aitp

Association of Information Technology Professionals

No matter how sophisticated the technology, it still takes people! ™

The Printout

The Nashville Chapter
of
The Association of Information
Technology Professionals

July 2012
Chapter Newsletter

Aegis Sciences Corporation Lab Tour

Our July program is a field trip to Aegis Sciences Corporation. We will be given a tour of their facilities. Aegis Sciences Corporation was founded as a sports anti-doping laboratory at Vanderbilt University. They have evolved over twenty years into a full service forensic sciences company providing toxicology and consulting services to sports organizations, medical examiner systems, crime laboratories, physicians, corporations, and other organizations throughout the U.S. and the world. Aegis is one of the largest independent Sports Anti-Doping Laboratories in the world.

Our host for the tour will be Chris Cook, Information Services Manager. The tour guides will be lab technicians. The tour will include an overview of the labs' operation and a walk-through of the actual lab. The labs are a 24-hour operation, so we will see work in progress.

Chris Cook will supervise the tour and point out the extensive use of computers. Chris has over 15 years of computer management experience including several years with a consulting organization in Toledo, Ohio as Director of Technical Services and Project Manager.

Chris previously spent seven years with CACI, Inc. in Norfolk, Virginia as a Technical Engineering & Planning Manager and an Application Software Engineer Manager. Chris also spent seven years in the U.S. Navy as a System/Network Administrator. He has extensive experience in managing large data centers and project management implementing Enterprise

Resource Planning and SAP software.

Chris is new to Nashville, being here only four months, and resides in Ashland City. Chris enjoys all outdoor activities including rock climbing and mountain biking. Come to our July meeting and tell Chris about your favorite places to see or things to do that would be of interest to him.

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Aegis Sciences Corporation has several buildings in the Metro Center area. We will meet at 501 Great Circle Road. Parking is at the rear between 501 and the next building at 515. We will meet in the lobby of the 501 building. Please leave your cameras, cell photo phones, and weapons in your auto.

You should arrive between 5:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. We will eat a catered box lunch before the tour. We should be finished by about 8:00 p.m. Please prepare for the heavy traffic getting to Metro Center and locating the proper building (501 Great Circle Rd.) You must register for this tour by Tuesday, July 10th. It should be one of our best field trips.

REMEMBER
Dinner Cost Reduced With Early Registration:
$15 – Members, $25 - Guests

AITP Nashville Roster

President:	**JP White** jpwhite3@bellsouth.net 615/417-7543
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Past President:	**Tom Clark** Star Physical Therapy (615) 591-6590 clarktw2001@hotmail.com

Internet Information —   Web Sites
- Chapter: http://www.aitpnashville.org
- Headquarters: http://www.aitp.org
- Region 7: http://members.tripod.com/aitpregion7

AITP
P. O. Box 22038
Nashville TN 37202

Dinner Reservation and Cancellation Policy

AITP members will be notified by electronic mail one week prior to the Chapter meeting. Reservations can be made by responding to the electronic notice or by calling *Mary Simpson at 615/367-8083 fax: 615/367-7775* Dinner reservations can be canceled up to 24-hours prior to the meeting without cost.

Since the Chapter pays for reserved meals, No Shows will be billed at the reservation price of $20.00 for Members, and $30.00 for Guests.

Members are responsible for their guests' reservations.
If you are a member and have not been receiving this notification, please contact Mary Simpson at:

615/367-8083 fax: 615/367-7775
msimpson@genesco.com.

July Chapter Meeting

Field Trip
Aegis Sciences Corporation
Lab Tour

MANAGERS TRAINING

in

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

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P.S. Tell your boss about this.

If you missed last month's chapter meeting you missed one of the highlight presentations of this year. We even had a <u>visitor from Atlanta</u> attend our meeting to hear Jim Berkowicz talk about Mobile computing trends. The program was both very informative and entertaining.

Jim prior to working for Sprint worked in the Nashville area for Service Merchandise and the office of Phil Bredesen to name a couple. I shared with you in a previous newsletter this year that in January of this year that Mobile devices overtook traditional PC's in terms of sales, Jim shared with us that in February this year mobile device internet traffic exceeded traditional PC devices as well. The wireless devices are number one in several categories and still growing. Here are some sobering statistics that Jim shared with us.

Today the 8 billion occupants of planet earth own 4 billion mobile devices (3 billion are 'feature' phones).

It is predicted that by 2016, 7 billion mobile devices will be in use. Already some people own multiple mobile devices and that trend is accelerating.

