

APICS Pittsburgh Chapter #31 Newsletter

March 2015

Volume 27, Number 8

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Join us!

Professional Development Meeting

Wednesday
March 11th 2015
[Register now!](#)

Where:	IAM Robotics LLC 343 Eicher Road Pittsburgh, PA 15237
When:	Wednesday, March 11 th 2015 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM Registration

Welcome to the newsletter of the APICS Pittsburgh Chapter. Working to bring you information on Chapter events. Please follow us on Twitter [Follow @PittsburghApics](#)

March 11th 2015 Professional Development Meeting

Tom Galluzzo, CEO, along with Vladimir Altman, VP Mechatronics and Ricky Houghton, VP Software Engineering will be providing an interesting background of the company's development along with a robotics demonstration.

Tom Galluzzo, CEO of IAM Robotics LLC, writes:

"IAM Robotics creates autonomous robots that manipulate everyday objects to do valuable logistics work. Our robots are designed to piece pick products from distribution centers and order fulfillment centers. These machines dramatically reduce distribution costs and increase efficiency and reliability of the supply chain. This event will present the current state of the art in supply chain automation and a glimpse into the future of distribution."

[IAM Robotics website](#)

Dinner will be held offsite at Café Notte, 8070 Ohio River Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15202 (a short drive from the facility).

Attendance is limited to 25 persons.

President's Message

I would like to thank the members who have braved the elements to attend the professional development meetings. Your survey comments and suggestions are reviewed by the PDM team to improve your experience. PDMs are scheduled the 2nd Wednesday of the month September through May so mark your calendars. A good number of Pittsburgh members also attended the



RSVP	<p>Constant Contact E-mail Response Required by Monday March 9th 2015.</p> <p>If no invitation was received call 1 866 MYAPICS or (866-692-7427) Ext 105 or e-mail to: APICS.Pittsburgh@gmail.com</p> <p>Please include your name, daytime telephone number, type of Membership, and your Company affiliation.</p> <p>This event is limited to 25 attendees.</p> <p>Note: IAM Robotics is located in the KilbuckTownship building. Just park in front.</p>
Notice	No show reservations and cancellations received after noon on Monday will be invoiced for the full cost.
Cost:	<p>\$10 for APICS student chapter members</p> <p>\$25 for APICS members</p> <p>\$30 for Visitors</p>
Agenda	<p>6:00 - 6:30 Registration and Networking</p> <p>6:30 - 7:45 Presentation</p> <p>8:00 - 9:00 Networking and Dinner will be held offsite at Café Notte, Ohio River Blvd. (a short drive from the facility).</p>

Youngstown Chapter's PDM at Wendell August Forge in Mercer. The tour was just at the northern end of the Pittsburgh Chapter's coverage and I would like to thank the Youngstown Chapter for inviting our members to participate. It is always nice to network with other chapters.

Chapter Board of Director elections are scheduled to occur at the May PDM meeting. The ballot with the member's name and board position they are seeking will be in the April newsletter and on the website by March 10th. The membership votes on three Board positions: President, VP Administration and VP of Finance. Additional Board members are appointed by the President. If you would like to give back to the supply chain community by serving on the Pittsburgh Chapter's Board of Directors Contact Tom Brown at thomassbrown@eaton.com.

The education team has finalized winter and spring offerings. The latest schedule is posted on the website, and elsewhere in this newsletter. Our team would be happy to discuss customized content and schedule if needed. Please contact Jack Martis at jfm2620@comcast.net to allow him to tailor an offering that would fit your needs.

Thank you for being part of the APICS Pittsburgh Chapter. The Chapter's strength is based on the members' participation. Let us know how we can improve. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at 1-866 MY APICS extension 100 or thomassbrown@eaton.com

Curt Zihmer (1958-2015)



It is with sorrow that we announce the passing of Curt Zihmer in late January, 2015. Curt was an instructor for the chapter for many years and a chapter member since 1990. Curt help many of us attain our certification through his thorough coverage of the class material, always delivered with patience and detail. He will be missed by all of us who had the pleasure of working with him.

Current Membership

APICS Pittsburgh Chapter:
392 members

New Members:

Paul Cross
Shannon Dubensky
Amanda Leonard

January membership totals for APICS world wide came in at 41,634. The number of new

APICS Pittsburgh Chapter Upcoming Class Schedule

members was 1,741 (706 were new student members).

SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING APICS EVENTS IN 2015

[APICS 2015 Shanghai](#)

16-17 April 2015 | Shanghai, China

[Best of the Best 2015](#)

June 18-19, 2015 | Chicago, Illinois, USA

[APICS 2015](#)

October 5-7, 2015 | Las Vegas, Nevada

Visit apics.org/seminars to view upcoming APICS seminars. APICS 2015 conferences are presented by APICS and the APICS SCC.

