The newest phase of Chicago White Metal Casting’s implementation of best manufacturing practices for integration into CWM production has moved to the next level. Using guidelines from successfully demonstrated approaches to disciplined analysis, planning and lean implementation steps, the new program has already shown its effectiveness.

Reaching Out to Best Practices
CWM had become familiar with the lean manufacturing program in operation for some time at one of its largest customers, producing professional products for a worldwide marketplace.

The two firms agreed to a 3-day orientation session at one of the customer’s facilities that had introduced a lean practices program seven years ago, to be attended by teams from CWM. In the past year, six CWM team members have attended comprehensive “lean training” at this plant.

Focus on Accelerated Improvements
The sessions included two “Kaizen events” (periods focussed on the basis for accelerated, radical improvements in a minimum time frame), “Value Stream Mapping” (understanding the elements of the primary tool for lean analysis and planning for continuous improvement), and a highly focussed die cast tool set-up reduction exercise.

Members of the two CWM teams that participated were:
Value Stream Mapping: Kalpesh Patel and Dan O’Connor, Team Co-Leaders; Maria
Annual CWM Golf Outing at Bloomingdale a Big Success, with 52 Golfers Ignoring Brief Drizzle

June ‘06: Jose Ramos

Jose, a die caster in the aluminum department, is able to maintain quality while operating two die casting machines at once, and is also frequently asked to run the more challenging casting projects. He also works with others in a true spirit of team work.

July ‘06: Teresa Marchan

Already considered a consummate team player, Teresa was one of the first to volunteer to learn how to operate CNC equipment, helping CWM develop a more flexible team by staff cross training. Over the years at CWM, she has consistently demonstrated high levels of skill as well as a cooperative spirit.

August ‘06: Gustavo Martinez

A member of the CNC department, Gustavo was recently promoted, assuming responsibilities which are critical to CWM’s new “lean” initiatives and vital to lead times. Working well with other team members, he provides timely information to the expedite team to be shared with customers.

September ‘06: Juvenal Silva

Combining a passion for his job with great ingenuity, Juvenal, a member of the tooling department team, can repair almost anything. His problem solving and cooperative nature enhance CWM’s services.

These CWM employees have been honored as Employees of the Month.

February ‘06: Cesar Guzman
A member of the traffic department, Cesar is praised for his commitment to training temps and new employees. He is disciplined and unselfish in his support of other CWMers, performing impeccably without fanfare, often working alone in the department.

March ‘06: Leticia Ramirez
Leticia performs many different tasks in the quality assurance department, including certification documentation, return authorizations, and first article paperwork. Highly organized, she has worked hard to improve the supplier rating program.

April ‘06: Donat Jaglowski
Donat, now retired after 26 years of service at CWM, was skilled at reducing die casting production downtime and scrap, often improving cycle times. His coworkers always found him cooperative and quick to offer his support. Very best wishes, Donat!

May ‘06: Manrique Barrera
Manny has been assigned to a variety of jobs within the production department, including trim press operator, die caster, and tooling coordinator. His depth of experience gives the department great flexibility and enables him to provide training to new employees.

June ‘06: Jose Ramos

Today's news is brought to you by the Chicago Bears.

CWM Honors EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

I (to r) Ken Mrock, Chicago Bears; Tom Mrock, CWM (and Golf Outing Organizer extraordinaire); Craig Walters and Thom Foulks, Premier Finishing.

I (to r) Tony Soule and Mike Gilford, Allied Metal; Gary Schwan, Schwan Electric; Walter Treiber, CWM CEO, Chairman.

I (to r) Brian Andrews, Jose Ruiz and Jeff Paul, CWM-CNC Technologies Division; Harlan Krafft, ASG Staffing.

Cesar Guzman

Leticia Ramirez

Donat Jaglowski

Manrique Barrera

Jose Ramos

Teresa Marchan

Gustavo Martinez

Juvenal Silva

Fifty-two golfers combining for a total of 56 dinner guests gave a big thumbs up to the CWM annual day of golf, fine dining and spontaneous entertainment at this 26th outing held at the Bloomingdale Golf Club in Bloomingdale, IL in August. The event was superbly reorganized by CWM’s Tom Mrock, after an original June date’s rainout.

Star performers received prizes generously donated by Slipmate, Inc.:

For the second year in a row, Pablo Zaldueno, Z Group Financial, had the best round with a 73.

There were five “special winners” holes, with prizes for closest to the pin: Tom Loots, former CWM employee, 7 ft. 6 in., 11th hole; Frank Voltarel, Accurate Anodizing, 7 ft. 9 in., 13th hole; Dan Pfeiffer, Heritage Bag, 9 ft. 3 in., 6th hole; Tom Mrock, CWM Mgr. Process Technologies, 28 ft., 16th hole; Nick Sickler, J. R. Waters, 43 ft., 9th hole.

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Two Outstanding CWM Mg Projects Receive Strong Promotion to OEMs

(Continued from page 1)

convenient portability, hot-chamber Mg die casting from CWM is the optimum choice. In addition, die cast components offer built-in EMI/RFI shielding, for a combination of advantages for rugged housings which lightweight plastic cannot match.

The advanced desktop Codonics Multi-Media Imager creates superior dry digital reproductions for radiologists, MRI departments and other healthcare facilities and is replacing wet film technology. The new Topcon GR-3 Global Positioning System is a breakthrough for a range of satellite tracking operations—its Mg housing is shock rated to survive 6.5 ft. drops to concrete.

Reproductions of the CWM ads for the Codonics digital medical imager’s side walls and the Topcon GPS satellite receiver housing, appear here.

Lean Manufacturing Taken to the Next Level at CWM

(Continued from page 1)

Banas; Jose Ruiz; Bill Nowarita; and Melinda Gonzalez.

Die Set-up Reduction: Bill Erbacci, Team Leader; Trinidad Aguilera; Efrain Ocampo; Jesus Barrera; and Andy Siek.

According to CWM President Eric Treiber, this initial hands-on training not only laid the groundwork for a fully formalized lean manufacturing program at CWM but, in addition, bore immediate fruit in revealing opportunities for improvement in several areas, including the machining and die casting department operations.

Comprehensive lean manufacturing training classes are now being conducted weekly, with expansion planned for reaching all departments of the company.

Bob Monks New CWM Pacific NW Sales Rep

WESCO Sales, the Rep firm of Bob Monks, is now representing Chicago White Metal Casting in Washington state, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and British Columbia.

After 13 years in the Pacific Northwest as a manufacturer’s representative for mechanical and electro mechanical components, Bob Monks formed WESCO Sales in February 2006, headquartered in Kirkland, WA. He focuses mainly on mechanical/electro mechanical components including batteries and battery packs, and the current production services of injection molding, metal stamping, precision die cut gasketing and EMI/RFI shielding.

Prior to his career as a sales rep, Bob had been with Boeing Commercial Airplane Group as a buyer of machined components and then became a territory sales rep for Milgard Windows in Tacoma, WA.

He and his wife, Jacqui, are the parents of 6-month old Makenna Marie, their first. Bob enjoys fly fishing the local waters for trout, steelhead and salmon.