

86-10

Friday

March 7, 1986

Bar coding system scans \$40,000 in cost savings for Pinellas Plant



Ed Scott and Norm Loy (left to right), second and first shift response team leaders, demonstrate how the laser scanner operates during firearm's inventory.

'I admit that I'm a little more than nervous about having my fingerprints plastered on over 200 hand guns, shot guns, and rifles around the Pinellas Plant,' laughed Mike Lisenby, specialist, as he talked about his involvement in Property Management's first feasibility run performed on Security's firearms using their new bar coding equipment.

As easy as buying groceries

Operating under the same principle you've noticed when checking out at the grocery store, this bar coding system uses a laser scanner to read information off pre-printed labels attached to equipment, or in this case, firearms. The scanner sends the data to its attached portable reader which is later hooked up to an IBM personal computer and cross referenced with its internal software to output reports from that gathered information.

As in the case of firearms, the computer can take that data and compile reports such as master lists sorted by serial number, firearm category, or encoded location. Benefits of this new entry data system include proven reliability, systems compatibility, portable and programmable equipment, inventory

labor and data processing savings, and automatic error detection which leads to enhanced data integrity.

In mid-January Mike met with Norm Loy, specialist - security patrol training and response, to set up a bar coding system for the plant's firearms inventory. By the end of February, they had accomplished two tasks at one time: the performance of a feasibility study and the marking of firearms as property of the United States Department of Energy per mandate from DOE.

Reduction in inventory time

Now, instead of tally sheets and a visual check against the weapons' serial number, Norm simply scans the weapon's bar code label and it reads the data into the system. Preliminary results of this new inventory procedure has already resulted in a reduction of over 60 percent in the time it takes Norm and the other response team leaders to do their monthly inventory.

Previously, it took Norm 30 minutes to inventory 30 weapons, now he can whip through this task in 3 minutes. And, Norm likes the sound of that, See CODING page two

New savings plans brochure gives scoop on Jan. 1 changes

New investment options. New Payout choice. New crediting dates. New make-up savings provisions. New beneficiary designation requirements. These are among the changes in the Savings and Security Program and the Employee Stock Ownership Plan that are explained in a special brochure that was distributed to employees today with their paychecks.

The brochure contains information and materials to help employees understand the changes in the S&SP and ESOP that went into effect January 1, 1986. These new improvements make the plans even more flexible and attractive, and it's very important that they be understood for employees to get full value from them.

In addition to explanations of the changes and examples of how they apply, there are more than a dozen commonly asked questions and their answers.

On page three of this HEADLINER are highlights of these improvements that you'll want to read more about in the brochure. See NEW page three

GE's More Gifts . . . More Givers program -- full steam ahead --



These are the kids who live at the Faith's Children Home in Tampa and while they may not be as fortunate as many children you know, they are certainly lucky to have organizations like the OK Kids and the General Electric Foundation's 'More Gifts . . . More Givers' support. See story page two



At the Faiths Children's Home, one of the organizations supported by OK Kids, Bob goes over a math problem with Deslre while Cindy is hard at work in their kindergarten class.

GE's More Gifts ... More Givers program --full steam ahead--

OK Kids, Inc., our plant's 'More Gifts ... More Givers' recipient, just had ten new national charities join in the ranks of approved organizations for gift matching through this General Electric Foundation Program.

Approved on February 10, these new organizations bring the total of approved agencies up to 66 across General Electric locations. Organizations involved with health and human services, disasters, arts, culture, conservation and education have been given the go sign by General Electric Foundation along with OK Kids, Inc.

This organization was started 14 years ago by the 'father of OK Kids' Bob Meeks who has worked at NDD for 27 years. This advanced specialist in contamination control had the idea for the organization while driving a school bus: Why not capture the enthusiasm of these kids to help other kids less fortunate? And, what a good idea it was -- since he began working with these young people, this association has raised over \$20,000 for worthwhile causes in the Tampa Bay area.

