

KEEPING YOU IN THE LOOP!

Recently Base Line Data, Inc. went through an interview process with a client that we have supported since 1987. This was an opportunity for a three year contract. One of the questions asked was "How does your company pass down lessons learned and industry knowledge –How does it get to the personnel in the field?" We were also asked, "What do you see as your company's strong points?" Listed below is a summation of our answers:

We convey knowledge of lessons learned and industry knowledge several ways and quite often it is communicated through our newsletter. We try to keep our people up to breast on what direction the company has taken and what new technology is out there available for us to use or purchase. Listed below are some of the services we provide and new technologies recently acquired:

- Omni-Scan Phased Array unit purchased and all UT people have had formal training. Technicians are continuing to be developed. Technology provides for an inspection to be performed from one side only, data captured, phased-array transducer providing multiple angles and information evaluated by others. Same unit capable of Time of Flight Diffraction, Corrosion Mapping and Phased-Array Eddy Current.
- Ground Penetrating Radar unit purchased and four people have had formal training. Technicians are continuing to be developed. Unit capable of locating voids, cavities, artifacts, pipelines, post-tensioning cable, rebar, bodies and many other things under concrete or soil.
- Silverwing Raster Scanning Tank Crawler unit purchased and formal training provided. Technicians are continuing to be developed. Unit capable of magnetically crawling up the side of pipe, vessels and tanks and taking a 6" scan from top to bottom. The unit has about 150' of length.
- 1000, 2000, 4000 and 6000 Amp Demagnetization unit capable of demagnetizing welds whereas they can be completed. Welds that have picked up residual magnetization are difficult or impossible to weld.
- Spark Testing units capable of holiday testing tank floor coatings, glass-lined equipment, coated equipment, coated pipelines, etc. We have over ten units capable of performing these tasks.
- Corrosion Mapping units capable of measuring most of the full cross-section of piping, tanks and vessels. This eliminates the expensive task of establishing vessel entry into the vessel for an internal inspection. This data can be coupled with our "R" Streng program for determining safe operating conditions.
- Remote Video Viewing units capable of being introduced into inaccessible locations and viewed through a monitor or later through a VCR tape. We have about ten units for these type of inspections.
- "R" Streng Program developed using the ASME B31G calculations for determining the safe working conditions of pipelines. This program can be coupled with our Corrosion Mapping units for a detailed analysis of the remaining strength of a pipeline.
- NCCER On-Line Operator Qualification Testing prepares a technician to be able to perform work on DOT regulated pipelines.
- Helium Mass Spectrometry unit for finding small, dangerous leaks.
- Material Analyzation units using the Innov-X and Metorex for identifying carbon and most other chemistry in metals.

****This is just a small list of the existing or new services we provide. We have a multitude of other services.**

In response to "What are Base Line Data, Inc.'s strong points?", the following was submitted:

- Technically supported by five in-house graduate engineers, one Professional Engineer and two individuals that carry degrees in Engineering Technologies.
- Continuously employed at this Corpus Christi facility since 1987 leaves us with a highly experienced workforce. There is an average of 8 years experience per person at that particular facility. These inspectors carry an average of 2 National certifications per person. Each of them is extremely familiar with that facility and its procedures.

