

PLAINS TALK



Sioux Falls WPE: Nutting and Focus Watertown

Did You Know?

• West Plains Engineering, Inc. is in the process of converting our CAD software to Revit MEP? This software conversion will allow us to better collaborate with other members of the design team to provide our clients with a better product.

Plains Talk is a quarterly publication of West Plains Engineering, Inc. in which we highlight a few of our most interesting projects. Your comments are welcome at any of our locations listed on the back cover of this newsletter.

• Watertown is one of the most progressive communities in South Dakota. Focus Watertown is an economic development organization ensuring the economy of Watertown stays strong.



Watertown, and the Nutting manufacturing plant, came together to relocate and build a new facility for Nutting in Watertown. This new facility includes an 83,600 square foot building that is made up of 80,000 sq feet of

Focus Watertown was founded in 1997 by a progressive group of business leaders. They are a non-profit economic development organization funded by public and private investors with the mission of increasing job opportunities and the property tax base of Watertown. This non-profit organization was established to own and operate buildings, lands and development areas for the economic progress of Watertown.

Nutting is a premier manufacturer of high quality trailers for a wide variety of industry applications for hauling and transporting goods fore and aft in plants, centers, factories, and terminals. Many products include a wide variety of material handling and special purpose equipment; platform, wagon, hand, and shelf trucks, skids, dollies, casters, and wheels.

Craig Atkins the president of Focus

manufacturing and 3,600 square feet of office space.

The ventilation system of the manufacturing area consists of two large, variable speed make-up air units controlled by building static pressure. The various plant processes require exhaust air that is intermittent in its use. As exhaust fans are turned on and off, the make-up air varies, based on the building static pressure, providing the required make-up air while minimizing energy requirements. Over head infra-red radiant tube heat throughout the manufacturing area provides necessary heating for worker comfort. Various connections to owner relocated equipment were made to include plasma table exhaust and paint booth exhaust. The office area is heated and cooled by roof top units.

The plumbing sys-

continued, p.3

NEW EMPLOYEE—CEDAR RAPIDS



Brandon White moved to Cedar Rapids and joined West Plains Engineering in June 2008. He is a recent graduate from Iowa State University with a Bachelors of Science in Mechanical Engineering. While at ISU, Brandon took courses in HVAC design and is now putting these skills to use. He is currently working towards getting LEED accredited and plans on becoming a professional engineer when the time comes. In his spare time, Brandon tutors high school and college students to help pay off student loans. On the weekends you will usually find him in Iowa City with high school friends that live there.

NEW EMPLOYEE—RAPID CITY



Nina Doorenbos joined the Rapid City office in June as an electrical engineering designer. A graduate from SDSM&T in May 2007 she worked at GCC Dacotah her first year before deciding to come back to consulting. She will also be graduating in May 2009 with her MS in Technology Management. Nina is married to Zac Doorenbos (PhD ChemE '10) and they have a son born in April, Wyatt Dean Wayne Doorenbos. Nina enjoys playing and coaching sports and painting in her "spare" time.

NEW EMPLOYEE—CASPER



Brian Ames joined the Casper office as a Mechanical Engineer on June 2, 2008. He is recent graduate from the School of Mines & Technology graduating in May 2008. He is originally from Black Hawk, SD and in his spare time he enjoys playing sports, hunting, playing with his dog Bailey and enjoying the outdoors.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

—**Melanie Raap and Jeremy Eitreim** on their marriage on May 31, 2008.

—**Isaac Anderson and Susan Rogers** on their marriage on July 26, 2008.

—**Joan Arens** on her retirement on October 31, 2008. She has been an employee of WPE since 1991, retiring once but returned to work. Joan and her husband Carl, have 8 children, 17 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. Good luck Joan!

NEW BABY!!!

—**Melanie and Jeremy Eitreim** celebrated the birth of their daughter Sydni Eugenie Eitreim on June 6, 2008 at 8:15 AM. Sydni has brown hair and eyes, and weighed 7lbs. 13 oz. and was 20 inches in length at birth.

WPE ANNIVERSARIES!!!

CONGRATULATIONS ON 15 YEARS!



Mark Grebner, P.E.
Sioux Falls Office

CONGRATULATIONS ON 10 YEARS!