You may own multiple mobile devices and not even know it!! For instance modern vehicles use 3g wireless technology to provide services such as On Star from GM or telematics systems that GM, Nissan and others are installing in their most recent and technically advanced models.

Mobile technology is being used in places we would never have guessed before. Doctors here in Nashville are sharing images with patients on their mobile devices immediately following a medical procedure. Jim thinks the medical field is ripe for an explosion in mobile device adoption. Systems are already installed in some patients homes whereby a Bluetooth enabled blood pressure cuff can wirelessly transmit measurements in real-time via the patients Bluetooth enabled router directly to a physicians office/monitoring service. This allows patients to receive better care with fewer tips to the hospital or doctors office and can help avoid serious illness. Law enforcement can utilize 'geofencing' to alert authorities if a home bound prisoner violates the terms of the home arrest, or if someone violates a restraining order.

Jim mentioned that due to the rapid advancement in technology, old phones become obsolete in under 2 years. Sprint offer to buy back your old phone to be repurposed and shipped to 3rd world countries.

What does this explosive growth mean to the wireless providers? Their backbone internet is more than capable of absorbing the phenomenal growth of the internet traffic, broadband internet is ubiquitous. However the real problem is the cell phone towers themselves. They are a bottleneck in how much traffic they can handle at once.

Here's a fact that Jim shared with us that you may not have known. Sprint actually stands for something!! It stands for Southern Pacific Railroads International!! Clearly Sprint has been around a while, and have transformed themselves from hauling goods to hauling data!

Please join us in July for our field trip to Aegis corporation!!

JP White

President, AITP Nashville Chapter
http://www.aitpnashville.org

The end of multitasking as you know it — Part 2
By Bob Lewis

Protecting yourself from interruptions
Here's a simple technique, borrowed from the Kanban variant of agile development. It won't stop the interruptions themselves, but it might mitigate the damage.

What you'll do is buy a pack of large index cards and a box of pushpins. Every time you get an assignment, write its name on a card (it's a "user story" if you like the term), along with the name of the person who told you to work on it, who it's for, and how long you expect it to take, sans interruptions. Tack it to your cubicle wall in a column on the far left.

When you start work on an assignment, move it to a second column, to the right of the first one. Add the expected completion date, then (very important) notify both the assigner and beneficiary that you've started to work on it and when you expect to be done.

In comes an interrupter with a new top priority. You ostentatiously pull out an index card, fill it out, and add it to the top of the left-most column, gesturing at the tasks that precede it to show the requester when you expect to start working on it. This works best face-to-face. Otherwise you have to describe it -- suboptimal, but still workable.

If the interrupter isn't satisfied and tells you it's a higher priority than other items -- especially if he tells you to stop what you're doing to work on the new assignment instead -- don't argue. Agree -- so long as the interrupter calls the assigner and beneficiary of the task you're working on to let them know delivery will be delayed, as well as calls your manager to get approval for the rearrangement of your priority queue.

What if there's just one chronic interrupter and it's your boss or your boss's boss? This same technique works even better: You've shown your boss (or boss's boss) the impact of their mandated change in your priorities and asked them to take official responsibility for it. Beyond that, you have no cause for concern.

Do you feel just like a bureaucrat? If so, it's probably because somewhere along the way we decided as a culture that planning is bureau-cratic -- improvisation is how all real red-blooded Americans get things done. You need to recognize this is an unfortunate aspect of our culture, not an unfortunate aspect of planning.

How it should work
It doesn't have to be this contentious. Often the triple-I effect is the result of managers failing to respect the chain of command. Depending on the circumstances, either your manager, a steering committee, or an algorithm should determine the relative priority of the tasks sitting in your queue.

For that matter, it probably shouldn't be your queue at all. It should be the team's queue, which can be managed very much as outlined above.

The original question
The last piece of the puzzle is an important dimension of the original question: how to handle circumstances in which minor but real emer-gencies intervene frequently enough that they -- not people with an overabundance of enthusiasm -- are the primary source of interruptions.

I know of two solutions. The first works well in larger IT shops and is to always have a designated on-call emergency responder. This re-sponsibility can either rotate, be a permanent part of the junior-most team member's job, or serve as the official penalty for being the last one to show up for a staff meeting.

The second alternative is even simpler, and it works for small shops: Statistically speaking, you know you'll be interrupted an average of x number of times per week, with the interruptions averaging y minutes apiece.

Build that knowledge into your schedule. Call it the Interruption Fudge Factor (IFF for the TLA-philic among us). Add it to your estimates for every assignment and worry no more. You have the triple-I factor covered.