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- Excellent safety record, with no significant injuries recorded since we began servicing this facility account in 1987. Winner of this facilities contractor safety awards in 1994, 1996, and 1997.
- Workforce that is continuously strengthened by in-house and outside training instructors in AutoCAD, Non-destructive, CWI, NACE, ACFM and API courses. These courses are offered to all Base Line Data, Inc. employees and the outside community.
- Ten in-house NCCER Operator Qualified (OQ) instructors.
- Ten in-house “competent person” Excavation personnel.
- In-house ultrasonic technicians qualified in manual and automated ultrasonics such as Guided Wave Ultrasonics (GUL), Phased Array, Time of Flight Diffraction (TOFD), Corrosion Mapping and Tank Scanning. Ultrasonic technicians certified to ASNT, RP2X and API-QUTE National certifications.
- An in-house workforce where all our employees are qualified in Magnetic Particle, Liquid Penetrant and Ultrasonic Thickness Surveys. In addition, most are qualified in hardness testing, remote video exams, AutoCAD and many other disciplines.
- An American Welding Society AWS Accredited Testing Facility for the qualification of Welding Procedure Specifications and Welder Performance Qualifications. Testing facility capable of performing in-house Welding Procedure Qualifications, Welder Performance Qualifications, Brazing Test, Hardness, Charpy Impacts, Tensile, Yield, Elongation, Reduction of Area, Macro and Material Analyzation testing.
- Specialty in-house inspections consisting of Helium Mass Spectrometry, Ferrite Testing, Hardness Testing, GUL, Corrosion Mapping, Phased Array and Time of Flight Ultrasonics, De-magnetization of metals, Carbon and Chemical Analysis of Metals, UltraProbe Leak Detection systems, Holiday Leak Detection Systems (spark testers), and Ground Penetrating Radar.
- A year’s supply of in-house consumables ready for immediate use for Liquid Penetrant, Magnetic Particle and Ultrasonic testing.
- A tool room consisting of in-house tools such as 25 ultrasonic flaw detectors, 75 MT yokes, 75 Blacklights, 4 MT Prod units capable of De-magnetization (1000 amp through 6,000 amps), 10 video camera systems, 6 PMI units (Innov-X and Metorex), 10 hardness testing units, 8 Holiday Detection systems (spark testers), tube gauges, ET units and calibration standards, x-ray viewers, etc.
- Additional in-house technicians for spot emergency work in Thickness surveys, Vacuum Box testing, Magnetic Particle testing, Holiday testing, etc.
- In-house qualified technicians in ACFM and High Temperature Remote Video (Boroscope) testing.
- Vendor Quality Assurance (3rd Party inspections) capabilities throughout the world.
- As a minimum, we will provide our employees with 4 part personal gas meters capable of detecting oxygen deficiency, LEL levels, Hydrogen Sulfide and Carbon Dioxide. Although very expensive, it’s the least we can do for a valued employee.

Our commitment to each employee is to keep them informed of safety issues, new technologies, services, additional training needed and “lessons learned” through our newsletter.

**When a Special Talent is needed....Who Do They Call?
Base Line Data, Inc. Why? Its Employees!
Submitted by: Becky Gaydos**

Brant Shields scans hundreds of feet of CUI or buried piping from one location utilizing Guided Wave Ultrasonics.

Orville Palmer scans tank floor plates utilizing Magnetic Flux Leakage units, after locating areas of concern; the areas are ultrasonically examined for their severity.

Juan Hernandez performs metallurgical analysis utilizing Metorex Arc-Met 8000 with the unique capability of being able to determine carbon content.

“The giraffe is tall and can see far away. The elephant is mighty and can stomp on its foes. The ostrich can run fast. Skunks can liven up just about any party. But Eagles can soar above it all.”

Everyone has his/her own special talent (s). What’s yours?

** Watch for more Special Talent Base Line Data, Inc. Employees**

The following letter was written in regards to Johnny Grimes, Sr. for working a job for Innovene at BP Chemical.

Mr. Ralls,

We just recently completed a unit outage where my capital project was being installed. It was a sizable amount of 10" pipe for a flare header in toxic service with a tight schedule for completion. Johnny's actions prevented the FGS crew from creating major rework, so I am writing this to thank him and you for providing excellent service. My background is in operations so Johnny's input on my projects has saved me quite a bit of grief in the past year. I have not calculated the costs yet but I imagine that at least \$10,000 was saved through his diligence. As I have told Johnny, he catches the things I would never look for. I truly appreciate having him on the site and working with me on my projects.

The following letter was written by an employee of Ticona giving appreciation to Billy Boudreaux, Clay Ford, and Joe Gonzalez.

J.W.,

I just wanted to touch bases with you on the floor scan work done here last Friday. Despite a few bumps in the road on our part, your folks did a very professional and timely job. I was also very pleased with the fact that your folks had all the proper safety equipment, some companies show up with little or none.

