



**Central Alabama Chapter
February 2006 Newsletter**

February Professional Development

**Plant Tour
Hyundai Motor Company - Montgomery, AL**

On April 2, 2002, Hyundai Motor Company (HMC), Korea's largest automotive manufacturer, announced it would construct a \$1 billion automotive assembly and manufacturing plant in Montgomery, Ala. On April 12, 2002, Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama, LLC (HMMA) was incorporated.

Mong-Koo Chung, chairman and chief executive officer of Hyundai Kia Automotive Group, and Alabama Governor, Bob Riley, gathered with elected officials on Friday, May 20, 2005 to celebrate the grand opening of Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama, LLC (HMMA).

The \$1.1 billion plant has been under construction since 2002, and is the company's first U.S. manufacturing facility. The plant employs more than 2,000 team members with high-paying jobs and full benefits. Additionally, more than 72 suppliers have located businesses throughout North America to support Hyundai's new plant. Altogether, these suppliers are expected to create 5,500 additional jobs with a combined capital investment of \$500 million.

"This new manufacturing facility reaffirms Hyundai's commitment toward investing in the U.S. economy, as well as its commitment toward U.S. consumers," said Chairman Chung. "American consumers have recognized Hyundai's quality, and this plant will enable us to better serve them."

The 2-million square-foot manufacturing plant resides on 1,744 acres of land and includes a stamping facility, paint shop, vehicle assembly shop, a two-mile test track and an engine shop, where the all-new Hyundai 3.3-liter V6 engine is produced. In May 2005, the facility marked the official start of production with its first saleable 2006 Sonata. HMMA will produce 300,000 vehicles per year at full capacity.

"For the past three years, Hyundai has been a great neighbor here in the state of Alabama," said Governor Riley. "I speak for every resident in the state when I say, we are proud to have Hyundai in Montgomery, and we are even more proud to play a role in the company's growth here in the U.S. and throughout the world."



>>(Above) Hyundai Automotive Group Chairman M.K. Chung, former President George Bush, Gov. Bob Riley and officials cut a ribbon to mark the Grand Opening of Hyundai's Alabama plant.

Please arrive in the HMMA parking lot at least 15 minutes prior to your tour start time.

Please do not bring any additional guests with you. We have a set number of seats on the tram that we cannot overfill. Please don't bring any camera, video camera, or camera phone, weapons, drugs or alcohol. Smoking or use of tobacco products is not allowed in the plant. Please wear appropriate and modest clothing and comfortable shoes. Leave all backpacks, brief cases and laptops in your vehicles. Small "fanny packs" are allowed. If you have small children, please watch them closely.

Please allow at least 1 1/2 hours to experience our plant. This will include your check in time, Welcome Video, the tour itself, the displays and a visit to the Gift Shop

Date:	Wednesday, February 15, 2006
Location:	Hyundai Manufacturing (directions will be e-mailed)
Agenda:	12:00 – 12:15pm Arrive at Hyundai
	12:15 – 12:30pm Tour registration
	12:30 – 2:00pm Plant Tour
Cost:	**NO Charge**

****** ONLY 8 spaces available ******

Reservations are required by 5:00pm Thursday, February 9th, 2006

Contact: Melissa Grant at 334-260-1549 or mgrant@apics-ceal.org

2005-2006 PDM Schedule

March 16th - Capital City Club

April 20th - Capital City Club
Board of Director Elections

May 18th – Capital City Club
Install Board of Directors

March Professional Development Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 16, 2006

Time: 5:30pm – 8:00pm

Topic: Six Sigma

Speaker: **Dr. Mark M. Clark** is an Adjunct Professor of Operations Management and Management Information Systems at Auburn University and is Product Manager and Management Scientist for the Alabama Technology Network at Auburn University. Dr. Clark holds a B.S. and M.S. degree in Industrial Engineering. He also has a Ph.D. in Industrial and Systems Engineering from Auburn University. Dr. Clark is a Six Sigma Master Black Belt and has worked in the area of quality assurance and process improvement for most of his career in academia and private industry. He is also a NIST Certified Lean Manufacturing Implementation Consultant. Dr. Clark spent 8 years with International Paper and held various management positions, including project manager and production manager.