They've done this by participating in projects to include full scale carnivals, auctions, car washes, flea markets, door-to-door sales of fund raising products, operating a thrift store, and even pancake breakfasts held four times a year to stockpile money.

These spunky fund raisers range from 6 to 20 years old. And, the number in the chapter range from 25 to 35 kids.

Some 'OK graduates' are now working in church related youth activities and one young lady is majoring in education for the mentally disabled at a local university. According to Bob, 'One of the best things about this organization is that it lets kids get a real insight into what it could be like for them and is like for others. Also, it gives them a better appreciation for what they have.'

The Faiths Children's Home pictured on the front page is only one of the recipients of OK Kids' big-heartedness. Local agencies, like All Children's Hospital, McDonald's House, the Trailway's 'Going Home' program and C.H.I.L.D. are causes supported by the kid's hard work. They've even expanded the reach of the money to charitable endeavors in children's homes in Mexico and Uruguay.

People believe in OK Kids: In June of 1985, the General Electric Foundation approved this organization and since August of last year, Bob has received almost \$2500 from his co-workers and as if that wasn't proof enough, one GEND employee has willed \$100,000 in his estate to be applied to OK Kids, Inc.

Kids helping kids is what it's all about and from the enthusiasm shown and the money collected, it's obvious that these generous kids are a lot more than just OK. If you are interested in finding out more about OK Kids or making a donation, contact Bob Meeks on extension 8244 or call Kathy Ferguson on extension 8111 for 'More Gifts ... More Givers' information.

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'Sometimes it seems like twenty-hour hours a day is too short to get done what I need to do, so anything that can be done to help me use that time more efficiently is beneficial.'

Future for bar coding in Property Management

While this is a simple application presently used in Security, there are future plans for expansion of this bar coding system by Property Management. For example, marking of other sensitive items such as cameras, calculators, and binoculars will be done and efforts are being directed toward the refinement of equipment pools for checkout of items such as personal computers.

Additionally, furniture tracking is slated for a relook and excess property tagging and control is on the docket for review. Long term objectives include a wall-to-wall inventory to be performed using a bar coding system. With the continued support of Dave Turner's computer services group, these applications are well underway.

Bar coding is not new to the Pinellas Plant, actually it has been crossing section boundaries for quite some time. It's used in the materials sub-section for inventory control in all production stockrooms as part of the Materials Requirement Planning System (MRP); it's used on the manufacturing floor in the Shop Floor Control System to keep track of product through flow tags; and it's even used in our shipping area as product is sent out the door.

'The future for bar coding around the Pinellas Plant looks very optimistic,' commented Mike. 'We've already realized a substantial costs savings in the Property Management unit. In fact, Department of Energy auditors estimate a conservative cost savings of \$40,000 realized every two years during our wall-to-wall inventory cycle. Facing the future with over 6,000 pieces of capital equipment to be marked with bar coded labels, I have a feeling that my fingerprints are going to be left on a lot of equipment other than just firearms before this implementation is all through,' Mike said with a smile.

Service Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following employees on their March service anniversaries.

30 Years

Earl McLane, Jr.
Cecil Wiltshire
Thomas Cole

25 Years

Mary Kritsas
Esther (Lorraine) Cook
Terri Seay
Pat Bruner
Bobby Buckley

20 Years

Glenn Holt
Robert Horr

10 Years

Lewis Barnes
Nancy Owens

5 Years

Barbara Blumthal
Vince Clancy
Steve Kramer
Henry Bellairs
Alvin R. Burns, Sr.
Tom Lambert
Cheri Etherington
Perman Neal
Steve Ramsey

Ierna and Bush earn new positions



In steering toward NDD's newest target of Cost Management on a weapons systems basis, Bill Ierna has accepted the newly created position as Manager, Management Systems Planning and Implementation as of last month. Included in his prime responsibilities will be the alignment of NDD programs with the 'Weapons System' management concept.

