



The Manufacturing Society
Northern Lights Chapter # 370

The Northern Lights

March 2007

For the latest information check-out
<http://chapters.sme.org/370/>

If you would like to be added to our monthly newsletter visit:
<http://maillists.bijouenhancements.com/lists/>

SME Northern Lights Chapter proudly presents a Technical Dinner Presentation on

Greater Edmonton: Canada's New Manufacturing Heartland

Canada's manufacturing sector, which employs upwards of two million people and accounts for about 17% of the nation's GDP, is under siege due to high energy costs, a rise in the Canadian dollar, and intense competition from lower-cost countries like China.

Roughly 200,000 jobs — most of them in the manufacturing heartland of Ontario and Quebec — disappeared in 2005 and 2006, and the outlook for 2007 isn't much better. Major restructuring is well underway in key sectors such as automotive and forestry, as companies try to reduce operating costs and increase efficiencies. But the Edmonton region — Alberta's manufacturing hub — is bucking the national trend. With \$30 billion worth of regional upgraders and another \$100 billion of oilsands projects in the pipeline — more than \$30 billion of which are already underway, or set to start — most local manufacturers see another busy year ahead.

The Conference Board of Canada is also bullish. It expects Edmonton's economy to grow by 3.6 per cent in 2007, with the local manufacturing sector expanding at an even healthier 4.2 per cent clip. Meanwhile, with activity levels softening in Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes, Eastern manufacturers are scouring for opportunities to participate in the oilsands boom.

Challenges? There are many, including chronic skilled labour shortages, the likely imposition of greenhouse gas emissions caps on the energy sector, and continued political in-fighting between the 23 municipalities that comprise the Edmonton region.

But if these challenges are managed effectively, the Edmonton region is poised to become the single most important manufacturing region in Canada, west of Metro Toronto, over the next decade.

This presentation will be given by Gary Lamphier, check out his bio on page 2.

WHERE TO GO!

University Faculty Club
11435 Saskatchewan Drive
Wednesday, March 14, 2007
Social Hour: 5:30 to 6:30 pm
Dinner: 6:30 to 7:30 pm
Presentation: 7:30 to 9:00 pm
COST: \$20 members
\$25 guests
\$10 student members
\$15 student guests

Member pricing is always extended to members of other technical societies such as ASM, AWS, CWA, NACE, CSME, ASME, etc.

WHO TO CALL!

RSVP to SME voice mail at **619-0647** or e-mail smenlc@yahoo.ca by the end of the day Monday, March 12, 2007.



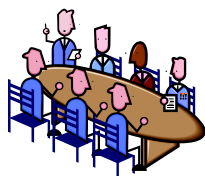
PLEASE DO NOT "REPLY" TO THIS NEWSLETTER

The SME Northern Lights Chapter normally holds technical meetings on the second Wednesday of each month except for the month of July and August. SME hosts the Capstone Honours the second Wednesday in April.

REMEMBER...

Students and student members that attend the SME dinner meeting have a chance to win a FREE dinner

Northern Lights Chapter Executive 2007



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Greater Edmonton: Canada's New Manufacturing Heartland

Presenter Biography ...

Gary Lamphier has been a business columnist with the Edmonton Journal since May of 2002. He has spent most of the past 30 years working as an editor or reporter with a variety of newspapers and magazines, including The Wall Street Journal, The Globe and Mail, the Vancouver Sun and the Financial Times of Canada. He also worked as a corporate communications consultant for nearly five years, advising roughly two dozen TSX and Nasdaq-listed firms. Gary and his wife Toni have been married for 27 years and have two children, Devon and Connor, both now attending university.

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SME Offers Professional Development in the following areas:

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SME and AME have joined up to give you the Lean Certification Program: A multi-level program recognizing tactical, integrative, and strategic application of standard Lean principles.

