



M&H Valve Company

A Division of McWane Inc
Anniston, AL
3rd Quarter 2012

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The Valve Stem Messenger

Water Business



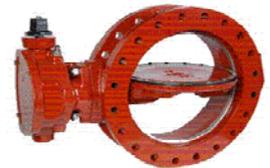
Noccoalula Falls Gadsden, Al



Gate Valve



Hydrant



Butterfly Valve



General Manager

From the Desk of Tony Orłowski

The Endless Summer

The world is full of cycles, and from the beginning we have been driven to overcome them. Day turned to night, and in response we harnessed first fire and later electricity, so now the time of day isn't a factor in what we can accomplish. Seasons change as well, as Mike Hynson and Robert August noticed over 45 years ago when winter kept cutting short their surfing season. Their solution to summer's flight? Chase it for a year across the latitudes. They did just that, and at Cape St. Francis, South Africa, they even managed to find the perfect wave – a large curl that rolled all the way into shore, one after another.

Business has cycles too, and when the market is up almost everyone makes money. But when it's down only the good ones do – the ones who structured their business to handle all phases of the business cycle. In lean times poor companies have excuses, and excuses soon turn to panic and desperation, which then lead to excessive risk taking, and all too often, deception. What is this deception? Posting paper profits for a time that never turn into cash. There are many ways to temporarily show a paper profit, but the most tempting scenario for us to avoid is this:

Sales are down, and the beleaguered general manager discovers that the more product he makes, the less it costs overall. So he makes a lot of product – a lot more than people want to buy. Profit is high, but cash goes negative as the firm borrows from the bank to make the product. *"No worries"* says our general manager. *"Business will pick up and we'll sell it all eventually. And anyway, we run efficiently at this level and we'd be much worse off if we stopped."* So he doesn't stop, until finally there is no corner left at the facility into which more product can be stuffed. Then everything comes to a complete halt. All those "profits" that he racked up previously are given back (and more) as the business sits dead in the water trying to move excess inventory. Everyone asks "What changed? How could we be so good one minute and so bad the next?" The answer is they were bad all along, but the market changed, finally exposing them.

Remember this: Profits come from customers, not banks. If we are profitable *and* producing cash, then the profits are likely real because they come from people who bought our products and paid us. If we are profitable and *consuming* cash, then the profits are likely only on loan (i.e. the bank expects that money back, plus interest, thank you!) We have to profitably pursue customers, not fabricate imaginary ones.

We'll probably never find the perfect wave that rolls in year after year. Sometimes we'll get huge curls, while other years will give us small waves that peter out in the surf. We have to ride both well. That way we will be profitable this year, next year, and the next It will be *our* endless summer.



Does that make sense to everyone? Groovy.



Plant Manager

Mark Willett



Management Changes

M&H Machine Shop Manager

We are pleased to announce that Cecil Payne has been promoted to Machine Shop Manager. Cecil came to M&H Valve with 14 years of tool and die, and aerospace machining experience. He started at M&H on May 1,st 1995 as a manufacturing engineer, with tooling, fixturing responsibilities, 1st time machine setups, tool room manager, as well as responsibility for the justification and purchasing of all machining equipment. He was promoted in May of 2001 to the Assistant Machine Shop Manager, responsible for all machining, Manufacturing Engineers, Maintenance, as well as overall machine shop layout and equipment relocations.
Congratulations Cecil!



M&H Gate Valve Wedge Coating Manager



Mike Fulmer has accepted the position of M&H Gate Valve Wedge Coating Manager. Mike started at M&H in August 1994 as a CNC Operator and held several different positions until becoming a supervisor in November 1994. In September 1997 Mike was promoted to the Machine Shop Manager. For the next 15 years Mike, along with the help of many of you, turned the machine shop into an efficient, organized and overall successful operation. Mike will now turn his attention to doing the exact same thing with the new wedge coating business.
Congratulations Mike!