Ierna brings to this assignment 19 years of Pinellas Plant product experience, particularly in tube development. Starting his career in 1967, Ierna entered NDD as a Development Engineer and prior to his current assignment, was Manager, Quality Assurance for neutron generators.



With the retirement of Bill Potter, James Bush accepts the challenge as NDD's Advanced Computer Technology and CAD-CAM Projects Manager effective March 10.

With his extensive education and computer background, Bush will lead the project management of GEND's Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM) Program. Providing leadership and technical guidance to NDD concerning upgrades or new acquisitions of CIM systems will be one of Bush's major tasks as will periodic reporting, development of the annual CIM Site Plan and the chairmanship of the plant computer acquisition team.

People on the Move

NDDers accepting new positions:

Phyllis Leathers
Inventory Control Coordinator

Gail Hamel
Equipment Development

Mildred Pickenpaugh
Data Proc. Computer Operator

John Ames
Physical Security Technician

Maurice Gauthier
Engineering Aide

Justin Muckle
Supervisor - Sec. Patrol - Relief

Joe Hanchey
Specialist - Engrg. Systems Applications

Mark Peterson
Spec.-Data Mgmt. and Exchange

Stephan Dixon
Specialist - Instrumentation

New hires to NDD:

Cathleen Brown
Media Support Coordinator

Charles Dasher
Security Inspector

Ted Wilhite
Data Process Computer Operator

Dana Thomas
Electronic Tester

Robert Merricks
Adv. Facilities Engineer

Jane Miner
Stenographer (Temp. Assign.)

Anne Murphy
Stenographer

Mark Zehr
QA Engineer

Patricia Milberger
Personnel Security Clerk

New Continued from page one

New Money-Market Fund -- A new money-market fund is added to the various Retirement Option Account investment options. You can invest in the 'MM Fund' through a variety of ways, such as investment switching, vacation banking, and through rollover of a lump-sum distribution from a qualified plan by a previous employer. A special folder with the brochure covers the highlights of the money-market fund, and lists a toll-free '800 number' you can use to get more information.

U.S. Savings Bonds New DPA Investment Option -- U.S. Savings Bonds are now an investment choice in the tax-sheltered Deferred Pay Account.

Holding Period Payout Available in Cash -- Beginning with the January 1987 S&SP payout, you'll have the option of receiving your holding-period payout in cash rather than GE Stock, S&S Mutual Fund units, or LT Fund units. U.S. Savings Bonds, however, must still be distributed in the form of securities.

Vacation Banking Credits Made Earlier -- If you elect 'vacation banking,' your vacation pay will be credited to your S&SP Retirement Option Account on the first trading day in January of the vacation year (usually January 2). Previously, crediting would have occurred on July 31. This means that your 'banked' vacation credits could begin earning income seven months sooner.

S&SP Beneficiary Designation Requirements Changed -- Due to changes in the law, designation of a beneficiary for your S&SP investments and S&SP insurance other than your spouse now requires prior written consent of your spouse. This change is retroactive to January 1, 1985. Employees whose S&SP beneficiary forms may require their spouse's approval will be notified by the company in the near future.

Earlier Dividends for ESOP Stock Shares -- GE stock will be credited to your Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) account in February -- not October, as in years past -- which means your new shares will earn three additional quarterly dividends during the year.

Other provisions explained in the savings plan brochure deal with emergency withdrawals of DPA savings and a new opportunity to 'make-up' DPA-designated savings missed during layoff or extended illness.

Now's a good time to read this brochure carefully and to give some thought to how your S&SP savings are being invested. Information in the brochure should be considered only in connection with the S&SP prospectus. A copy of the prospectus was distributed with the brochure.

Changes described in the brochure are in addition to changes in the life-insurance feature of the Savings & Security Program that became effective October 1, 1985.