Central Alabama Chapter Board of Director Nominations

It's that time of year again! Each year we elect board members to lead our chapter for a 1 year term. The term begins on July 1st and runs through the following June 30th. There is no limit on how long anyone can serve in a given position but each position is up for election on an annual basis.

If you would like to be or know someone who would thrive as a part of the future of this chapter and be a driving force in our success, please complete the attached nomination form and return as soon as possible. The success of our chapter depends on YOU!

Nominations will be accepted until March 17th, 2006. Elections will be held in April 2006 with the installation of the new officers planned for the May meeting on May 18th, 2006.

Upcoming APICS Webinars

Topic: Putting Intelligence into Part Number Management

Date: February 15, 2006

Presenter: Donald N. Frank, CFPIM, CIRM

Topic: Achieve Cycle Time Reduction

Date: March 15, 2006

Presenter: Michael W. Gozzo, CPIM

Topic: The Secrets of Service Parts Forecasting

Date: March 22, 2006 2:00pm EST

Presenter: Gary Landis, CFPIM, CIRM

Topic: Sales and Operations Planning: The State of the Art

Date: April 12, 2006 2:00pm EST

Presenters: Robert A. Stahl and Thomas F. Wallace

To register, go to www.apics.org/Education/Webinars

Central Alabama Chapter Education Schedule

Introduction to ERP - The Introduction to Enterprise Resources Planning (ERP) course will help you determine if your organization is ready for an ERP implementation, examine the benefits of implementing an ERP system, and build a compelling business case in support of an ERP implementation. Introduction to ERP explores the process integration of businesswide functions (demand management, product design, and delivery) required and supported by an ERP implementation. The course also addresses tactical functions required, such as project management and project planning, provides an overview of implementation alternatives for ERP, and includes a manufacturing case study.

Date: March 2005 (3 day course)

If you are interested in this course, please contact Jim Lehmann.

CPIM Basics of Supply Chain Management - Explore the basic concepts in managing the flow of materials in a supply chain. In the Basics, you get a complete overview of material flow, from internal and external suppliers to and from your organization. Topics include: Elements of the Supply Chain, Just-in-Time (JIT), Total Quality Management (TQM), Manufacturing Resources Planning (MRP II), Demand Planning, Capacity Management.

Date: Tentative for April 4 – 6, 2006 (3 days) 8:30am – 4:30pm

Cost: \$430 –member; \$480 - non-member (lunch and courseware provided)

Registration ends March 10th, 2006 (payment due at time of registration, \$50 cancellation fee)

CIRM Designing Products and Processes - examines the systems, approaches, and strategies used by an enterprise to convert a need or innovation into a product, process, or service that meets the expectations of both the enterprise and the customer. Examine the activities in the design process, which include organizing and defining the design team, determining the resources needed, identifying the work to be done and the anticipated output from the work, doing the actual work, and measuring the results. Topics include: Comprehension and Translation of Requirements, Work Structure (Planning and Implementing a Design Project), Performance Assessment of the Design Process, Continuous Improvement and Innovations. **Date: May 2006**

Theory of Constraints: Performance Measures Workshop - introduces participants to the problems using traditional performance measurements. Cost-world measurements of managerial accounting versus the throughput-world measurements of theory of constraints are illustrated through the use of the evaporating cloud technique of TOC thinking processes. A case study on production batch sizing is used to illustrate the focus of cost-world thinking versus the focus of throughput-world thinking. The relationships of drum-buffer-rope scheduling and buffer management to each step of the five-focusing steps are introduced. **Date: June 2006**

Cycle Counting Workshop - learn how to implement or improve a cycle counting program and what the real purpose of cycle counting is: finding and fixing the causes of inventory errors. Also included are several methods for selecting items to count, using correct accounting techniques, and reconciling any outstanding transactions. In addition, the participant will learn various reporting methods to illustrate the results of the cycle counting program to employees and management. **Date: August 2006**

CPIM Master Planning of Resources - Explore the processes used to develop sales and operations plans and identify and assess internal and external demand and forecasting requirements. The course focuses on the importance of producing achievable master schedules that are consistent with business policies, objectives, and resource constraints. Topics include: Demand Management, Sales and Operations Planning, Master Scheduling, Measuring Business Performance. **Date: September 2006**