New Employees



Josh Emanuel
Foundry
General Maintenance



Curtis Ramsey
Machine Shop
Quality Manager



Roger Johnson
American R/D
Central Sales Manager

SAFETY NEWS

Safety Manager



Josh Gunning

Things have been below average in the ballpark of Safety, in most cases that would be a bad thing. For us that is a good thing. Our January to August rates for the entire plant are below where we were at this time last year.

As you can see on the chart below, the Machine Shop is boasting a zero in every category, which is as good as you can get for recordables. The Foundry has had some incidents this year, but we are below last year's numbers. Even though both areas have had several first aids and near misses, which studies show will eventually lead to a recordable incident, I am confident that we are on the right track in controlling our overall incidents. I challenge you to think about how much "safety" thought you put into your daily tasks here at work and at home. I would bet that if we added just a few seconds to think about what could happen or am I doing this correctly, it would greatly reduce, if not eliminate all of our near misses, first aids, and recordables.

Share	Jan- Aug TRIR	Jan- Aug DART	Same Period 2011 TRIR	Same Period 2011 TRIR
Total Plant	2.04	0.68	3.42	2.05
Machine Shop	0.00	0.00	1.32	1.32
Foundry	4.03	1.34	5.69	2.84

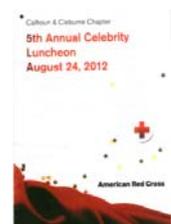
While we are thinking about safety, I have six \$50 gift cards to the Golden Corral to be drawn out of all the safety alert entries for the month of October. Two Cards will be drawn for the Machine Shop, Foundry and the Office personnel. If you don't have a safety alert to submit, place a sheet of paper in the safety alert box with your name and the answer to the following questions:

1. What does **VPP** stand for?
2. To become a **VPP** site, what are the 5 major elements that **VPP** addresses?
3. If this facility were to go for **VPP** (hint, hint), would you be interested in participating on a committee or simply providing your thoughts and ideas on making this facility a safer place?



M&H Valve & Union Foundry Celebrity's who participated in the American Red Cross Luncheon Fund Raiser, August 24th 2012, at the Anniston Meeting Center.

(left –right) Stacy Engle (Buffette`), Pam Greene (Cruella Deville), Ron Ponder (Jimmy Buffett), Kathy Knight (Dolly Parton), Larry Bowers (Phil Fulmer), Sara Tongsvone (Bat Girl) , Rodney Turner (Charlie Sheen), Chriss Suddeth (Elvis), Michael Kiser (Soggy Bottom Boys) .
(Not Pictured): Michael Haynes and Dan Nelson (Soggy Bottom Boys).



Machine Shop Manager



Cecil Payne



We recently moved all powder coat operations to first shift therefore reducing costs in gas usage, as well as strengthening the quality of all coated products. The fact that we have the quality manager, and more supervision on first shift to ensure our quality requirements are met. Our powder coat crew are doing an exceptional job. **(L-R)** Terry O'Dell, Brad Gauldin, Shannon Butler, Alan Smith and Dwayne Allen.



Curtis Ramsey join's the M&H Valve team as quality manager. Curtis brings a great deal of knowledge to M&H and is currently working on the much needed items with excessive customer return rates, ensuring that everyone follows the machine shop scrap procedure, checking gage calibrations and many other machine shop related task.

We recently completed the environmental project on the west, and north side of the machine shop, with the help of many employees. The project consisted of laying the sod (grass), sawing and removing the concrete and cutting and installing the metal grating for the drain that now directs the water from the building and property to the grass area. I would like to thank everyone on the team, as well as all other employees that helped in this successful project.



The project team members are Jerry Summerlin, Sherrill Burt, Che George, James Hubbard, Kenneth Boyce, Pete Price, and Eric Turner. ~ Cecil



Spotlight Machine Shop Employees



These 2nd shift employees are commended on their everyday commitment for safety and quality of work. Their positive attitude and being flexible to perform other job duties when needed is very important for our company to stay competitive in this everyday changing global market.

(Back Row L-R) Jeremy Felton, Travis Speigner, Terry Storey and Jerry Summerlin.

(Middle L-R) Chris Heron and Gary Estes.

(Seated) Kevin Whatley.

