

# SME NEWSLETTER



April 2005

Chapter 28 Golden Gate

## Chair's Message



2005 is continuing to be an exciting year for the Golden Gate SME Chapter 28. Join our tours, sponsor students, write articles, and share your SME experience.

Congratulations to our student chapter at Chico State University for winning the Top Award at the WESTEC Manufacturing Challenge on April 4, 2005.

We are looking for industry sponsors for the 2006 WESTEC competition for our student chapter.

We had an exciting tour of ABI foundry in San Leandro on March 17th. We viewed hot molten metal flowing

into the mold to make pipe fittings and other castings. I would like to express our gratitude to Gary Wickham for hosting SME.

On April 1st, Adept Technology hosted about 15 Chico students along with Prof. Leonard Fallscheer and Prof. Ray Rummell. They visited Adept Technology to learn about Industrial robots and see robots in action on April 1st.

The Automation Summit, an SME national event, held in St. Louis on April 18-20 was fantastic.

We started planning for a large SME event in the Bay Area which will combine the

efforts of both the Golden Gate Chapter 28 and the Silicon Valley Chapter 98 in 2006.

Don't forget to take advantage of our promotion to publish your company ad in the newsletter for FREE for the 2 newsletters with no further obligation! Enjoy!



**Swami Vangal -  
Ramamurthy,  
Chapter Chair**

## Manufacturing Students Win Top Award

**By Joe Wills – Director of Public Affairs & Publications – CSU Chico**

California State University, Chico manufacturing technology students won the grand prize at the prestigious WESTEC Manufacturing Challenge April 4 for building a lever-operated wheelchair incorporating three speeds and brakes.

CSU came in first out of 9 collegiate competitors. Chico students worked with construction management student Amy Jones in designing the wheelchair. Jones, who uses a wheelchair, tested some of the modifications and

provided feedback to students. The students took an off-the-shelf wheelchair and retrofitted it with 30 custom parts and bicycle components to enhance its capabilities.

Chico has won grand prizes at WESTEC in 1991, 1992 and 2003, and first places in 1987, 1993, 1995 and 1998. "WESTEC is the largest manufacturing competition west of the Mississippi," said Dirk Vanderloop, coordinator, CSU, Chico manufacturing technology program. "We compete

against the top technical universities and serious rivalries keep things lively. There is a third-place award, but I do not think we have ever received it."

The Expo and Manufacturing Challenge are sponsored by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME), which has more than 400 professional and school-based chapters worldwide. CSU, Chico's manufacturing technology program has an SME chapter and 85 student majors. Please see **Students**,

### *Highlights:*

*Chair's Message*

*Student Award*

*Automation*

*Advertisements*

## Automation & Assembly Summit Report

By Swami Vangal -Ramamurthy

*Society of Manufacturing Engineering (SME) is the world's leading resource Where Manufacturing Comes Together – both people and information – to advance manufacturing knowledge.*

*By providing resources and opportunities for manufacturing professionals to develop and utilize new knowledge, improved skills, and manufacturing solutions, SME helps you grow personally and professionally and, in turn, contributes to the economic health of companies, the industries, and the nations we serve.*

The Automation & Assembly Summit was developed by the Automated Manufacturing & Assembly Community in 2004 and is sponsored by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME). Manufacturing is more competitive and global success means bringing innovative

products to market faster than ever.

Swami Vangal -Ramamurthy, attended the April 18-20 event in St. Louis included a full conference with more than 52 presentations delivered by eminent manufacturing experts,

exhibits, industry keynotes, plant tours, technical sessions, networking event, and Student Summit. In addition, tours of the Ford Motor Company St. Louis Assembly plant and the Boeing plant were offered to attendees.

### Students, from page 1

If you are looking for talented intern students, or experienced manufacturing alumni, post your job opening on the Chico's Manufacturing Technology website [www.csuchico.edu/mem](http://www.csuchico.edu/mem) for free. Contact the Student Chapter Advisor, Dirk Vanderloop at [dvanderloop@csuchico.edu](mailto:dvanderloop@csuchico.edu).



### SME Events Calendar

EVENTS	Location	TARGET DATES / TIMES
SME National Meeting	Baltimore	June 1-5
ITEC/Mfg. Alumni Reunion & Rummell Retirement Party	Chico State	June 4
McNear Factory	San Rafael	June 16, 10 a.m.
USS Hornet Ship Tour	Oakland	August 17
Nummi	Fremont	September 15, 12:30 pm
Oakland Port Operations	Oakland	October
Applied Materials	San Jose	November 10
Annual Meeting	San Jose	November

NOTE: As events are finalized, notices will be emailed. To register, send an email to [sme\\_ch028@yahoo.com](mailto:sme_ch028@yahoo.com), or [swamiv@adept.com](mailto:swamiv@adept.com).

**FASTER - BETTER - CHEAPER – SAFER**

... will the pressure never cease? It would seem not! As we move warily through 2005, every business enterprise faces accelerating change and aggressive competition. High Technology companies may be the most challenged of all! Rapid growth - shorter product life cycles - fewer people - stretched management resources - increased security concerns & international risks ... all push both hi-tech vendors and customers to the ragged edge.

Learn how Henke Associates can help your business. Visit the Henke Associates web site [www.henkeassociates.net](http://www.henkeassociates.net). To contact Dr. Russ Henke, please send an email to [russ@henkeassociates.net](mailto:russ@henkeassociates.net), or phone 510-287-9168.

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<i>Floor Layout</i>	<i>New Process Introduction</i>
<i>LEAN Implementation</i>	<i>Production Start-up</i>
<i>Design-for-Manufacture</i>	<i>Process Troubleshooting</i>
<i>WIP/Inventory</i>	<i>Operations Benchmarking</i>
<i>Outsourcing</i>	<i>Product line rationalization</i>

**Medical /Consumer /Biotech Operations**

WJ (Bill) Marlow, MBA, P.E.  
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### SME Chapter 28 Officers

*SME is on the Web!*

Log on to SME Chapter 28 Web Site:  
<http://chapters.sme.org/028/homepage.htm>

Send an E-Mail to SME Chapter 28:  
[sme\\_ch028@yahoo.com](mailto:sme_ch028@yahoo.com)

Log on to the SME National Website:  
[www.sme.org](http://www.sme.org)

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