

Friday, December 16, 2005



=== UMC NEWSBLAST ===

Safety Tip

Holiday Safety tips:

Each year fires occurring during the holiday season injure 2,600 individuals and cause over \$930 million in damage. There are simple life-saving steps you can take to ensure a safe and happy holiday.

Holiday Trees – Trees are an important decoration for many holiday celebrations. Keep your tree away from fireplaces, portable and baseboard heaters. Try to keep fresh cut trees as moist as possible by giving them plenty of water daily.

Candles – Candles can help create a festive atmosphere to your celebrations but they can also cause great damage if not used safely. December is the peak month for candle fires.

Electricity – Cords and plugs are the leading type of equipment involved in the ignition of Christmas trees. Follow the manufacturer's instructions on how to use tree lights. Always unplug tree lights before leaving home or going to sleep.

Fireplaces – Fireplaces offer a beautiful source of heat when they are cared for properly. Make certain that your fireplace is cleaned once a year removing creosote. Always use a screen to prevent sparks from entering the home. Burn only seasoned wood; never burn wrapping paper, packing materials or other rubbish. Wait for the ashes to cool completely before removing them from the fireplace and make sure they are disposed in a non-combustible container.

If you have any questions, please ask Jim Schick or Brian Van in our safety department.

UMC Core Values

UMC's "STAR Performance" Core Values (**S**afety, **T**eamwork, **A**ccountability, **R**espect, **P**erformance) truly reflect our culture and are instrumental in the achievement of our goals.

—▶ **This month's STAR Performer: Rick Coulter**

Where were you on September 9, 1974? This is the date Rick began his over 31 years of STAR Performance with UMC.

I personally have had the honor and pleasure of working with Rick for 22 years this month. Many others still working with UMC including Pat Monahan, John Strand, Jack Willits, Stephen Pranger, Gary Peterson, Dick Kirk, Ken Zeumault, and Ed Toyoji have worked with Rick even longer than I. For me, it seems so long ago that I met Rick Coulter. At that time, Rick was UMC's warehouse manager. Everyone spoke so highly of Rick when we were introduced...and I can remember being so impressed that he had already been with UMC for almost 10 years! Rick's common sense, the way he goes about his job and how he cares for his wonderful family, has impressed me each and every day.

Rick's leadership at UMC is quiet and dependable and extends past his job as Purchasing Manager. It would be impossible to calculate how many times Rick has been instrumental in helping people order the right material for their job, given foremen grace for ordering at the last minute, quickly made up for vendor "shorts" or missed shipments, dealt patiently and educated new foremen, new project managers, new accountants, new vendor salesmen and many others.

What most of us do know are how many times Rick has been there for each of us, individually. Thinking of all the education and assistance I have received from Rick, it doesn't take long to be overwhelmed at the positive impact Rick's performance and friendship has on us at UMC. Seeing Rick's truck parked in front of our office each morning is a great source of comfort, pride and motivation. Rick's dedication, persistence, initiative, and friendship motivate me every day. Having had the pleasure of celebrating Rick's 10th, 20th, and 30th anniversaries with UMC, I look forward to celebrating Rick's 40th anniversary and all the good times along the way. It will seem like a very short time when we get there and look back, but every day will be both productive and a pleasure.

Thank you Rick for all the memories and years of dedication to UMC.

Welcome to UMC!

Sonja Cotterell started working for UMC on 9/1 as Sr. Staff Accountant, reporting to Rick Davison. Sonja most recently worked for two years as GL Accountant for KLB Construction. Before that she worked for F. E. Ward as Controller, Erik Runyan Jewelers as Accountant, and Persimmon Country Club as Director of Finance & Administration.

Konstantin Aluf started working for UMC on 12/1 as a Detailer, reporting to Brett Endres. Konstantin has over 20 years experience in HVAC, plumbing, piping, and refrigeration systems design and has most recently performed mechanical and design work for Eastern Washington University, the Surgical Center in Pocatello ID, and various casino projects in California, Idaho, and Oregon. Konstantin enjoys walking, traveling and listening to music with his wife Mariya.

Please stop by or drop an email to give them a UMC welcome!

Project Spotlight

Dave Johanson gives us this update on **NUCOR Shutdown**.

A few days ago, we completed the two-week shutdown to rebuild Nucor's Continuous Caster. This was an "all hands on deck" undertaking, and almost everyone in the Industrial group was involved. Our crewing peaked at 50 craftsmen, and we worked around the clock. The start-up was successful and Nucor is now producing a higher quality product.

Quotable Leader

It is better to be safe a thousand times than dead once

-Thomas Edison

Baby News!

Welcome to Aaron Bryan Eppler was born December 9, 2005 at 8:00am to Bryan & Charmaine Eppler. Mom and Baby are doing fine. Dad said that he could see the Reno job trailer from the hospital room. Aaron is 6 lbs, 2 oz and 18" long. Big Brother Levi mentions that his baby brother cries a lot. Congratulations Bryan & Charmaine!