CSCP free webinars

Two upcoming CSCP webinars will focus on exam taking:

Prepare for the APICS CSCP Exam and Taking the CSCP Exam with Confidence. Both are **FREE**. We encourage CSCP candidates to attend.

March 24, 2015 - [Prepare for the APICS CSCP Exam](#) will discuss the learning options available to individuals and will help them formulate a study plan.

April 29, 2015 - [Taking the APICS CSCP Exam with Confidence](#) will provide tips and techniques for taking the CSCP exam with confidence.

Basics of Supply Chain Management

Dates: Tuesday, March 17 through May 19, 2015 (10 sessions)
Time: 5:30 - 8:30 PM
Location: Eaton Corporation, Moon Township, PA
Instructor: Jack Martis, Mike Evans

Basics of Supply Chain Management

Dates: Thursday, March 19 through May 21, 2015 (10 sessions)
Time: 5:30 - 8:30 PM
Location: Bayer Health Care, Indianola, PA
Instructor: Oda Bolden

CSCP Exam Preparation

Dates: Thursday, April 9 through June 25, 2015 (12 sessions)
Time: 5:30 - 8:30 PM
Location: Eaton Corporation, Moon Township, PA
Instructor: Mike Evans

Basics of Supply Chain Management

Dates: Thursday, April 9 through April 23, 2015 (3 full day sessions)
Time: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Location: NWIRC, Meadville, PA
Instructor: Jack Martis

CPIM class fees are \$500 for APICS members, \$625 for non-members. CSCP class fee is \$1,600 for APICS members, \$1,900 for non-members.

If you are interested in any of these classes and have not already registered, please contact Jack Martis at jfm2620@comcast.net or call at 1-866-MY-APICS x102 or 724-331-0866. Also, we are always looking for organizations to host classes. If you're interested in bringing APICS education directly to your employee base, please contact me directly.

APICS Announces 2014 North American Exam Pass Rates

APICS has published CPIM and CSCP exam pass rates for 2014 and the results are encouraging, at least for the CPIM program. The latest data shows the pass rate for Basics unchanged at 75%, but increasing for the other four modules as follows:

- MPR - from 68 to 69%
- DSP - from 62 to 68%

Wanted: Summer Internships

The Pittsburgh Chapter is looking for companies that have summer internship opportunities for our student members. If you are bringing student interns into your organization this summer, please let us know and we'll post the positions on our website. We have an abundance of great candidates!



Chapter Management Excellence is an integral component to enhancing the member experience. Successful APICS chapters provide their members with opportunities for stellar education, career development, and networking.

The APICS Chapter Benchmarking and Recognition (CBAR) program recognizes chapters that have exceeded minimum standards and exemplify excellence in overall chapter management. We are proud to announce the APICS Pittsburgh Chapter received the 2014 CBAR Platinum Award designation, an admirable accomplishment for an APICS chapter.

As a member of an APICS Platinum Award Winning Chapter, the CBAR designation signifies your chapter's commitment to providing an exceptional membership experience.

- ECO - from 64 to 76%
- SMR - from 57 to 65%

This is good news generally, but especially with regard to ECO and SMR. These exams, which are widely regarded as the most difficult in the program, both showed significant improvement over past years performance. In the past, APICS has stated their concern about the low SMR pass rate in particular and it appears that efforts to improve the rate have been paying off.

However, the CSCP rate dropped slightly from 2013's rate of 67% to 65% for 2014. This may not be significant in that the CSCP pass rate has been within the range of 65 - 68% for seven of the past eight years.

Although historical pass rates can be a general indicator of the difficulty of a particular exam, the most important issue for certification candidates is their own specific degree of success in the exams. As we have stressed repeatedly in the past, the best way to increase your own chance of success is to attend the instructor-led classes offered by the chapter. For more information, please contact Jack Martis at jfm2620@comcast.net or 1-866-MY-APICS x 102.

2015 Professional Development Meeting Schedule

You can register for future PDMs by clicking on the highlighted Presentation information.

March 11, 2015	IAM Robotics	Sewickley, PA	Presentation focused on R&D
April 8, 2015	UPS Distribution	New Stanton, PA	Presentation and tour
May 13, 2015	Schroeder Industries	Leetsdale, PA	Presentation and tour
June to August	No PDMs due to Summer Break		
September 9, 2015	Rivertowne Pour House	Monroeville, PA	Brewing Tour and Discussion
October 14, 2015	Eaton Crouse-Hinds	Washington, PA	Presentation and plant tour
November 11, 2015	TBD		
December	No PDM due to the		

Quick Links

[APICS Pittsburgh](#)

[Education Classes](#)

	holidays		
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[Job Postings](#)

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Phone Number: 1 866 MY APICS

**(leave a message based on your question or comment
and a Board Member will call you back)**