



# OMEGA Productive Services, Inc.

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## SPRING 2004

Editor: Max Carthew

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### Quote of the Month:

“Life is 10 percent what happens to me and 90 percent how I react to it.”

-Coach Lou Holtz

## ? Ask Dr. Brush



Contributed by:  
Max Carthew  
C.E.O.



### Duryea – 1893 (USA)

The motorized carriage built by Charles and Frank Duryea represents the birth of the American automobile. The two-stroke engine was a rear-mounted single-cylinder version with electric ignition and a spray carburetor.



## The First American Gas Powered “Motorized Carriage”

The birth of the American automobile dates back to 1893 when Charles and Frank Duryea built and drove their first “motorized carriage”. It was known to be highly reliable for the time. The mark continued in production until 1917 and embodied many technical innovations such as the Middleby air-cooled four-cylinder, four stroke engine of 1906.

The general public first heard the Duryea name when in November 1895 the brothers entered their two cylinder two stroke Duryea in the Chicago to Evanston road race. Duryea was the first to cross the finish line of this first American organized road race. The course was a grueling 50 miles through rutted roads and heavy snow.

Other notable entries in the race were Benz who finished second and Henry Ford who was ably assisted by Charles King as mechanic. Charles was the subject of our previous article, being the first to run a gas-powered vehicle on the roads of Detroit. Charles could not have his racecar ready so he graciously offered to assist Henry.

More about the hotly contested Chicago to Evanston race in future articles.

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Credit to: “100 years of the Automobile”

## ***PROCESS EFFICIENCIES***

With the current state of the economy, the manufacturing industry is re-evaluating their processes to operate leaner. One of the easiest methods of reducing a plant's operating expense is to reduce both their material waste and utility usages by developing energy saving initiatives. These initiatives also provide additional benefits to the manufacturing industry by improving their environmental quality practices. Yet no matter how efficient a plant runs their process, there is always room for additional process improvements. From the feasibility studies we have been conducting over the years, we typically find energy savings opportunities under three (3) different categories:



- Run-Time reductions – Idling of process equipment in-between production shifts and breaks, on weekends, and during shutdowns. This typically involves the implementation of PLC controls and programming to remotely operate the process equipment at the touch of a button.
- Process air/water reductions – Reduction or cascading conditioned volumetric airflow, and/or the reduction of temperature/humidity settings within spraybooths, inspection decks & booths, abatement, ovens, and building HVAC units.
- Utility conversions – Implementation of cleaner more efficient technologies. Examples include replacing steam heat with natural gas burners, replace compressed air usage through the use of electrical powered fans, and heat exchangers on ovens and incinerators to provide additional heat energy source to the plant.

Keep in mind that for every BTU or kW saved, an equivalent reduction in Carbon Dioxide emission to the atmosphere is also achieved.

By optimizing the process we often find other savings in materials such as paint, solvent, chemicals, filters, etc.

With the rapidly increasing costs of utilities and materials, fine-tuning your manufacturing process is more important than ever. Do you know how efficient your process is operating?

*Contributed by: Eric Gifford  
Engineering Manager*

### **CURRENT PROJECTS**

- ❖ OMEGA has been awarded contracts by several local firms for spraybooth and oven services.
- ❖ The third phase of the GM energy initiative has been awarded to their Tier 1 supplier – Syska & Hennessy. OMEGA and Duckworth have been awarded engineering projects for this third phase at Morain, Lansing Craft Center and Wentzville plants.
- ❖ Currently, as the only authorized supplier in the United States, OMEGA continues to provide sales and repairs to Gill Anemometer Instruments. Please contact Bill Ringrose for any questions regarding Gill products.

# BRAGGING CORNER

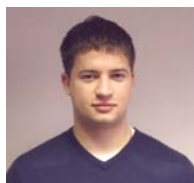
## WELCOME!

OMEGA is pleased to introduce our two new co-op students to you. They both are freshmen currently attending Kettering University.



Having recently graduated from Sterling Heights High School, David Matejewski comes to OMEGA aspiring to earn a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Timothy Moyer graduated from Clarkston High school and is pursuing a Mechanical Engineering degree.



It is good to have you both working with us.



Bill Ringrose's son Bill made it to the state finals when Clarenceville High School boy's varsity bowling team had a strong year. Bill averaged 197 and was the 5<sup>th</sup> high average in the division. He was awarded the most improved bowler of the year.



Bill Ringrose's grandson, Nathan, turns 1 on April 5<sup>th</sup>. All the family will be gathering together to celebrate.



# Mich-Again



## SETTLING MICHIGAN



8th Street in the late 1800s

### Holland, MI

<http://www.wowcom.net/commerce/history/index.html>

The second phase of settlement of Michigan, the one after the fur trade and before the industrial one, proceeded in an east to west manner along the southern counties and gradually moved north. However, a few "northern" areas, such as Flint, Saginaw, and Grand Haven got an early start. Michigan was a bit "slow" to develop.

Primeval wilderness yet to be tamed covered the rest of what is now the state of Michigan. Lansing began only 1847, the same years that Dutch colonists settled Holland. These pioneers experienced the same hardships as earlier North American settlers; famine, poverty, intense cold, loneliness and fear. The pioneer era of Michigan continued well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century as waves of immigrants sought jobs in the lumbering, mining, and railroads frontiers. Huge sawmills were established to harvest Michigan's gold: timber. There was then an opportunity for everyone.

*Contributed by: Annick Hivert-Carthew*



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**SPRING POOLS**



“These pools that, though in forests, still reflect  
The total sky almost without defect,  
And like the flowers beside them, chill and shiver,  
Will like the flowers beside them soon be gone,  
And yet not out by any brook or river,  
But up by roots to bring dark foliage on.

The trees that have it in their pent-up buds  
To darken nature and be summer woods –  
Let them think twice before they use their powers  
To blot out and drink up and sweep away  
These flowery waters and these watery flowers  
From snow that melted only yesterday.”

- Robert Frost