Shipping Department Manager

Gary Ray



Most of you have probably noticed that we have filled the concrete pad behind the shipping building with storage racks.

Having these racks will allow us to store a much wider mix of finished goods as well as increase our storage for the Kennedy Kan Ban materials. Our plan is to store all 10"-24" butterflies and all of the stock Post Hydrants that we now keep out on the yard. ~ Gary



Glen Bungert retiring with 45 years:



Glen started work in the foundry in 1967. Since then he has worked in the machine shop, foundry and currently in the shipping department. Glen and his wife Linda have two sons (Lance & Michael) and two grandchildren (Rachel & Brandon). After retiring Linda and Glen plan on visiting family in Tennessee. The shipping department employees are having a retirement dinner for Glen & Linda at **“Top of the River”** restaurant in Anniston. Glen and Linda are looking forward to his retirement. Glen said he will miss seeing everyone and wish all well.

(back row L-R) Gary Ray, Steven Kelly, Steve Norman and Larry “Chopper Joe” Mays.
(front row L_R) Christa Beal, **Glen Bungert**, James Butterworth and Leonard Thomason

M&H Fire Hydrant in Congressman Robert Aderholt's Office



On a recent visit to the Capitol to see the Congressmen and Women who represent the many McWane Team Members across America, one Congressman the McWane representatives spent some time with was Alabama's 4th District Representative, Congressman Robert Aderholt, from Haleyville, AL. During the visit, a prevalent ASCIPCO Fire Hydrant in the room kept drawing the delegation's attention. During the visit, Congressman Aderholt invited McWane to bring a Hydrant representing the fine work of the men and women from our company in Alabama and so we did. Last Summer, on a trip to the area, Rod Reisner and family along with Chris Fuller drove the freshly cast and polished M&H Hydrant pictured here to the Capitol where it prominently sits in the Congressman's Office. The Congressman, his wife Caroline, daughter Mary Elliott, and dog Winston, greeted them, and treated the crew to lunch in the Congressional dining room after briefly allowing Winston to examine the spectacle. On a recent return trip, they found the hydrant proudly in its place, a fine example of our workmanship and dedication!

Rollis E. Reisner
McWane Corporate IT

Birthdays

Month of October:

Chris Berta - 5th
Walker Hall - 8th
Steven Caruso - 10th
James Martin - 16th
Terry O'Dell - 17th
Stacey Vree - 17th
Billy Gaston - 18th
Eric Turner - 24th
Terry Christjohn - 24th
Blake Hurst - 31st



Month of November:

Alkera Garrett - 1st
Benu Chakraborty - 1st
Brad Gauldin - 1st
Bruce Gerhardt - 8th
Jim Simpson - 8th
Earnest Hightower - 8th
Ronald Thomas - 8th
Pam Greene - 11th
Bryant Bradford - 14th
Diane Word - 14th
Cameron Clarke - 15th
Thomas Ingalsbe - 16th
Art Blankenship - 19th
Larry Parker - 26th
Randall Kerr - 27th
Kenneth Teague - 28th
Charles Sanders - 29th
Chris Sayles - 29th
Anderson Brunt - 30th
Pernell Lewis - 30th

Month of December:

Karen Wynn - 4th
Wesley Bones - 4th
Kendall Rush - 6th
Rickey Powell - 8th
Grady Calloway - 10th
Daniel Feregrino - 11th
Kandi Willis - 14th
Brad Whitaker - 20th
Wibert Price - 24th
Cheyenne Good - 26th
Gary Stawski - 28th
Kelsey McWilliams - 30th

Anniversaries

Month of October:

Robert N. Smith, 1st - 5 yrs.
Tommy Gibson, 1st - 12 yrs.
Tommy Fielder, 2nd - 40 yrs.
Matthew Lambert, 2nd - 6 yrs.
Bobby Hammond, 5th - 6 yrs.
Chris Sayles, 6th - 15 yrs.
Lanny Gaines, 11th - 19 yrs.
Billy Gaston, 11th - 8 yrs.
Dennis Turner, 11th - 41 yrs.
Sue Thornburg, 13th - 15 yrs.
Anterio Turner, 19th - 13 yrs.
Mike Brown, 23rd - 17 yrs.
Josh Gunning, 24th - 7 yrs.
Wesley Bones, 27th - 15 yrs.
Dennis Jackson, 27th - 15 yrs.
Ronald Thomas, 27th - 42 yrs.
Ricky Powell, 31st - 1 yr.
Aniceto Zavala, 31st - 1 yr.

