

APICS Region VIII

The Association for Operations Management

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Message from the Region VP
Mary Moravec, CPIM

Welcome to the 2005 Premier Edition of APICS Region 8 e-Newsletter!

Though this is our first edition of our e-newsletter, it isn't the first time region 8 has published a newsletter. I have hard copies of newsletters from a few years ago when the name of the newsletter was "Pieces of Eight". If you have a suggestion for a new name for our e-newsletter, let us know. Now, onto the news...

Upcoming Region event – Vancouver, BC June 17th-18th

As you read this newsletter, our region staff is working out the finer details of our region meeting located in Vancouver, but hosted by our Fraser Valley chapter. **Sign up for this event as soon as possible** as we have some strict deadlines with the University and we want to make sure everyone has a spot. If you decide to come in on Thursday, don't forget to sign up for the 25th anniversary event for the Vancouver chapter on

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APICS Society News

Hot Topics

APICS Introduces Supply Chain Professional Certification

APICS announces the development of the [Certified Supply Chain Professional \(CSCP\)](#) designation to specifically address the educational needs in supply chain management.

Free APICS Webinars On-Demand

Take advantage of a new APICS membership benefit. APICS members can now view a selection of the most popular recorded APICS Webinars at no cost.

Watch a free [APICS Webinar](#) now.

Free APICS Dictionary

APICS members—request your [free copy](#) of the 11th edition of the *APICS Dictionary*.

Member Benefits

Join APICS and give your career a boost. Read about [10 great reasons to join](#).

Manufacturing Solutions

Read about how manufacturing companies are using technology to increase productivity and bottom-line results. [Learn more](#).

APICS International Conference and Exposition

Dates: October 16-18, 2005

Location: Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, Louisiana

The 2005 APICS International Conference and

June 16th. See page XX for all the details.

More Appointments

Congratulations and good luck to everyone in their 2005 roles. I am pleased to announce the following appointments in our region:

- Eric Somers (Hamilton chapter) has been appointed to the 2005 CDC.
- Tammy Laforet (Windsor Chapter) will be chairing the region 8 2005 nominating committee.
- Eric Somers (Hamilton chapter) has been appointed to the 2005 Society Nominating Committee. Paul Howatt (region staff) has been appointed as his alternate.
- Pam Somers (region staff) and a business associate will present at Conference in October. Both Pam and her partner are first time presenters!

If you know someone who is succeeding in APICS, let me know and I will showcase their achievement in an upcoming e-newsletter.

Chapter Standards Approved

At the January Board meeting, APICS board of directors approved the revised minimum chapter standards which will be in place and effective July

2006. Training is the next step in this implementation process followed by process and systems work, conducted by APICS Professional Staff and the CDC. Keep posted to more information in the next few months. (If you want a detailed copy of the standards, please contact Eric Somers, our CDL (Chapter Development Leader).)

Re-branding at work: The new region 8 website

Chapters aren't the only ones who must implement the new branding initiative from APICS. In February, Casey DeGroot (our region webmaster) gave our region 8 website a serious template and logo facelift as well as some changes to content. If you have not had an opportunity to visit the website, please do so at www.apics8.org. If you have further suggestions for improvement, contact our VP Communications, Axel Dietz.

There is a lot more to report but I have to save something for the next edition. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at your convenience.

Mary Moravec, CPIM
Region 8 (Canada) Vice President



Message from the Region VP Communications

Axel Dietz, CPIM

Organizational change – Communications Portfolio

Starting this year I have taken on the Communications role from Casey DeGroot. However Casey will continue to manage the Region 8 web site. Questions related to the privacy act as it pertains to web site confidentiality can be sent to me. Casey is also instrumental in the transition process especially on matters such as the chapter Passports. I do want give

recognition to Casey for the work done in overhauling the Region site using the branding guidelines and having current information on record for events past present and future.

There were a number of topics I covered at the Presidents meeting in Toronto mid February that I want cover again briefly.

1. Chapter web site adoption of society's **branding change**. This continues to be a slow process and the end of March less than 40% of the chapters had made the change to name/logos/colours.
2. We need to get the chapter web site

privacy policy referenced as well as the chapter representative listed on the site.

3. Chapter **web site** functionality and routine web maintenance.

Point 3 above requires more elaboration. I've witnessed this firsthand while I was communication VP for Toronto. I believe that other chapters have similar needs and they have the same web maintenance issues that I had to deal with. Even today, Casey uses FrontPage, a tool that I personally don't work with, to maintain the Region web site.

