

PIPELINE

PIPING SYSTEMS INC.

PROCESS PIPING • PLUMBING • HVACR • BOILERS • FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS • ELECTRICAL • SPRINKLER INSPECTIONS

Summer 2022

Piping Systems, Inc. Supports Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School



Diman Regional Vocational High School HVACR students hard at work! PSI is honored to partner with Diman to help promote the trades.

Piping Systems, Inc. works hard to support our local community. We recently presented a check to Diman Regional Vocational High School in the amount of \$800—\$400 was collected from individual donations from PSI team members and the remaining \$400 was a match made by PSI. Also donated were assorted tools mentioned below.

Diman's students were incredibly thankful for our donation:

"The Diman Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR) program would like to thank Piping Systems Inc. (PSI) of Assonet for a generous donation of tools, supplies, gift cards, and a check to the program on April 8, 2022. The tool donations included a Ridgid ProPress tool and jaw set, Milwaukee 11 in 1 screw drivers, Milwaukee linemans pliers, Milwaukee utility knives, Milwaukee billet torpedo levels, Milwaukee straight jaw pliers, Raptor tool kits, Raptor tool bags, Viega copper press elbows, and Viega MegaPress steel elbows.

In attendance during the donation presentation were Assistant Principal of Academic Affairs Dr. Katie Warren, HVACR Department Head William Harris, HVACR Instructors Wyatt L'Etoile, Patrick

Merrick, Gabriel Teixeira, and students of the program. PSI Vice President of Operations Jason Taylor and PSI Director of Administration Sharron Furtado delivered these donations to the HVACR students and discussed career opportunities within the industry and PSI.

These donations were made possible through strong industry partnerships from F.W. Webb Company, Independent Pipe and Supply Corporation, and Ferguson. In addition to industry support, PSI employees individually donated to the program and owner Pauline Lally matched the total amount donated.

Piping Systems, Inc. has been a long-standing supporter of the HVACR program, and owner Pauline Lally has been an integral member of the program advisory board for years. Jason Taylor, a former Diman graduate, is the HVACR program's newest member with hopes of strengthening the relationship between PSI and Diman."

PSI is proud to partner with local schools to promote the future of the trades.



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The Mouth-Watering History Of The Lobster

Does the thought of lobster make you salivate? Lobsters have been an important menu item in fine restaurants for years. But the pricey crustacean wasn't always so upper-crust.

Up until the 1800s, lobster was chiefly consumed by the lower classes—poor, indentured servants, and people in prisons and institutions. In colonial America, there were even laws against feeding lobster to inmates more than once a week, and employment agreements often specified that servants would not have to eat lobster more than twice a week.

One reason was probably because lobsters were so abundant on the East Coast. The Plymouth pilgrims, according to some stories, could wade into the water and capture more than they wanted by hand. After great storms, so many lobsters washed ashore that they were pulverized and used as fertilizer.

It wasn't until the 19th century that New Yorkers and Bostonians developed a taste for lobsters. Commercial lobster fisheries flourished only after the development of the lobster smack, a boat with a large open holding well on deck that allowed live lobsters to be transported.

The largest lobster ever caught, by the way, was found off Nova Scotia. It was 3.5 feet long from the tip of its tail to the end of its crusher claw, and weighed 44 pounds, 6 ounces.

SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



Take Charge Of Your Own Professional Development

Your employer may offer some job-specific training, but in the long run, you're responsible for your own professional development. To keep your career skills sharp, follow this advice:

- **Read widely.** Look for books and articles (online and in print) with fresh points of view that will open your mind to new professional techniques and innovative ways of looking at the world.
- **Join up.** Look for professional organizations that relate to your job, your industry, and where you want to go in the future. Attend their meetings, volunteer to help with their events, and actively participate.
- **Network.** Joining professional organizations is one way to expand your network. Look for other ways to make meaningful contacts inside your industry and beyond. Listen to their ideas and advice.
- **Embrace technology.** Don't be a Luddite. Invest in a smartphone and other tools that the rest of the workforce is already using. Getting comfortable with the latest tech will help your mind grow more adaptable and increase your efficiency.
- **Challenge yourself.** Look for opportunities to get out of your comfort zone. Take on a stretch assignment or speak at a conference. You'll learn and grow by doing something different.

"All of my successes have been built on my failures."