**ANOTHER CWI EXAM
COMPLETED!**

July 23rd, 2005 a Certified Welding Inspector (CWI) examination was conducted at our facility at 206 Lang Road in Portland, TX. Waco Ware, Chad Leur and Horacio Garcia with Base Line Data, Inc. took the exam. They all studied very hard and participated in the nighttime classes held. In about six (6) to eight (8) weeks, they should get there results. I believe that they all did well.

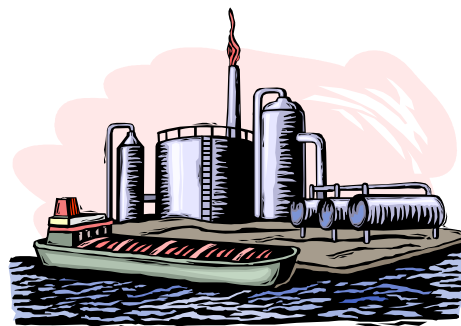
We have one more CWI Preparatory course this year and then a final exam in December. Next year we have four (4) courses and exams being held at our facility.

For additional information, contact Juan Hernandez, Lindsay Beardsley or J.W. Ralls at (361) 643-3400.

API-653 COURSE SCHEDULED

Starting August 22nd through the 26th, 2005, a five day course will be offered for people preparing for their API-653 examination. This examination is scheduled September 28th, 2005. The application deadline was July 30th, 2005.

Ron Van Arsdale with ITAC out of Houston, TX will be giving the training. If you are interested, please contact Juan Hernandez, Lindsay Beardsley or J.W. Ralls for registration. Our phone number is (361) 643-3400.



THEY'RE AT IT AGAIN!

The fourth “Baseline” in the last couple of months has been approached to work for the competition. He would leave Base Line Data, Inc. and our client to support an operation at Point Comfort. We will and can survive anything that gets thrown at us, but it’s a shame to see our good clients pay the price for this pilferaging. **Think about it!**

DID YOU KNOW?

The results are in on the last examination held for the API-510 and API-570 certifications. Chris Beardsley, Paul Westbrook and Chris Chavez all received passing grades. Chris Beardsley and Paul Westbrook acquired their API-510 to go along with their API-570 and CWI Certifications. Chris Chavez received his API-570 certification. Although not everyone that took the test passed, I want to congratulate all who made the effort. A special round of applause to C. Beardsley, P. Westbrook and C. Chavez for successfully passing. Way to go guys! Now let's go and get the rest of them.

NEW CERTIFICATIONS HAVE BEEN ISSUED

A "Baseliner" can do anything. If you don't believe that, come and look at the thousands of square feet of tile that has been laid in every hall and room in our building. This was all done by people with endless amounts of inspection experience, but little construction tile experience. Now they brag about their new talents and certification. Certifications were issued in tile laying, tile cutting, tile grouting, rubba a dub, clean up the mud and tile sealing. The tile was laid diagonally and it looks very good. Friday, July 22nd, 2005, everyone jumped in to help get the building looking nice for the AWS CWI examination that was held at the facility Saturday. The Accounting group led the charge at getting everything dusted off, cleaned and reorganized. We cleaned all of the baseboards and washed all of the furniture. We put Old English Furniture oil on all the wood that had been varnished and stained. The mirrors were all polished and

we even vacuumed places that had been collecting dust for years.

I was so impressed with the enthusiasm shown that we shut down and made home-made ice cream that afternoon. Carol Frazier and Jessica Pyles were the leaders in that effort. It sure was good!

I want to thank all who participated in the tiling of our upstairs facility. It was great watching our people develop skills that they can use to tackle similar small jobs at their own homes. Within the next few weeks, there will be a small group that learns to lay wood flooring. The Accounting and Reception rooms will have wood flooring installed. Everything is beginning to fall into place. Thanks!



Shown above are: Renee Upham, Elva Loomis, & Robby Martinez (Left) & J.W. Ralls & Letty Ramirez (Right). I believe J.W. is taking this inspection thing a little too far. All employees worked very hard to complete this project. Thanks for all your Hard Work!