To learn more visit: http://www.sme.org/cgi-bin/cerhtml.pl?cert/lean_certification.htm&&SME&

LEAN DIRECTIONS 
The e-Newsletter of Lean Manufacturing

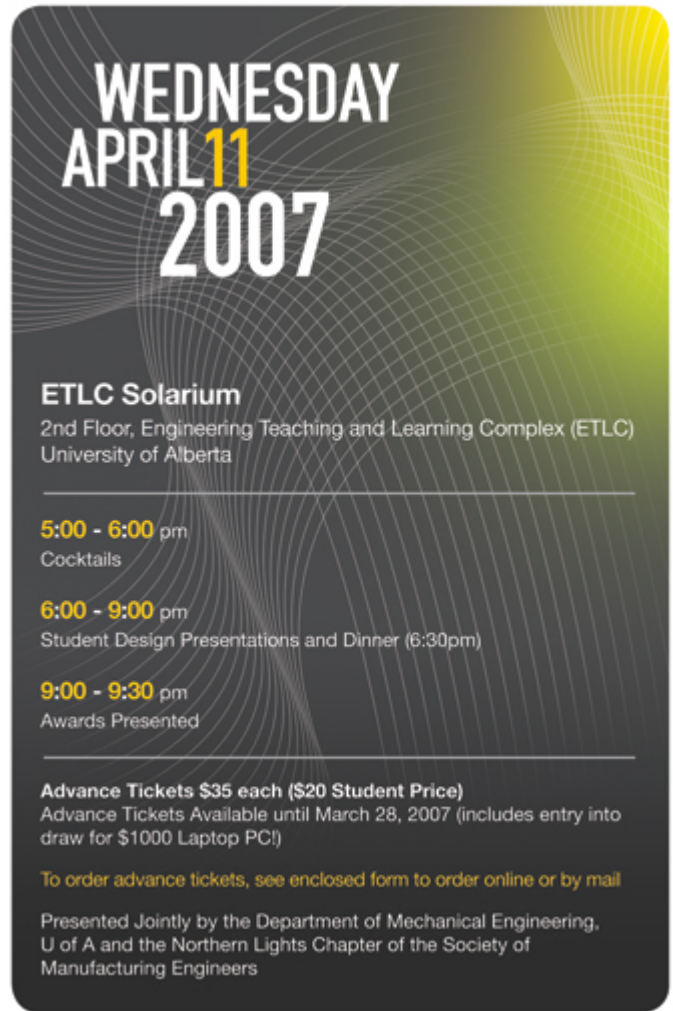
Lean Manufacturing E-
Newsletter available from
SME at www.sme.org

Thank you...

for reading the *Northern Lights*. If you are interested in presenting at an SME dinner, please contact Dave Budney, drbudney@shaw.ca. Kindly include the field you are working in and the subject you are interested in presenting to the chapter members and guests.

Remember to keep SME information current

- We do not wish any of our members or friends to miss a newsletter. Please make sure to inform the newsletter editor of any changes to your email or employment address.
- If you have any newsworthy stories or information, we would be pleased to include it in our newsletter, subject to editorial approval.
- If you know of anyone who would like to receive this newsletter, please forward his or her address to Caren Steele at cgsteele@shaw.ca. The best part about it - it's FREE!!
- Your SME Northern Light Newsletter can be viewed online at
- <http://chapters.sme.org/370/>.



Please RSVP before Wednesday, March 28th, 2007 using one of the 2 following methods to qualify for the

Earlybird Draw of a Laptop PC worth \$1000!

1. Complete this card and mail it with a cheque made payable to **SME Northern Lights Chapter #370**

Name / Company _____

Number of Guests _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please mail your payment to:
Capstone Awards, Box 1333, 5328 Calgary Trail South, Edmonton, AB, T6H 4J8

2. Go to www.CapstoneAwards.com to purchase tickets online

Location: ETLC Solarium, 2nd Floor, Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex (#23 on Map)

Parking: Windsor Car Park (#3 on Map)