Basics of Inventory Management Workshop - For most organizations, inventory is one of the more visible and tangible aspects of doing business. Beginning with the management of suppliers delivering raw materials to goods in various levels of completion in the production process and management and delivery of finished goods in the distributions channel, each type represents money tied up until the inventory becomes purchased products. The workshop provides a broad overview of basic concepts and good inventory management strategies. **Date: October 2006**

Set Your Career Goals for 2006

From APICS Leadership – January 2006 Issue

Set Your Career Goals for 2006

What are your professional development goals for the year ahead? APICS offers many resources to help you move forward in your career. Consider making these opportunities a part of your plans.

Keep Learning

Staying abreast of industry strategies and best practices will give you a competitive advantage in your career. Enhance your qualifications through APICS certification. The new [APICS Certified Supply Chain Professional \(CSCP\)](#) program along with the [APICS Certified in Production and Inventory Management \(CPIM\)](#) and [APICS Certified Integrated Resource Management \(CIRM\)](#) programs can help you get noticed at work and by potential employers. Your career goals are within reach and APICS certification programs can help you move closer to achieving them.

Make New Contacts

Your professional network can provide you with ongoing support, information, and prospects. Make the most of your APICS membership by attending local chapter meetings and events to make helpful contacts and form business relationships. Plan now to attend the [2006 APICS International Conference and Exposition](#) in Orlando, Florida, on October 29-31, where thousands of operations management professionals meet for unmatched networking and education. To connect with members around the globe from the convenience of your desktop, visit the new [APICS Learning Communities](#) at www.apics.org/communities.

Stay Informed

Improve your job performance by staying up-to-date on the latest industry news through APICS publications and resources. Read [APICS magazine](#) for innovative ideas and real-world strategies in operations management. Sign up for [APICS e-NEWS—Your solutions for increasing workplace performance](#), a semimonthly electronic newsletter that delivers quick-reading news to your e-mail address. Access exclusive information, like the Publications Database, on the [APICS Web site](#) at www.apics.org.

Develop Leadership Skills

Volunteering in your local chapter is an excellent way to learn new skills or hone current ones. Organize an event, write for the newsletter, lead a committee, or express interest in serving on the chapter board of directors. If you are a current board member, plan to attend the [APICS Leadership Institute](#) for training and consider mentoring a new member or student member. Contact [your local chapter](#) for more information.

Be Ready for Advancement

When employment opportunity knocks, it pays to be prepared. Update your résumé to include recent responsibilities and accomplishments. APICS provides career development resources through the [APICS Career Center](#), where members can obtain tips on résumé writing and interview skills, review the latest job listings, confidentially post their résumé, and have job leads delivered to their e-mail box. In the new budget year, employers may have funds available to fill vacancies. If you are a hiring manager, visit the APICS Career Center to find quality candidates and save on job listings with member pricing.

Upcoming APICS Webinars

www.apics.org/Education/Webinars

Topic: Putting Intelligence into Part Number Management

Date: February 15, 2006

Presenters: Donald N. Frank, CFPIM, CIRM

Topic: Achieve Cycle Time Reduction

Date: March 15, 2006

Presenters: Michael W. Gozzo, CPIM

Topic: The Secrets of Service Parts Forecasting

Date: March 22, 2006 2:00pm EST

Presenters: Gary Landis, CFPIM, CIRM

Topic: Sales and Operations Planning: The State of the Art

Date: April 12, 2006 2:00pm EST

Presenters: Robert A. Stahl and Thomas F. Wallace

Southeast Area Educational Offerings

APICS Atlanta Chapter - Atlanta, GA

“Six Sigma Tools to Improve Inventory Accuracy” – Metro Atlanta

March 7, 2006 **8:30am – 4:30pm** Cost: \$250 (members)/\$300 (non-members) before Feb 20th
 Register at www.apicsatlanta.org

Accelerated Review Workshops for CPIM Exams

 – Roswell, GA

Workshop Fee: \$250 Cancellation Fee: \$50, if within one week of start date
 \$25 discount when you register 30 days in advance for each course

Detailed Planning and Scheduling	Thursday, March 16, 2006
Execution and Control of Operations	Thursday, April 20, 2006
Strategic Management of Resources	Thursday, May 18, 2006