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This article was submitted by Dr. Gerald Marquis.

Calendar of Upcoming Events 2012

AITP Calendar of Upcoming Events - 2012

Date	Event	Location	Information
July 12	Field Trip	Aegis Sciences Corporation	Chris Cook, Information Services Manager Aegis Sciences Corporation
July 26	Folding Party	Saunders' House	Come network with other AITP folks
August 2	Primary Election	Tennessee	Vote Your Choice
August 9	Chapter Meeting	Holiday Inn Vanderbilt	Darin Moore, CIO Parental Health
August 30	Folding Party	Saunders' House	Come network with other AITP folks

SPEAKERS

We are always interested in good speakers to make presentations at our AITP Chapter Meetings. If you know someone who is interested in making a presentation on a topic, on their company, or company's products, please contact Paul Saunders at (615) 367-1717 or Paul@SaundersSystems.com.

AITP Business

AITP has membership discounts for everyone! Please read through our various programs at www.aitp.org/join and try to take advantage of them. AITP is a valuable resource for any IT professional or student and a great investment in their own career, both now and in the future!

Multi-Year Professional Membership Discount: Save money by joining or renewing for 2, 3 or 5 years.

Unemployed Member Initiative: Reduced association dues for those members who are temporarily unemployed, on family leave, on medical leave or on education leave.

Enterprise Membership Program: Significant dues discount for companies with 3 or more employees as AITP members.

Student to Professional Membership: Upon graduation, students are able to join AITP with all the rights and privileges of a Professional Member at a significantly discounted rate for 3 years.

Student Membership Dues Reduced to $30: Take advantage of the new lower rate to join and participate in an AITP Student chapter, attend the National Collegiate Conference, and apply for scholarships exclusively for AITP student members.

Faculty Advisor Membership Initiative: Significant reduction in Association dues for faculty members who agree to serve as a student chapter faculty advisor for a year.

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On June 22nd, the Association Board of Directors unanimously approved renewal of the popular Unemployed Professional Discount to be effective for a full year - from 9/1/11 until 8/31/12. To qualify for this discount a person must have been previously employed in the IT profession and must now be unemployed.

Current AITP members may use the discount when their membership comes up for renewal anytime in the coming year, but new members are welcome at any time, provided they meet the qualifications above. The discount of $50 reduces the Association dues to $55. Chapter and Region dues (if applicable) must also be paid and are not discounted.

Last year, over 200 individuals took advantage of the program and extended or joined AITP. Naturally the association leadership wishes that all IT Professionals regain and retain full employment, but we also realize that there is currently a nationwide unemployment rate hovering around 10%, and the economy has been slow to recover.

What better way to network among your peers, than at a chapter, region or national event? Most chapters meet every month from September through June, and some meet throughout the entire calendar year. The opportunity to network and share your professional interests and talents could assist you in getting back on track to gain full time employment.

The association dues have been reduced to $55; which is a savings of $50 off of the normal amount. Local Chapter and Region dues if applicable must be paid and are not reduced. Members who previously took advantage of this Unemployed Membership Discount will be eligible for this promotion as long as they are able to validate that they are still unemployed. This membership discount will not be available online.

Be sure to take advantage of this limited offering. The total membership or renewal for the Nashville chapter will be $85, compared to the regular $135 membership fee.

For more information, email memberservices@aitp.org.

AITP Nashville is located on

Linked in

You can find us in the Group Directory. If you have a question, please contact Walker Morrow at

wmorrow@laserone.com

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Half Page	(5" x 8")	$300 for 12 issues
Quarter Page	(4" x 5")	$150 for 12 issues
Business Card	(2" x 4")	$ 50 for 12 issues

Contact Mike Eischen for more information!   367-7068

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Address Correction Requested

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Companies of all sizes, in all sectors, even governments have fallen victim to digital unrest:

- Attacked by hackers who have stolen personal and sensitive data

- Loss or theft of data storage devices containing personal and sensitive data

- An employee performing malicious behavior through sabotage, stealing data or physical devises or purposely leaking confidential information

Now, an increasing number of businesses are realizing the security vulnerability and doing something about it by purchasing Privacy & Security insurance.

If you use e-mail, have networked PCs, a Web site, or collect private customer data in your computer systems, you have a lot to lose. You may have firewalls, virus protection, anti-spam systems, and prudent procedures to protect passwords and prevent employees from downloading dangerous material, but these measures are not foolproof.

When they fail, Privacy & Security insurance kicks in. Be protected!

For more information on this coverage please contact Laurie Andrews at lvandrews@bbandt.com or 615-346-0355

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