

SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTIVITY NEWS

“for improving operating margin with *Continuous Process Improvement* tools”

Volume 7 Issue 2

Q2 2016

Digital Nest in Watsonville: Providing Tech Opportunities for Youth

Digital Nest in Watsonville, CA, is providing opportunities for low-income youth to learn computer programming and to have access to computers for homework, resumes, and job applications. There is a real opportunity for growth in Watsonville with industry dominated by agriculture that has yet to reach the technological level of Silicon Valley. People, including Jacob Martinez, founder of Digital Nest, are starting to ask how the Agricultural Industry can benefit from advances in technology. One of the first steps in exploring that is training Watsonville youth in technological fields. There's the potential for Watsonville to become a hub for Agricultural Technology (AgTech).

Digital Nest was started by Jacob Martinez in 2014. He had already been working with technology education for youth for almost ten years, first as a Project Coordinator and later as a Project Director with ETR Associates in Scotts Valley.

One of the most exciting endeavours undertaken at the Digital Nest is that once members have been fully trained, they can do real projects for local businesses. They have worked on websites for the Santa Cruz County Youth Violence Prevention Task Force, My Mom's Mole, and New Way Homes. The member working on the project is paid half the fee and the other half goes to support Digital Nest. This is an amazing opportunity for the members to gain experience that can go on resumes and college applications, in addition to being an outlet for them to express their creativity and technical skills.

The Digital Nest moved to a larger location in February due to high demand for its services and is considering opening more locations in the future. To support Digital Nest, please send donations to Digital Nest at 1961 Main St, #221, Watsonville, CA, 95076.

Seminar Schedule

Building a Continuous Process Improvement Culture

Wednesday, June 15, 9 AM to 4 PM

This training covers the most commonly used LEAN tools and basic Continuous Process Improvement principles. Participants will practice these tools so they gain confidence in putting them into use at work.

Improve Employee Engagement

Thursday, June 16, 9 AM to 1 PM

Employee engagement is critical to increasing productivity. Learn how to use praise, delegation and conflict resolution to improve employee engagement.

All seminars will be held at the Hilton in Scotts Valley. Lunch will be included in the full-day session. For more information or to register, contact Yasmienne at (831) 515-7337 or lym@reduceor.com.

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Katy Griffin & Khaled Mabrouk Present at IISE Conference

The Annual Institute of Industrial & Systems Engineers conference was held in May at the Disneyland resort. This year, Katy Griffin, Sr. Operational Engineer, and Khaled Mabrouk, both of Sustainable Productivity Solutions, delivered a presentation titled "Application of IE Tools in the Farming Industry."

In this presentation, we shared our experience and lessons learned from applying industrial engineering tools to farming operations, from production through processing and shipping. We highlighted the importance of engaging the frontline workforce

in the problem solving process and reviewed various productivity tools that are applicable for the fresh produce/farming industry. This includes 5S, Visual Management, Process Mapping, RCA tools, and Simulation. .

If you would like a copy of this presentation, please email us with your request at lym@ReduceOR.com.



Spector Corbett-SPS Alliance

Sustainable Productivity Solutions and Spector Corbett Architects Inc. have joined forces to deliver successful projects that address operational and facilities needs for industry. Both firms have decades of experience with manufacturing and agri-business related facility projects. Whether it is master planning for new facilities or renovations to existing facilities, our combined efforts bring real solutions to the table. Analytics are backed with metrics for efficiency, mapping product and work flow, and identifying facilities to improve functionality.

Spector Corbett Architects, Inc., based in Watsonville, California, is a regional leader in industrial architecture

and Agri-Business facility master planning, development, and renovations. Completed projects range in scope and size, including food processing, produce cooling, warehousing, distribution, and multiple new facilities to over 200,000 sq. ft. Industrial work also includes manufacturing, maintenance, maritime, and R&D facilities.

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

78th Annual Grower Shipper Association Golf & Gala Event

June 23-25, 2016
Salinas, California

IIE Engineering Lean & Six Sigma Conference

September 14-16, 2016
San Antonio, Texas

Association for Manufacturing Excellence Conference

October 24-28, 2016
Dallas, Texas

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

Western Growers Association Annual Conference

November 6-8, 2016
Koloa, Hawaii

SME FABTECH 2016

November 16-18,
2016
Las Vegas, Nevada

Winter Simulation Conference

December 11-14,
2016
Washington, D.C.

IISE Annual Conference

May 20-23, 2017
Pittsburgh,
Pennsylvania

SJSU Simulation Team Finalist in National Competition

For the second straight year, San Jose State University's (SJSU) Industrial & Systems Engineering students were finalists in a Simulation Modeling & Analysis competition. Rockwell Automation, the producer of Arena Simulation Software, has been holding a student simulation modeling competition for over a decade. Out of 72 competing teams this year, 3 finalists were chosen; with SJSU amongst them. The finalists were invited to the Institute of Systems & Industrial Engineers Annual Conference. At the conference, the 3 finalists were judged based on a presentation of their simulation model and solutions. At SJSU, the simulation product used in the classroom is ProModel. The SJSU team was composed of Kelli Sum, Brenton Hsu, and Daniel Bruhn.

5S Training in Spanish for Greenheart Farms

We delivered our first 5S training in Spanish last month at Greenheart Farms in Arroyo Grande, California. Since we work a lot with farming companies, the need to provide training & consulting in Spanish has become an important skill we needed to develop. Earlier this year, we started bringing in a Conversational Spanish coach on a weekly basis to our office. In addition, we have been focusing more on recruiting bilingual Spanish/English engineers. The 5S training in Spanish is only the first step. We are currently translating our training seminars' material into Spanish, and expect to be able to deliver our "Building a Continuous Process Improvement" seminar in Spanish starting with this fall. Estamos emocionados de poder verte en nuestro próximo seminario.



Review of the April Seminars:

*The seminars that Khaled and the team at SPS conduct are **thoroughly engaging, practical, and enjoyable**. None of the topics felt rushed or superficial. Everyone was actively involved and encouraged to participate in discussions: offering anecdotes, asking questions, and brainstorming solutions. The participants represented a wide range of disciplines and **all seemed to gain valuable insight into their individual operations and their potential for improvement**. This is surely due to the ability of SPS's principles to reach the core of what drives business, logistics, and people. I highly recommend the seminars to anyone who understands there is always room for improvement, both professional and personal.*

-Jordan Marcellus, Greenheart Farms

Watsonville AgTech Meetups

We are helping Digital Nest recruit speakers for the Watsonville Ag-Tech Meetups. If you're interested in presenting at a future meetup, please email Khaled Mabrouk at kmabrouk@reduceor.com with the topic you are comfortable speaking on. The list of topics and schedule are below:

June 29	Production
August 31	Harvesting
October 26	Processing & Shipping
December 28	Planning & Resource Allocation
February 2017	Land Preparation
April 2017	Planting

These meetups occur at the Digital Nest, located at 318 Union St, Watsonville, California.

Contact Us

Contact us when you need to generate sustainable productivity solutions for challenging operational issues.

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