South Alabama Chapter - Mobile, AL <http://geocities.com/apicssouthalabama/new>

National Workshops

Date 2006	Title	Location
March 7 – 9	CPIM Detailed Scheduling and Planning	Alexandria, VA
April 19 – 21	CPIM Execution and Control of Operations	Alexandria, VA
May 16 – 18	CPIM Basics of Supply Chain Management	Alexandria, VA
June 15 – 17	CPIM Strategic Management of Resources	Alexandria, VA
July 11 – 13	CPIM Master Planning of Resources	Alexandria, VA
August 15 – 17	CPIM Detailed Scheduling and Planning	Alexandria, VA
September 12 – 14	CPIM Basics of Supply Chain Management	Alexandria, VA
October 10 – 12	CPIM Execution and Control of Operations	Alexandria, VA
November 14 – 16	CPIM Strategic Management of Resources	Alexandria, VA
December 5 – 7	CPIM Basics of Supply Chain Management	Alexandria, VA

Individual		Team	
APICS member	\$995	APICS member	\$895
Nonmember	\$1,140	Nonmember	\$1,040

APICS Hot Topics

New! Contracts Management White Paper

Understanding and effectively mitigating contracts management risks is a proven means for organizations to deliver and sustain profitability. Download a new white paper, based on a revealing study by APICS and Protiviti that examines contracts management practices across several industries.

www.apics.org/Resources/whitepaper/protiviti/

Full Steam Ahead: Student Membership Accelerates Success



**Ashok
Ramachandran,
CPIM**
North Texas
Chapter
Former Wichita
State University
Student Chapter

You might call him "The Apprentice." While his employer in Denton, Texas, is far removed from the Trump Towers of New York, Ashok Ramachandran got his foot in the door in much the same way the candidates do on the popular television show. His APICS student membership led to an internship opportunity where he could prove himself on the job. He showed his leadership talents and completed tasks successfully. The experience led to Ramachandran hearing those sought-after words, "You're hired."

Helping people like Ramachandran get a good career start is what APICS student membership is all about. Student members gain real-world experience in a variety of ways, such as internships, mentoring from professional members, meeting local employers, attending educational events, and developing work skills.

Developing leadership skills

Ramachandran is a textbook case of how student membership works. He joined the APICS student chapter of Wichita State University in 2001 when he came to the United States from India to complete his master's program in industrial engineering. As it turned out, his advisor was 2001 Student Chapter Mentor Award winner Larry Whitman, CPIM, who introduced Ramachandran to APICS.

In his first year, Ramachandran was elected student chapter president. "As 2002 president, I improved my leadership skills, learned to be self motivated, and to drive for results," Ramachandran says. He also gained experience in public speaking, making decisions, and

bringing a group of people to consensus.

A student internship with Engenio Information Technologies Inc. (the APICS 2005 Education Award of Excellence Winner) enabled Ramachandran to put his knowledge to use in the workplace. Through Jerry Kukuruda, CPIM, C.P.M., the student chapter liaison with the APICS parent chapter, he learned of the new student work program in operations and demand planning. While at Engenio, Ramachandran earned his CPIM.

For several years, Ramachandran participated in the APICS Scholars Education Program, which gives selected students the opportunity to attend the APICS International Conference and Exposition to serve as educational session aides, with expenses fully or partially paid by APICS. Ramachandran says both the scholar and mentor programs helped him improve his interpersonal skills and learn the value of networking. He relied on several of his mentors to help him make career decisions.

Landing the job

While finishing his master's program in 2004, Ramachandran interviewed at Thermadyne Holdings Corporation, a multinational manufacturer of welding and cutting products. Thermadyne considers the CPIM to be a core requirement in several of its operations. After hearing about the job posting from Sriram Swaminathan, CPIM, Ramachandran was hired as senior planner in the Tweco division in Wichita, Kansas. He relocated when the company moved operations to Denton, Texas, where he now serves as a forecast and supply chain analyst in Thermadyne Distribution.