NDD News & Notes

Pinellas County Section of the Society of Women Engineers--This organization will hold its monthly meeting on March 12, 1986, at 6 p.m. at the Steak and Ale, 770 U.S. 19 So., Clearwater, Florida (across from Clearwater Mall). Financial Advisor from Dean Witter will be the guest speaker. Please RSVP to Cindy Smith at extension 6045 or mail drop 038 if you wish to attend.

Check your mailbox -- Be on the lookout for a surprise tucked in with your Harvard Medical School Letter this month. Included is an Employee Interest Survey for you to fill out and return to Carolyn Crochet at mail stop 005.

Take a few minutes to fill it out - Carolyn will use these inputs to form a wellness program here at NDD to improve all our health and usage of medical benefits.

Elfun Society & Channel 3 -- Saturday night's the evening to watch the phones ring off the hooks at Channel 3 during their annual drive for donations. At the other end of the lines, will be NDD's Elfun Society members and their spouses taking your pledges from 8 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

GEEAA Update

Chuck E. Cheese - March 10

Monday, March 10, is GEEAA night at Chuck E. Cheese for all members and guests who have purchased tickets. The event will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. at 1024 - 58th Street North. (Remember the food will be served from 7 to 8:30 p.m.) For directions, refer to the map below.



Personal Notes

Condolences to John Param and family on the tragic loss of his daughter last weekend in a mountain climbing accident in Oregon.

Deepest sympathies to Bilal Abdurrashid upon the death of his brother who passed away Friday, February 28, in Brooklyn, New York.

Congratulations to Fran and Robin Rich on the birth of their son, Grayson Currie, who was born on February 27, weighing 8 lbs. 2 oz. and is 20 1/2 inches long.

SOMEONE'S IN THE KITCHEN AT MORRISONS

MONDAY: Vegetable soup, Macaroni & meat-sauce, Chuck wagon steak, Fish on bun, Rice imperial, Macaroni & cheese, Green beans, Breaded-okra, Whipped potatoes; **TUESDAY:** Cream of celery soup, Chicken & dumplings, Pot roast & vegetables, Grilled ham & cheese, Whipped potatoes, Macaroni & cheese, Broccoli cuts, Vegetable sticks; **WEDNESDAY:** Chicken noodle soup, Beef stew & rice, Baked chicken & dressing, Patty melt, Whipped potatoes, Macaroni & cheese, Cauliflower & cheese sauce, Okra & tomatoes; **THURSDAY:** Split pea soup, Chicken cordon bleu & wild rice, Spaghetti & meatsauce, Taco burger, Wild rice, Whipped potatoes, Macaroni & cheese, Peas & onions, Corn; **FRIDAY:** Clam chowder, Fried fish fingers, Country steak & yellow rice, Pizza sub, French fries, Macaroni & cheese, Sliced carrots, Spinach;

Small juice, 1 slice french toast w/syrup, 2 slices bacon, coffee.

\$25 Safety Slogan \$25

Electrical misuse can be a 'shocking' experience

--Laura Puccinelli

G.E. Men's Suncoast Bowling for week of March 4

Nelson Caswell 630-232-221; Glen Miller 623-211-222; Jim Lake 587-215; Bob Bittel 563-209; Scoop Merricks 559-202; Roger Kurilich 557-224-213; Cecil Wiltshire 556-215; Bob Spearel 555-201; Odell Rogers 551; Gerry Peterson 550-200; Jack Heckman 549-200-202; Charlie Patterson 548-208; Bobby Brown 545-201; Bill Williams 545; Garlan Martz 543-220; Jim Ronacher 538; Art Wagner 538-200; Jim Murray 534-219; James P. Roth 533; Bill Thompson 532-202; Mike Duff 525-219; Dick Zehr 525; Pete Bor-tolini 521; Stew Kendall 518; Dick Westphal 518; Charles Gaston 513; Wes Vogt 513; Willis Williams 510; Ed Starling 507; Carl Wing 500-202.



