

The ReX Files

Newsletter Volume 13, Issue 4 April 2012

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Free Coffee Day!

To celebrate those employees with Birthdays in April (see Birthday Listing on page 3), there will be free coffee from the vending machine starting early AM on April 30th through early AM on May 1st. ENJOY!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!

Improvement Idea Winner

By Scott Wagner, Plant Mgr.

Congratulations! Cory Hunter, who is a Furnace Operator in the 100 Group on 2nd Shift, is the Improvement Idea winner for the month of March.

Cory's idea is to modify the new rack we use to load parts and move them to the spray booth on the back dock. The modification would allow the cart to be moved throughout the plant with a fork truck instead of pushing it by hand and risking injury.



A total of 6 improvement ideas were submitted in the month of March. Besides the winning idea. Corv submitted 2 other ideas. Others contributing ideas were Derek McAlarney, Evelyn Chmielewski, and Nancy Gardner with 1 idea each. Thank you, everyone, for letting us know your ideas for improvements here at Rex.

The next Improvement Idea spin will be held on Monday, April 30, at 3:10 PM in the Induction area. Cory will be drawing the name of one lucky employee for the "Employee Appreciation" spin. Everyone has an equal chance of being picked, so it could be you!

If you have an idea for an improvement here at Rex, write it down on a piece of paper and drop it in the box outside of door of the Production office. You might be the next winner and have an opportunity to take a spin on the Rex Wheel of Chance!

Monthly Winners

By Scott Wagner, Plant Mgr.

Our Improvement Idea winner for the month of February was Vindon Griffin Jr., Furnace Operator in the 300 Group on 1st Shift. Vindon, along with Brian Wingate, Gregory Smith, Michael Jackson, Evelyn Chmielewski, Ray DeHaven, Michael Davis, Robert Feldman, Tom Felder, and Keith Bannon, who also put in improvement ideas in February, received a "Thank You" pin and a \$5 lottery ticket.



Vindon Griffin Jr. (right), the Improvement Idea winner, is congratulated by Scott Wagner,

We had Brian Wingate draw a name for the "Monthly Employee Appreciation" reward. That lucky winner was Nathan Hamilton, Maintenance "B" Mechanic in our Maintenance Department. Nathan won a reward of \$100 on his spin.

Slips were drawn from a bucket that contained the names of all Rex employees. Nathan Hamilton (right), the Em-Five names were drawn and the winners each received a \$5 instant lottery ticket.

Ployee Appreciation winner, is congratulated by Scott Wagner, Congratulated by Congratulated by Congratulated by Congratulated by Congr Those 5 lucky winners of lottery tickets were Terry Copenhaver, George Rusinko, Plant Manager Michael Jackson, Sandy Zigon, and Tim Plaugher.



When **Vindon** took his spin, he won a reward of 1/2 Day Vacation plus \$150.

Out of all the correct guesses submitted for The Rex Riddle, one name was drawn to receive a \$5 instant lottery ticket. That winner was Terry Copenhaver.

Terry Copenhaver (left).

For refreshments everyone enjoyed some cookies, mini cupcakes, and free hot receive their anniversary gifts from Scott Wagner, Plant beverages from the vending machine.



Scott Wagner, Plant Manager, hands out "Thank You" pins and lottery tickets to Evelyn Chmielewski, Michael Davis, Ray DeHaven, Keith Wheel of Chance. Bannon, Brian Wingate, and Robert Feldman, who submitted improvement ideas for the month of February.

Join next month. It could be you taking a spin on the Rex



chael Sweney (26 yrs) and Chuba Blaze (4 yrs) Manager. Also celebrating an anniversary were Scott Wagner (17 yrs), Mike Davis (11 yrs), Vernell Donaldson (5 yrs), and Chris Snyder (4 yrs).



Terry Copenhaver (left), George Rusinko (left), and Sandy Zigon (left) were some of the lottery ticket winners.

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Debit-card "Skimming" Scams

ConsumerReports.org®

Three steps to take to protect your account data from getting into the wrong hands.

Whether by choice or necessity, American consumers are increasingly relying on debit rather than credit cards. Debit-card spending has risen steadily, growing from 47.7 percent of purchases made with plastic in 2003 to 58.9 percent in 2008. And it is expected to surpass 67 percent by 2013, according to the Nilson Report, a newsletter that tracks the consumer payment industry.

When you use a debit card, the money is immediately taken from your checking account. While using debit guarantees that you pay as you go, these cards have downsides, including a growing appeal to thieves. "As economic conditions have worsened, there's been a noticeable increase in all types of card fraud," says Avivah Litan, an analyst specializing in fraud detection and prevention at Gartner Research in Stamford, Conn. "But ATM and debit-card fraud is the top area of concern we're hearing about from banks all over the world."