I had no shortage of volunteers who offered to assist on studying our current situation and prepare a recommendation on where we want to be. Getting there is a whole other issue. In part this is because a web site instills a lot of one's own creativity and personality. Not everyone has the same needs and many chapters came away saying they don't need all that functionality. I see the bundled web site services in the same way that Microsoft sells MS office. Not everyone needs all the tools and most people use only a few. Even with the tools they've chose to use ie. MS Excel very few people really use all of the functionality. Just ask how many Excel users are proficient with Pivot tables or the last time they did a Pareto analysis. The same can be said about web services. You enable only what the business needs but you pay for the suite.

I think the **show stopper** with chapter web sites lies with web site maintenance. Usually only one person has the skill set and the tools to update the site. The Education portfolio manager may have an immediate need to update the web site data but now has to deal with right contact. The delay may be days or weeks to make the change. When this volunteer person leaves the organization the chapter struggles to get a replacement to manage the web site. We need to be in a position where every portfolio manager or designate has the access rights to make the changes only to "his" data without altering anything else and to do with from any "PC" that has net access, even a net café. In other words the web site should enforce security and have the proper tools built into the web pages. Once we have this structure in place we can enable all sorts of

additional technology. These tools are available today and are very affordable.

At the **June region meeting** I plan to either update the chapters on our progress or if at all possible have a recommendation ready for implementation. The go-live date will be at least an additional 6 months to cut over from the chapters web site to a national infrastructure. The new web site would be built in parallel with maintaining the existing sites and on a specific date the web address simply changes, and transparent to our user community.

Web sites have become a dominant tool for communication second only to email. However our user community will not come back and visit our sites unless we make the effort to keep our information current. I ask that you support this initiative without worrying about how and who will fund this.



The 2005 APICS International Conference and Exposition is the educational and networking event of choice for operations management professionals. The conference is the premier source for operations management education with a concentration on production, inventory, supply chain, materials management, purchasing, and logistics.

What is waiting for you in New Orleans?

Check out the [2005 APICS International Conference and Exposition video](#) (file size: 9 MB). A broadband connection is recommended for best viewing.

NOTE: Need the player? Click below to download it.
Windows: Download [Windows Media Player](#).
Mac: Download the newest version of [Windows Media Player](#) for OSX 10.2 or later.

Calendar of Upcoming 2005 Region Events

Theme:

Vancouver 25th Anniversary
Incoming Officer Training

Date:

June 16, 2005 (25th Anniversary)
June 17th and 18th, 2005

Meeting Highlights:

- Thursday night Vancouver Chapter 25th Anniversary - more information to follow
- Friday: Registration, kick-off speaker, chapter updates, networking, social event
- Saturday: Dynamic, action packed educational events all day
- Saturday night: Social event sponsored by the Vancouver chapter (this will be a fund event including dinner)

Location:

UBC Conference Center

Overnight accommodation has been arranged at the University of British Columbia. This is a beautiful setting with cost effective rooms. Room Rate:
\$37.00 standard room, shared bathroom, up to six people
\$49.00 single room shared bathroom up to 4 people
\$86.00 studio 1 twin bed (private bathroom)
\$99.00 Single room 1 queen bed (private bathroom)
\$126.00 Suite 2 twin beds plus pullout bed (private bathroom) (plus \$15.00 per person extra)
More details to follow by the end of this week.

Agenda:

- Check web site for updates

Social Events:

Saturday night: Social event sponsored by the Vancouver chapter (this will be a fund event including dinner)

Recap of Past 2005 Region Events

Presidents meeting February 18 & 19, 2005

Location:

Quality Suites Toronto Airport
262 Carlingview Dr.
Toronto, ON M9W 5G1 CA

Website

Agenda:

- Meeting Agenda

Presentations:

- Region VIII Update
- Communities of Practice
- Minimum Chapter Standards
- How to Become a Chapter Rainmaker
- Rebranding APICS
 - Promotion and Advertising
 - Marketing Strategies
- Website Empowerment & Privacy Act
- Passport Revised Chapter Benchmarking and Recognition
- Marketing Roundtable

Social Events:

- Friday Evening - Hospitality Suite (JAM Session)
- Saturday Evening - Dinner Arizona Bar & Grill

Photographs:

- Photos

General Session Speakers

- Mike Ditka, Former Head Coach
Chicago Bears and New Orleans Saints
Achieve Your Personal and Professional Best
- Ken Schmidt, Former Director of Communications
Harley-Davidson Motor Company
Building Customer Loyalty

Featured Speakers

- Norman Bodek, President
PCS Inc. and author of
Kaikaku: The Power and Magic of Lean
- Gary Maxwell, Senior Vice President,
Merchandise Replenishment
U.S. Wal-Mart Stores Division