GE Toast-R-Oven Toaster
Regular \$35.83
Now only \$30.76

ads

Ads to be submitted to
communications programs
by Monday at noon for
publication that week.

OTHER

PRESCRIPTION SUNGLASSES--Return to security patrol office, 596-7296.

FOR RENT

MOTOR HOME--From March 21 to March 25, 392-4650.

HOME--2/2/2, w/D, FL rm, lawn serv, Largo, \$625/mo, 539-1825.

WATFRT 1 BDR/1BA APT--Dock, boat slip, \$400/mo, furn., 391-0388.

WANTED

MATURE WOMAN TO CARE FOR INFANT--No. St. Pete., 527-1629.

REPTILES FOR CHILD'S PETTING ZOO--Cheap or free, 345-5978.

FOR SALE

2 BDRM CONDO--4th St. No., St. Pete, \$46,900, 576-7438.

ATALA TRACK BIKE--Fully campy equipped, new, \$700, 531-7898.

WATERFRONT HOME--Mad. bech. \$84,000, 2 bdrm/2 ba; dock, 392-7192.

BIG MASONRY HOUSE--1 acre, wooded, Hudson, \$75,000 |1| 856-2024.

4 UNIT APT--2 BR/1 BA ea, ex., Largo location, \$139,500, 581-5139.

GIRLS 10 SPEED BIKE--Needs shift cable, \$25, 392-3435.

BAR & 2 SWIVEL STOOLS--Brown vinyl, ex. cond., 1/2 price, \$150, 536-4158.

CASUAL DEN FURN.--6 pc set, washable, drk brn, \$499, (1) 863-9425.

BOAT & TRAILER--7, '78, fbgl, 85 HP, Json, fully eq., \$3500, 397-7244.

GARAGE SALE--5511-66 AV, P. Park, 3 families, moving, Sat. & Sun., after 8.

75 MAVERICK--62,000 miles, good cond., A/C, AT, PS, \$750, 392-4892.

CONDO--Woodside vil, East Bay, 1 br/1 ba, mint, \$24,500, 734-5377.

POLYPICKUP TOOL CHEST--Gray, like new, \$40, 595-3653.

GROUPE TOURNAMENT--T-shirts, rare, lrg & med, \$4, 544-5234.

282 GAL. WATER HEATERS--Used gas, propane, \$225 each, 546-6105.

YORKIE PUPS--Champ lines, 6 wks, \$400 & up, 596-3323.

WARDS FREEZER--Upright, after 5, 397-0369.

'72 TOYOTA--Needs minor work, \$375 firm, 398-2409.

'84 Z-28 CAMERO--T-top, & extras, 24,000 miles, \$500 down, refinance, 526-8196.

'75 BUICK CENTURY--Looks & runs good, \$975, 531-5267.

DOUBLE BED--Excellent condition, \$135, 522-3335.

PISTOL 38-SW, police, special, excel. cond., \$170, 393-7056.

'83 CAMARO--Grey, AT, like new, \$7000/OBO, 545-1434.

16 FT BOAT--Fbgl, 120, I/O w/new galv. trlr., \$3000, 535-4926.

2 VELOUR GOLD 2-SEAT COUCHES--\$200 each, 393-5711.

BABY SWING WIND--Up, recl. seat, \$20, 461-6497.

'83 FORD ESCORT--2 dr, htch back, AC, stereo, 2 tone, nice, \$3995, 581-3610.

20' PROWLER TRAILER--AC, awning, sleeps 8, \$3700, 585-6258.

SOFA & MATCHING CHAIR--Good condition, \$130, 541-8021.

CONV VAN--'84 Chevy trans-aire, mint, hitop, CB 20 KM1, 856-1935.

GOLF CLUBS--Spaulding Epic, 5000 comp., set, \$110, 522-6594.

COUCH & CHAIR--Light tan, gd cond, \$90, 442-0837.