Month of November:

Cheyenne Good, 1st - 13 yrs.
Billy Joe Turner, 1st - 13 yrs.
Kenneth Boyce, 12th - 10 yrs.
Terry Christjohn, 15th - 39 yrs.
Mike Fulmer, 15th - 18 yrs.
Steve Munroe, 15th - 13 yrs.
Ron Andrada, 16th - 31 yrs.
Echoles Bryant, 16th - 25 yrs.
Jerry Brown, 22nd - 13 yrs.
Glen Bungert, 27th - 45 yrs.
Wilbert Price, 27th - 40 yrs.
Randall Kerr, 28th - 18 yrs.

Month of December:

Daniel McIntrye II, 4th - 6 yrs.
Menzo Parker, 15th - 15 yrs.
Danielle Kiser, 18th - 6 yrs.
Cory Hill, 19th - 1 yr.
Terry Storey, 19th - 1 yr.
Griffin Herb, 20th - 2 yrs.
Jason Floyd, 22nd - 15 yrs.
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John Davis, Manager Environmental



Why do we have radiation detectors?

Each year in the U.S., more than 4,000 “reports” of radioactive material are detected in scrap metal. If it gets into the plant – people and equipment could become contaminated affecting our health and jobs. That is why in 2011 we installed a Rad Comm radiation detector system that provides an extremely high degree of detection capability for a wide range of radioactive elements commonly associated with scrap metal.



Forget everything you have learned in movies, TV shows or from the news about radiation.

Don’t look for the “glow” if exposed to radiation. Radiation and radioactivity is everywhere, most of it falling into the category of NORM--Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material. Sun light and the earth are two of the biggest. Our normal reading on the detector is around 3,500 counts per second. That means that in a second 3,500 particles strike the detector plates.

What is Radioactivity?

There are two major categories, ionizing and non-ionizing. We will only address ionizing radiation—the part of the spectrum that we normally think of as “radioactive.” Within Ionizing the major two forms of radioactive energy—gamma rays and x-rays—the two are identical with one exception: x-rays are generated by a machine. When the machine is turned off, the hazard ceases to exist. A gamma ray emitter is radioactive all the time.

What does it mean when someone says that something is radioactive?

Most people say that something that is radioactive is unstable. In a radioactive atom, an imbalance within the nucleus results in binding energy that is insufficient to hold the nucleus together. As a result, the excess of the nucleus is ejected as the energy and particles that are defined as radiation. The nucleus will continue to eject this excess, at a constant rate until it becomes stable, and therefore no longer radioactive. Summing up a very complex topic in a few words, when something is radioactive, you could say there is too much junk in the nucleus. The nucleus gets rid of the junk at a specified rate. The junk takes the form of protons, gamma rays, or alpha or beta particles. **As the junk flies away, our detectors catch them and give us a reading.**

One form of junk that can be ejected from the unstable nucleus is a gamma rays. These are bundles of energy, and they can travel great distances in air. They are “penetrating radiation,” meaning that this type of radiation is likely to pass all the way through the body. There are other “types” of radiation: Alpha particles - Stopped with paper, only a danger if internalized (that means swallowed, taken inside your body). Beta particles - Stopped with cardboard or Plexiglas, Can be a danger to skin or if internalized. Neutrons - Stopped by water, Irradiation and activation hazard. In our scrap metal we are looking for old abandoned test instrument radiation sources that emit gamma radiation.

Have we found any radioactive material in the scrap?

No – we did find a truck driver that was delivering material one day that had a reading of 152,000 counts per second. Security talked to him and determined that the day before he had a medical test. If you wish to learn more about our system you can read our work instruction MHV-EWI-094-09 Radiation Detector Monitoring.

~ John