Unlike credit-card thieves, who usually charge merchandise and then resell it to come up with money, people who create counterfeit ATM or debit cards by stealing your PIN and other account data can simply pull cold cash from your bank account. Using a technique known as skimming, they set up equipment that captures magnetic stripe and keypad information when you input your PIN at ATM machines, gas pumps, restaurants, or retailers.

Here's how you can protect yourself:

Don't type in your pin at the pump

Be especially vigilant at gas stations, Litan says. "Gas pumps are notorious for skimming because they're produced by only a couple of different manufacturers, and if someone gets the key to one from a disgruntled employee, they can insert a skimming device inside the pump where it can't be seen," she says. She recommends using a credit card rather than a debit card when you fill your tank.

If you must use a debit card at the gas pump, choose the screen prompt that identifies it as a credit card so that you do not have to type in your PIN. The purchase amount will still be deducted from your bank account, but it will be processed through a credit-card network, which will give you greater protection from liability if fraud does occur. This is because card issuers typically have "zero liability" policies for both debit and credit cards, but sometimes exclude PIN-based transactions from that protection.

Stick with ATMs located at banks

To reduce your risk at ATMs, use machines at banks rather than in convenience stores, airports, or any isolated locations, advises Darrin Blackford, a spokesman for the U.S. Secret Service, which investigates financial crimes involving interstate commerce. "A thief has to be able to attach and retrieve a skimming device to use the data it's gathered," he says. "And that's more likely to happen in nonbank settings where there's less traffic and no surveillance cameras."

That doesn't mean that bank ATMs are immune, however. In August 2008, Wachovia Bank reported that several debit-card "identities" were stolen when a skimming device was placed on an ATM at a branch in Cape Coral, Fla.

"It's often hard to spot skimmers," Blackford says. "But if you notice a change at an ATM you use routinely, such as a color difference in the card reader or a gap where something appears to be glued onto the slot where you insert your card, that's a warning sign you'd want to report to the bank that owns the machine."

Closely monitor your bank accounts

Check them regularly—preferably online rather than waiting for monthly statements to arrive in the mail. Federal law limits your liability for fraudulent debit-card charges to \$50, but only if you report the theft or loss of your card or PIN within two business days of discovering the problem. If you fail to report unauthorized charges within 60 days of the date the statement listing those charges was mailed, you could be liable for any unauthorized withdrawals afterward, including the full value of credit lines or savings accounts linked to your account for overdraft protection.

Visa and MasterCard have zero liability policies that go beyond federal law by exempting debit cardholders from liability in most circumstances when a bank investigation confirms that a transaction is fraudulent. But dealing with debit-card fraud can have a greater impact on your finances than credit-card fraud.

When you're a victim of unauthorized charges on a credit card, you won't be out any money while the disputed charges are being investigated. But when a thief steals money from your bank account using a counterfeit debit or ATM card, that cash won't be restored to your account until the bank conducts its investigation and classifies it as a case of fraud. Some victims of debit-card skimming scams who have contacted the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse, a nonprofit consumer advocacy group, about their experiences report that while banks in most cases replenished the stolen funds, some of them had no access to the money for several weeks while bank investigations were conducted.

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A LITTLE HUMOR

A young couple was touring southern Florida and happened to stop at a rattlesnake farm they discovered along the road. After seeing the sights, they engaged in small talk with the man that handled the snakes.

"Gosh!" exclaimed the young woman. "You certainly have a dangerous job. Don't you ever get bitten by the snakes?"

"Yes, on rare occasions," answered the handler.

"Well," she continued, "what do you do when you're bitten by a snake?"

"I always carry a razor-sharp knife in my pocket, and as soon as I am bitten, I make a cut across the fang entry and then suck the poison from the wound."

"What, uh...what would happen if you were to accidentally sit on a rattler?" persisted the woman.





Yearly Work Anniversaries

The following employees are celebrating their Work Anniversaries in **April**

6 to 10 Years Over 10 Years

Gregory Smith Michael Jackson (12)

Willie Lott Brandon Reynolds (14)

You will receive your annual gift at the monthly spin.

Happy Birthday

Employees celebrating a birthday in **April** are listed below. Let's wish them a happy day.

- 3 Chris Sholly
- 17 James Koester
- 17 Adrian Rivera
- 19 Tom Felder
- 28 John Rex

Welcome Aboard!

Robert Forbes

100 Group

Did You Know?



<u>SIDEKICK</u>—The term comes from days of notorious pick-pocket activities in London. They had their own language for different pockets that were the style of the day. For example: *Jerve* as a vest pocket; *kick* was a pocket on the side in a pair of pants; and the *pratt* was the back pocket.