—Benjamin Disraeli

How To Deliver Results On A Deadline

Meeting deadlines shows that you take your work seriously and that you value other people's time. Even outside of work, the ability to keep your promises on time shows your commitment to doing the right thing. Here are some important tips for hitting your deadlines (without driving yourself to exhaustion):

- **Start with specifics.** What exactly is the deadline? Clarify whether "end of the week" means 5 p.m. Friday or first thing Friday morning. And hammer down the results: What does your boss want? How will he or she measure your effectiveness?
- **Negotiate.** Is the deadline realistic? Try not to accept an assignment you can't complete on time. Suggest alternative dates or work out what other tasks you should put on hold in order to give the deadline the attention it deserves.
- **Break the task down.** Take a look at what's involved and identify the individual steps you need to take in order to achieve your goal. Lay them out on a calendar in step-by-step form so you know what you've got to achieve and you can monitor your progress.
- **Get started.** Don't procrastinate on step one. Focus on beginning without getting overwhelmed by the number of steps or the magnitude of the task ahead of you.
- **Build in a buffer.** As you schedule your work, give yourself a cushion of time—mark the due date a few days ahead of the actual deadline, for example. This will help you deal with changes or last-minute emergencies.
- **Stay in contact.** Let your boss, or whomever you're accountable to, know where you are on the project. He or she will feel more confident about your abilities and you'll be able to alert the powers that be about potential roadblocks before they become full-blown crises threatening the deadline.
- **Enlist assistance.** Don't be afraid to ask for help. Your boss, a friend, or a co-worker will probably be willing to pitch in if you explain the circumstances and the stakes honestly.

Want To Get Ahead? Don't Wait To Be Offered That Promotion

Most people don't want to spend their entire career in the same job, for the same pay, with the same level of responsibility. But getting promoted isn't automatic. You've got to show that you want it and that you deserve it. Here's how to prepare and position yourself for advancement:

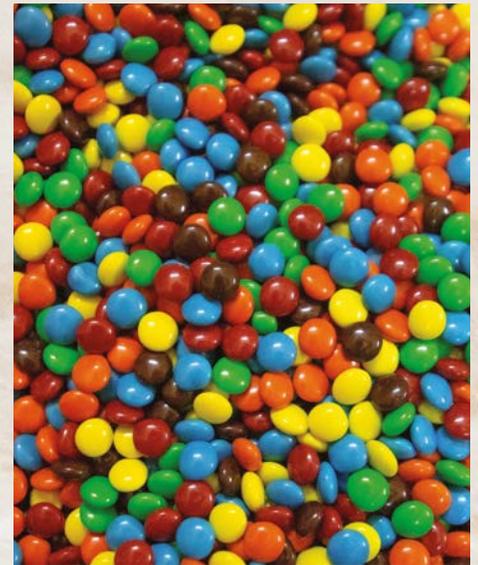
- **Decide on what you want.** "A promotion" is nebulous. You've got to target the specific job you want so you can start working toward it. Be realistic; if you work in the mail room, you're not likely to immediately win a VP's job.
- **Do a stellar job.** The bare minimum isn't enough. You'll get noticed if you make a practice of going above and beyond your job description. Work harder than anyone else, take some initiative, and get results.
- **Be a team player.** Support your co-workers, your manager, and your organization. You've got to show that you're ready for the responsibility of leading other people, and you can't do that if you get a reputation as a lone wolf.
- **Invest in your own development.** Don't wait around for your boss to send you to a training seminar. Find out what skills you need in order to do the job your eye is on. Then go ahead and learn them. You'll show your commitment to improvement and you'll get the benefit of increasing your knowledge no matter what happens.
- **Talk to your manager.** Let your boss know that you're interested in advancement. Don't be pushy or demanding, but send the message that you're ready for more responsibility and ask what you can do to be considered for promotion.
- **Solve problems.** The best way to get noticed is to solve problems for your organization quickly and creatively. Be on the lookout for situations where you can help your colleagues and the organization with ideas and knowhow. The ability to provide useful solutions will help you stand out.



