled students to create a connection between the specific skills that they have acquired and the objectives of these companies as a whole.

Activities like these aid in the educational growth of students and make for more well-rounded individuals. The mindset of students who are exposed to these types of real-life situations can be quite different from those whose experiences are limited to conventional classroom instruction.



If you have any questions on how you can assist or provide a tour e-mail Laura Ramos at lramos@csufresno.edu or call (559) 278-2066

ICWT's solar energy booklets published and ready for distribution



ICWT recently published a booklet entitled, "Solar - Green Energy for a Bright Future," as part of a solar education program that is intended to promote energy conservation and the use of solar energy. The pamphlet was funded by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is meant to teach the basics of solar energy in order to make an educated decision when buying a system.

The publication explains renewable energy sources, solar energy, net metering and California's solar initiative. ICWT will be publishing two additional brochures as extensions to this book. One brochure will be dedicated to agricultural uses and the other to commercial uses.

If you have any questions or would like to request a copy of this booklet, please call ICWT at (559) 278-2066.

WET Lab: an ideal location for any company event



Event coordinators consider the WET Lab to be an ideal location for company events. In recent weeks, the WET Lab has been the site of several agricultural- and environmental-related events.

experts. The event was a rewarding experience for participants and registrants alike.

Just days after the solar event on April 22, PureSense and the Center for Irrigation Technology (CIT) hosted an educational workshop in the WET Lab. The workshop educated growers on irrigation tools and strategies to help deal with the shrinking water supply. The gathering consisted of two segments: an outside demonstration of irrigation monitoring and management technology and inside presentations from experts on irrigation and agricultural issues affecting the San Joaquin Valley.

The most recent event was a networking reception sponsored by the California Agricultural Irrigation Association (CAIA).

Representatives from over 10 irrigation companies attended to discuss with students the skills and qualities that they look for when interviewing job applicants. Students gained insight on the



irrigation industry, specifically agricultural irrigation, and received advice from employers on how to better prepare themselves for life in the workforce.

Amber Torres, a management student, says of the event, "I was really surprised at how approachable the employers were. I

The series of events began on April 18 with the Fresno 2009 Solar Tour. This function united owners, designers and contractors of solar systems in an attempt to answer questions

and offer advice to members of the community interested in living green through the use of solar products. Business owners from around the Valley were available to demonstrate working examples of solar electric and pool heating systems. Participants also received money and energy saving tips from financial



found myself interacting with some of the companies because I felt comfortable asking questions. By the end of the event I found myself very aware of what a career in this industry is really like.”

When asked if she would ever attend another event like this she said, “Definitely.”

If you have any questions about forthcoming events or would like to reserve the WET Lab for a company event, e-mail Laura Ramos at lramos@csufresno.edu or call (559) 278-2066.

March meeting wrap up

Safe Drinking Water Technologies to areas of the globe that need it most – Dan Clawson on behalf of Jack Barker

There are staggering statistics about the world water crisis: 884 million people in the world do not have access to safe drinking water; 3.575 million people die each year from water related disease; 43% of water related diseases are due to diarrhea; 84% of water-related deaths are in children aged 0-14 years, and every 15 seconds a child dies from a water-related disease; 98% of water-related deaths occur in the developing world. It was with this information that Jack Barker began researching and developing a portable water purifier. After 2.5 years of research and development Sunspring was launched.

Developing an eco-friendly system to reduce fresh water use and wastewater discharge during fruit processing – Dr. Gour Choudhury

Recent laboratory-pilot-scale research on a new system has indicated the potential for a significant reduction-more than 80% of fresh water use and wastewater discharge during fruit peeling is possible. A commercial prototype of the system has been designed, fabricated locally and installed at Wawona Frozen Foods for final evaluation and commercialization.

Both presentations can be found on www.icwt.net

WATER CLUSTER MEETING*

**Central Valley Business Incubator
1630 E. Shaw, Suite 163
Fresno, CA 93704**

**June 18, 2009
9 A.M. – 11 A.M.**

**Please RSVP to lramos@csufresno.edu
or (559)278-2066**

From The North

- Take Hwy 99 South
- Take SHAW AVE. exit - Exit 140
- Take RIGHT onto W. SHAW AVE
- Left onto N. 9TH ST.
- Turn RIGHT onto E. SHAW AVE. (frontage road)
- End at 1630 E. SHAW AVE.

From The South

- Take Hwy 99 North
- Merge onto CA-41 N toward Yosemite
- Take SHAW AVE. exit towards CLOVIS
- Turn RIGHT onto E. Shaw AVE. (frontage road)
- End at 1630 E. SHAW AVE.

* Technical presentations are part of an ongoing effort to provide a venue for cluster members to learn about innovative ideas and products. They do not constitute product endorsement by either Water Cluster members or the International Center for Water Technology. If you are interested in presenting at an upcoming meeting, please contact Laura Ramos at lramos@csufresno.edu.