

The Circuit

March 2008

The 5S System
Trivia Question
Navel Gazing
On to Better Things

Hey, we're back... After a little hiatus The Circuit is back!

The question that most of you have, we're sure, is what has ShawFlex been up to? For one, we are keeping up with the annual copper increase which always seems to hit in the spring. We have also been busy with plant improvements which, by the way, are not limited to new machines and equipment. One of the improvements has been the 5S system.

The 5S System

One of the more interesting programs ShawFlex has put into action is the 5S system. The system was developed in Japan and is a systematic process that organizes and standardizes the workplace. It can be applied anywhere - loading docks, warehouses, labs, production lines, offices - anywhere.

So what are the 5S?

- S1: Sort - remove the clutter, keep only what is needed for operation
- S2: Systemize - organize the work area, make it easy to find what is needed
- S3: Sanitize - keep things clean and polished, no trash or dirt
- S4: Standardize - establish schedules and methods for sorting and cleaning
- S5: Sustain - maintain and continually improve upon gains from the previous steps

The 5S philosophy is focused on keeping the workplace organized and having standardized work procedures - no more flying by the seat on one's pants. It also requires that the resources necessary to do the job be at the required location and are available to support the activities. The system requires that a discipline be maintained in order to do the job.

The benefits from all this?

- ✘ Safety... prevents accidents, fires, strains, etc.
- ✘ Quality... reduces errors and/or defects
- ✘ Communications... visual understanding of the workplace
- ✘ Productivity... reduces errors and/or defects
- ✘ Reliability... reduces machine breakdowns
- ✘ Work Environment... facility showcase, increases personal work space
- ✘ Other... empowerment, good habits, morale

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and that says it all!

Trivia Question...

We are departing from the usual mathematical skill testing questions and trying something for the whole family... well, the office family anyway.

Name two actors who have been nominated for an Academy award in each decade since the sixties.

Navel Gazing...

In this new feature, The Circuit would like to put a spotlight on one of the divisions of ShawCor. For those who are familiar only with ShawFlex, our parent company, ShawCor, is a multi-national player in global energy services and technology based products for pipeline, pipe services, petrochemical and industrial markets.

In this edition we shed some light on DSG-Canusa.

DSG-Canusa has been in business since 1981 and provides electrical and mechanical insulation solutions for the Electrical/Utility industry, and the Communications, Automotive and Electronic markets. DSG-Canusa is the complete source for heat shrink products and related technology offering polyolefin, fluoropolymer, elastomer and PVC heat shrink material in thin, medium and heavy wall tubing as well as heat shrink accessories and equipment.

For more in-depth information please have a look at www.dsgcanusa.com

There is no end to what they cover!



On to Better Things...

One of the pillars of the ShawFlex inside sales team is heading off to greener pastures. Marnie Thomas is leaping into retirement at the end March. She has been with ShawFlex for many years and has been appreciated by clients and colleagues alike. We wish her the best and we wave a tearful adieu.