"Being certified increased my chances of career advancement," says Ramachandran. "It helps in my everyday activities—helps me make educated decisions and take calculated risks. It makes you familiar with commonly used terminology, so you are comfortable at your work from day one. Being aware of the textbook concepts and standards stimulates you to question generally followed practices rather than following them with no insight."

He adds that Thermadyne is a great promoter of APICS, explaining that the company sponsors his participation in the Certified Supply Chain Professional (CSCP) item writing workshop and pilot certification exam. "Having operations in several countries around the world and the increasing supplier and customer base globally make me think CSCP will fit my career path perfectly," Ramachandran says.

Continuing education

Ramachandran continues to participate in APICS as a professional member of the North Texas Chapter at Dallas. He has been working on his Certified in Resources Management (CIRM) credential and is the company coordinator for Thermadyne, where he is the point of contact for APICS members.

From student member to working professional, Ashok Ramachandran uses his APICS knowledge and membership experience to his advantage and recommends the path of APICS education to others. "CPIM is a must; the knowledge that you gain is basic but powerful. I see CIRM improving my ability to think globally, work cohesively, and understand relationships between departments ... [and] CSCP will be a very helpful certification with the current trends of manufacturing and outsourcing."



Officer Nomination Form 2006 – 2007 Board of Director's

The Central Alabama Chapter is currently accepting nominations for the 2006 – 2007 Board of Directors. Board members are expected to attend PDM's, board meetings, and all other chapter events. Elections will be held on April 20th, 2006. Please fill out the form below and return to Melissa Grant via email at mgrant@apics-ceal.org or fax at 334-260-1562. **All nominations MUST be received by March 16th, 2006.**

President

Leads, administers, and delegates authority to Board Members to execute the operation of the chapter.

Nomination _____ e-mail: _____

Vice-President

Assists and extends the authority of the president. Fills in for the president as needed. Manages the Passport Program.

Nomination _____ e-mail: _____

Secretary

Responsible for recording and publishing minutes of board meetings and maintaining current board roster.

Nomination _____ e-mail: _____

Treasurer

Responsible for preparing budgets and follows through to maintain budget and finances during year. Reports financial status and budget variances to the board. Arranges financial audits and maintains tax status.

Nomination _____ e-mail: _____

VP Education

Responsible for analyzing the educational needs of current chapter members and providing appropriate education to meet those needs. Maintains current instructor roster. Actively solicits feedback to maintain and improve the quality of instruction.

Nomination _____ e-mail: _____

VP Membership

Responsible for maintaining chapter membership database. Maintains personal contact with members. Calls members who have let their membership lapse and inquires as to the reason for non-renewal. Solicits new members and encourages chapter participation.

Nomination _____ e-mail: _____

Director of Programs

Responsible for arranging chapter professional development meetings with speakers/topics geared towards membership needs.

Nomination _____ e-mail: _____

Communications Director

Responsible for editing and publishing the monthly chapter newsletter.

Nomination _____ e-mail: _____

VP Marketing

Responsible for planning and directing all marketing initiatives for the chapter. Facilitates Annual Strategic Planning session.

Nomination _____ e-mail: _____

2005-2006 Board of Directors

President

Jeff Periat
AUM
244-3245
jperiat@mail.aum.edu

Treasurer

Melissa Grant, CPIM
Rheem Mfg.
260-1549
mgrant@apics-ceal.org

VP Education

Jim Lehmann, CPIM
AUM
244-3739
jlehmann@mail.aum.edu

Academic Advisor

Dr. Carl McDevitt
AUM

cmcdevitt@mail.aum.edu

Vice President

Jim Lehmann, CPIM
AUM
244-3739
jlehmann@mail.aum.edu

Secretary

Jim Bonner
Rheem Mfg.
260-1594
jbanner@rheem.com

Communications

Melissa Grant, CPIM
Rheem Mfg.
260-1549
mgrant@apics-ceal.org

VP Membership

OPEN

Program Director

OPEN

VP Marketing

Jim Bonner
Rheem Mfg.
260-1594
jbanner@rheem.com

Mailing address:

APICS, Central Alabama Chapter
PO Box 210281
Montgomery, AL 36121-0281
www.apics-ceal.org

Region IV

www.region4.org

APICS

www.apics.org

To be removed from this mailing list, please contact Melissa Grant at mgrant@apics-ceal.org