Mike Sigman, P.E.
Rapid City Office



Julie Morton
Casper Office

CONGRATULATIONS ON 5 YEARS!



Melanie Raap-Eitreim
Sioux Falls Office



Darlene Weber
Sioux Falls Office

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tems are typical of what one would expect in a manufacturing plant. Compressed air, welding gas distribution and domestic water are all present. Additionally, lubricating grease distribution piping was installed with close contractor-owner coordination to ensure the owner's requirements were met.

The electrical system is a typical manufacturing facility design with the combinations of both HID (high intensity discharge) high bay lighting for most of the plant and fluorescent high bay lighting in an area for more intensive work. The power system consisted of a new 2000 amp 480 volt service with numerous power cord drops for flexibility of equipment. A new fire alarm system was provided throughout the entire building and new voice and data systems were installed in the office



spaces.

Dave Todd of Todd Architecture served as the project architect and Gray Construction of Sioux Falls was the general contractor. The electrical contractor was Marquardt Electric of Watertown. The ventilation contractor was Active Heating and Air Conditioning and the plumbing contractor was Hurney Plumbing, both of Watertown. West Plains Engineering provid-

ed both the electrical and mechanical design and construction administration services.

About the Author:

Harlan Osterloo is an Electrical Designer in the Sioux Falls Office, and has been with WPE for 16 years.



West Plains Engineering's 2008 Design Conference



2008 Design Conference attendees enjoy a beautiful outdoor dinner at the Cedar Shore Resort in Oacoma, South Dakota.

- The Ninth Annual West Plains Engineering Design Conference was held September 15 – 18, at Cedar Shore Resort in Oacoma, South Dakota. Thirty-seven employees from all four WPE Office locations attended the conference. This Conference allows employees from South Dakota, Wyoming and Iowa to collaborate and compare design strategies and innovations in the field of consulting engineering.

In conjunction with this year's Design Conference, the third session of Revit Training was also held at Cedar Shore prior to and concurrent with

the Conference. Revit is the next technological advancement in the design and preparation of construction documents. Twelve employees from across the company have completed the training. The goal is that all employees will be trained on this new software in the very near future.

About the Author:

Dave Berg is an Owner, Officer, and Founder of West Plains Engineering.



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Casper WPE: Skater's Paradise!

• The City of Casper recently embraced the local skateboarding community, providing them with a new venue for practicing and showing off the tricks of their trade. About 10 years ago, the City teamed with local service organizations and individuals to build a skate park near the YMCA in the center of town. The local roller skating rink in Mills also has some ramps and rails, but these have been the only locations specifically designed for these activities for years.

Even the presence of such facilities didn't keep every other staircase, retaining wall and railing from being waxed down and used as an X-Games training ground. To minimize the hazards posed by these activities, the City of Casper decided to utilize some of their optional 1% sales tax funds to build another skate park for the local youth to grind out their extra energy. The new Boys & Girls Club provided a natural home for the new facility in north Casper.

With the help of Civil Engineering Professionals, Inc. of Casper and Skate Concept Concrete Skate Parks, the City laid out a plan for a multi-level park, loaded with challenging features. The park is a combination of pre-cast and poured-on-site concrete, forming ramps, hips and banks surrounded by stairs, rails and a large, two-level pool. The upper levels



make up the perimeter, with the exception of the entrance, and the entire park is bordered by an earth berm. This delineates the park from the surrounding site and enhances the safety and aesthetics of the facility.

To maximize safety and allow skate time after dark, the City decided to light the new skate park. West Plains Engineering, Inc. designed a lighting system, consisting of nine light poles around the perimeter of the park, each with two tilted heads. The lighting fixtures match those

of the adjacent Boys & Girls Club site and share their power source and controls. The control system allows the parking lot and skate park lights to be turned off at a designated time at night, while the building security lights remain on all night.

As expected, you will rarely find the park empty, and the Boys & Girls Club keeps the site picked up and looking good. This lighted park provides a safe and secure place for the youth in the community to hang out in the evening, hopefully cutting down on other less wholesome evening activities in the community.

About the Author:

Jeff Eidsness is an Electrical Engineer and Manager of the Casper Office. He has been with WPE for 14 years.