Of all the pockets, the most difficult to pick was the *kick*, because it was close to the victim's leg and was always moving. After a while, smart people discovered that the safest spot to keep your money was in his "side kick" or side pocket of his pants. Today the term now means a faithful partner or pet that is by one's side, often even helpful and protective.

<u>BLOCKBUSTER</u>—The origin is from WWII and refers to a bomb that could level an entire block. When the boys came home, it caught on to represent anything that made a real impact.





TO GUM UP THE WORKS—Someone or something that suddenly stops a project from running smoothly is "gumming up the works." The phrase originated in old lumbering days when the men had to deal with the Sweet Gum tree. The sap from this tree gummed up

their saws, and they hated that. But, they discovered that the gum was fun to chew, so they'd go collecting it. As a result, they often returned all sticky from head to foot, and it was hard to wash off! So, a person was all gummed up and stuck or lacking freedom of movement.

GOODBYE—This is a contraction of the words "God be with ye (you)."

The Rex Riddle - #13



I am the only thing that always tells the truth.

I show off everything that I see.

I come in all shapes and sizes.

So tell me what I must be!

To submit your guess for The Rex Riddle, take a slip out of the folder in the rack in the Production Office, fill it out, and drop it in the box outside of the Production Office door. Guesses will be taken until the morning of the monthly spin.

One name will be drawn from all the correct answers to receive a \$5 instant lottery ticket.

Can you figure out the riddle?

Answer to Last Month's Riddle

I am round and I'm fat; I'm the color of black. Under pressure I'm best; it's a matter of fact. In sets of 4, you'll usually find me. Monthly tending suggested to be trouble free.

What am I?

ANSWER: Car tires

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Bites and Stings

Warm weather months invariably include days at the beach, picnics in the backyard, softball games and other outdoor activities. This increased time outdoors also means we will be communing more with six- and eight-legged critters.

Most of them are harmless and couldn't hurt us even if they wanted to. A few though, are equipped with poisonous weapons of pain. And whether from a wasp, bee, spider, ant or scorpion—most people have felt this pain.

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Thankfully, insect and arachnid stings or bites rarely cause death. (Between 40 and 50 deaths per year in the US.) Yet they do cause an incredible amount of pain and suffering. (According to the National Center of Health Statistics, nearly 37 percent of US children will sooner or later require hospital treatment for bee, wasp, hornet or yellow jacket stings and spider bites.)

Here are some facts and tips about the biting and stinging community around us and what to do if you get stung:

- More people die from insect stings than from spider bites. The reason for this is that spider fangs are quite fragile and more people are sensitive to the much more piercing stings of bees, hornets, ants, and wasps.
- Two ways to avoid being stung at your next outing: 1) Not smelling like a flower by avoiding sweet smelling colognes, and 2) Not looking like a flower by wearing white or neutral colors.
- Planning to clean out your attic or crawl space? Use a flashlight and scan dark musty areas before you reach into them. Even after you've checked the area out, keep alert to spiders, centipedes and scorpions. Also, wear tight fitting clothing and gloves. It may be a bit uncomfortable, but you'll wish you had if a Brown Recluse spider bites you.
- Never swat at a bee that is near you. If you do this, you will often make it very upset. If you decide to run away, it will often chase you ready to attack. If one does land on you, don't panic. Just slowly brush it off of you until it flies away.

If You're Stung

As you'd expect, most people who've been stung know it. The most common symptoms are limited areas of pain and swelling, with redness and itching. Beyond that the symptoms of bee and wasp stings vary, depending on where you're stung and how sensitive you are to the sting.

If you do get stung, heeding the following advice will help reduce the pain and discomfort:

- Gently scrape out the stinger as soon as possible.
- Don't pull or squeeze the stinger. It contains venom, and you'll end up re-stinging yourself. (This applies to honeybees only; yellow jackets, wasps, and hornets do not usually lose their stingers.)
- Clean the sting area with soapy water.
- Apply a paste made of meat tenderizer to the sting area. It seems to break down the protein in the venom.



- Apply ice to the sting immediately; it will minimize discomfort and prevent swelling and itching.
- Take aspirin or acetaminophen for the pain, and/or antihistamine for the itching and swelling (provided you don't have to avoid these drugs for medical reasons).
- If you're stung in the mouth or tongue, get medical help fast—swelling could close off your airway.

Richard Hawk Inc. www.makesafetyfun.com

Boredom is a sign of unused potential.

SAFETY SLOGANS:

Don't be hasty when it comes to safety!

Tomorrow . . . Your reward for working safely today

Home Safe—not just for baseball!





If the cord has a fray, throw it away.

Get Smart. Use safety from the start.

Rex Heat Treat 2012 Company Diomic

~ SAVE THIS DATE ~ JUNE 10, 2012

This year's company picnic will once again be held at:





LOOK FOR DETAILS IN THE COMING WEEKS