The Internet By The Numbers

The information superhighway (as the Internet was dubbed in the 1990s) is packed, but most of us are headed for the same few off-ramps. Here are some numbers associated with biggest, busiest destinations on the World Wide Web, from the internet data firm *Alexa*:

- **Wikipedia.** The online encyclopedia ranks sixth in U.S. traffic, and seventh globally. The average visitor spends about five minutes on the site, and about 52 percent of those visits are "bounces" (users view just one page before leaving).
- **Amazon.** Online since 1992, Amazon's users are more often female than male (55 percent versus 45 percent); about 19 percent of its visitors are referred to it by search engines. The average load time for an Amazon page is 1.783 seconds.
- **YouTube.** The second biggest search engine on the internet has three billion searches per month. Only 22 percent of YouTube visitors come from the United States.
- **Twitter.** Visitors to the 280-character posting site view an average of 3.5 unique pages per day. They spend about seven minutes on the site, with 51 seconds per page view. Around 62 percent of visitors are women.
- **Facebook.** With more than 2.9 billion monthly users, the social network is ranked second in U.S. traffic. The highest percentage of users (30 percent) are in the 45–54 age range, and 57 percent of them are female.



Test Your Knowledge

1. What were the first modern Olympic pole vaulters' poles made of?
 - a. Plastic
 - b. Bamboo
 - c. Birch
 - d. Sugar cane
2. What is December's birthstone?
 - a. Garnet
 - b. Pearl
 - c. Sapphire
 - d. Turquoise
3. Before it was called the Big Mac, McDonald's signature sandwich went by what name?
 - a. The King
 - b. The Duke
 - c. The Aristocrat
 - d. The Royal
4. What color M&Ms did not exist from 1976 to 1987?
 - a. Red
 - b. Blue
 - c. Green
 - d. Yellow
5. Which country released the world's first Christmas postage stamp?
 - a. The United States
 - b. France
 - c. Canada
 - d. England

ANSWERS: 1. b; 2. d; 3. c; 4. a; 5. c

—Random Trivia Generator

Piping Systems, Inc. Earns Renewal of “S” and “R”

ASME/National Board Certification

For nearly 40 years, Piping Systems, Inc. (PSI) has held at least one type of certification through the ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers) or the National Board. Once again, this past spring, PSI was granted a renewal of the ASME “S” stamp and the National Board “R” stamp.

Holding the “R” stamp means that PSI has been authorized by the National Board to repair boilers and pressure vessels. Being a recipient of the “S” stamp means we have been authorized by the ASME to manufacture boilers and power piping. Undergoing an extensive quality control review process by the National Board in conjunction with our authorized inspection agency, The Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Co., PSI has the capability to offer additional services as requested by our customers.

Thorough On-Site review

Our on-site triennial review was recently concluded. In

attendance were Hartford Steam Boiler Supervisor Code Services/ Team Leader Mr. Marshall Chandler and ASME/National Board Designee Mr. Pat Donovan.

This review process is incredibly thorough. The practical portion consists of a demonstration of a pressure component partially assembled. Unlike prior reviews that required our welder to only be on-site for questions, for this review, the Team Leader required our welder to weld a root and hot pass on our demonstration piece under the watchful eyes of the inspectors.

Before and after the actual welding, the Team Leader asked questions of our top welder, Mr. Rick Best, to determine his complete knowledge of our welding procedures. During past reviews the Team Leader would examine the welds in the presence of our welder, however, our welder was not required to demonstrate knowledge of the welding technique. During this review, technical questions were asked relating to our Welding

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Renewal... *continued from above*

Procedure Specification (WPS)— where to find the welding rod type and AWS (American Welding Standard) number, who purchases the “code” wire and how it is to be maintained, what type of inert gas is used and how the flow is measured, what welding position (if any) is referenced in the drawings and whether or not the welder is qualified for those positions. In other words, we were required to demonstrate not only our “theory” but practical work as well.

During the review, a complete understanding of our Quality Control

Manual is expected and must be demonstrated in addition to a working knowledge of the ASME Code sections and the NBIC (National Boiler Inspection Code).

Congratulations to everyone on the team, especially Jason Taylor, our QC Manager and his mentor/assistant, Michael Moreira, PSI’s VP of Estimating.

How does this help our clients?

In today’s marketplace, quality and timeliness are paramount in business. At PSI, we are extremely aware of the pressures on our customers to provide

goods and services at reasonable costs and of the highest quality. Our efforts to achieve Authorization by the National Board and ASME has allowed all of our departments to streamline while still focusing on the details of each project. Our fabrication shop and field technicians are required to improve their welding skills and achieve certification by nationally accepted standards. These standards translate to higher quality welding and pipefitting skills, and a higher quality job performed for you, our clients.



We're doing our part!