Educational Session Speakers

- Karen Fedele, Category Manager
The Gillette Company
- Richard Sharpe, President & CEO
Competitive Logistics LLC
- Randall Lovorn, Director Supply Chain
PepsiCo
- Amy Ruppert,
Personal Business and Life Coach
- Nathan Boyd, President
Forecasting Partners Company
- Christopher Sawchuk, Director
The Hackett Group
- Kate Vitasek, Managing Partner
Supply Chain Visions
- John Hill, Principle
ESYNC

APICS Webinars

The convenience and flexibility of APICS Webinars enable organizations to educate a large number of employees at once, reduce travel expenses, and maintain consistent levels of productivity by eliminating time out of the

office. Each 60-minute APICS Webinar features an educational discussion, case studies, and a Q&A session. All you need to participate is an Internet connection and a telephone. As an added benefit, registrants of each APICS Webinar receive a CD-ROM of the presentation after the event.

Upcoming APICS Webinars

Topic: [The ABCs of Integrating RFID](#)
Date: April 13, 2005
Presenter: Timothy Kueppers
[Register Now](#)

Topic: [Error Proof Your Manufacturing Processes](#)
Date: April 20, 2005
Presenter: John Piatek
[Register Now](#)

APICS Webinars On-Demand

Each APICS Webinar is recorded and available for unlimited on-demand viewing. A 30-day subscription costs only \$99 for APICS members and \$139 for nonmembers. Visit <http://apics.webex.com> and select Recorded Events on the left navigation bar to view an archived APICS Webinar.

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Joe Low CPIM V.P. Programs

APICS Winnipeg Chapter

Winnipeg Newsletter article reprinted with Joe's permission.

Region VIII Winter Meeting in Toronto.

The region VIII first quarter meeting was held in Toronto Feb 18 - 19. Our V.P. Programs Joe Low was in attendance.

This being my first region meeting I was very excited not knowing quite what to expect. The two day agenda was filled with new information and rewarding experiences. Meeting and networking with all of the attendees from other chapters in Canada was great. Everyone was very accommodating and APICS knowledge was shared by all. Friday's meetings and workshops included a Region VIII President's report and a APICS history lesson followed by a short 5 min. chapter summary presented from every present chapter. Next was a discussion "Communities of Practice - Your Chapter's Innovation" How has your chapter helped a business or a individual prosper? Our Chapter Story: The year was 1998. There was a student taking their second APICS CPIM Review course

"JIT" at the University of Winnipeg. This student was laid off and not working at the time. Through networking in class this student passed his resume on to the teacher who passed it on to a major manufacturing company in Winnipeg that was looking for someone with APICS experience. This student interviewed and was selected for this position "Planner". Over the next two years this student completed all CPIM review courses and gained Certification in Production and Inventory Management. Today this student is the Kanban/JIT Coordinator for the same manufacturing company who continues to support a corporate membership with APICS. The company is Motor Coach Industries. The student is me. "I AM APICS"

Day two of the meeting was a full day. Mary Moravec Region President presented Minimum Chapter Standards and a Region Update. Maryanne Ross did a presentation "How to Become a Chapter Rainmaker" a great selling APICS training. Included such topics as, the one minute elevator speech, contacting nontraditional clients and nurturing relationships. The afternoon was filled with even more presentations including APICS - Re-branding "Using the Kit", Web Site Empowerment "privacy act , web standardization proposal", Passport "Chapter management tools" and a presentation and round table from the Region VIII Marketing Committee. Don't forget the APICS Jeopardy game that was enjoyed by all.

Hats off to Mary Moravec Region VIII President and her Executive for hosting a truly great event.

Next region VIII meeting is in Vancouver June 16, 2005

Dates to remember

1. The announcement of the 25th Anniversary event in Vancouver (attached).
2. Important dates for chapters:
 - a. Friday, May 13th – Fit to Print Award deadline (For more details about the newsletter award program, visit <http://www.apics.org/About/Awards/fit-to-print.htm>)
 - b. Tuesday, May 31st - Voluntary Service Award nominations deadline (For more details about this program, visit <http://www.apics.org/About/Awards/individual.htm>)
 - c. Tuesday, May 31st – Student Chapter Mentor Award nominations deadline (For more details about this program, visit <http://www.apics.org/About/Awards/individual.htm>)
 - d. Friday, July 29th – Passport Program submission deadline (For more details about this chapter management program, visit <http://www.apics.org/About/Awards/passport.htm>)

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