Portrait of a "Baseliner"

Some of you know this guy and some don't. I think it's time to bring him out of hiding. First, he's been with the company for over 4,707 days. He was hired back in August of 1992. Next month, that will be thirteen years, if you're counting. He has National certifications as an API-510, API-570, API-653 and CWI. None of this came easy and most of you will learn that you have to work at it. This gentleman has worked at it and has done an excellent job. There were times that he didn't think he needed more certification than he had. Finally, I was able to convince him that he did. Most people don't realize it, but this person has a BBA degree in Accounting. What is he doing in inspection? Probably counting his money. He's pretty good at squeezing "Old George Washington." This person has done a little of everything for the company. I consider him a "hand", which is the best compliment that I can give anyone. He is presently doing tank inspection and he does us a great job. It comes as a surprise when our employees realize that we do notice their efforts. Just because we're not telling them everyday how much we appreciate them, for a fact we do. David has been a wonderful asset to the company. He can get the job done. He has shown it many times over. Yes, I'm talking about David Fricks. It's nice having good, highly qualified people like David representing the company. The next time you see him, tell him "thank you" for a job well done. **We need more like him!**



"UNDER THE TABLE" Be careful not to bump your head!

For years I have set silently by and watched other companies use whatever tactics it needed to acquire work. For some, any means justifies the end. In the still of the night, these people try to raid other company's employees. They remind me of the Ku Klux Klan, hiding beneath their sheets in total darkness trying to carry out their pervasive work. Brave aren't they? They go out and bid jobs knowing full well that they don't have people to satisfy the requirements. They then contact other company's key people and promise them the moon. They invest nothing in the training and development of people. They create a breakdown in trust and it's all for profit.

This "under the table" methodology has been going on for years. Base Line Data, Inc. has not stooped and will not stoop to this madness. Our people are hired, trained and apprenticed with qualified technicians. We invest hundreds of thousands of dollars developing our people. We will not contact other company's employees and solicit them away for a few dollars more. If a perspective employee comes in and makes out an application, then we feel they are seeking a change in who they're working for and they become available for hire. If we have a need for their services and they meet our high standards, only then will we take it to the next level. We will not disrupt our client's work by seducing away people that they need and that meet their expectations.

Recently, one of our key people was contacted when a competitor bid on work that they did not have the quality people that the client required. A telephone call was made to this individual and promises given. The statement was made that if they were awarded the work, they would really like to have him as part of their team. They need to learn how to grow their own. Our employee told him that he wasn't interested. This has happened to us about five times this year. It's refreshing knowing that you have loyal employees! After the request was made our competitor asked that this conversation not be discussed with anyone and absolutely not J.W. **It was stated that "J.W. would put this conversation in that "damn" newsletter, the Baseliner."** You betcha! The truth shouldn't hurt anyone.

I have always been a little concerned about people who tend to operate "under the table." If you're embarrassed by what you're doing, you probably shouldn't be doing it. In addition, when operating "under the table" it always leaves people wondering, what else you might be doing. **Be careful not to bump your head!**

A WASTE OF MONEY, BUT IT'S YOUR DECISION

For years I have seen client's convinced by inspection companies that the best way of performing an on-stream program is to go out and sketch the systems. AutoCAD these field sketches, then take ultrasonic readings and write these readings down on these new sketches. Once the survey is complete, develop your circuits in PCMS or UltraPipe. Have a data entry clerk take these sketches and enter the thickness data into PCMS or UltraPipe. I have even heard that this is the only way to perform this work. **What a bunch of malarkey!** This is an expensive methodology and is more suited for semi-skilled people. Its not what people do that know what they are doing. Let's look at the facts: 1) There is always a chance that the person writing down the readings makes a mistake or leaves the numbers illegible. 2) You have to have another person for data entry and there is a chance that person will make an error when punching these numbers in. 3) Data then gets communicated back to the engineer. This info may or may not be reliable and consequently could cause unnecessary replacement or an unsafe condition to exist.

Submitted is a better way: 1) Perform your field

sketching with qualified people and establish your thickness measurement locations (TML's) when you do the field sketch. 2) AutoCAD your field sketches and develop your circuits into PCMS or UltraPipe during this period. 3) Link your drawings to these programs. 4) Download these circuits into your Data Logging UT instruments. 5) Go out and shoot these TML's, verifying the accuracy of your drawings at the same time. 6) Verify any out range thickness readings while at the TML location. 7) Come back and download these readings through an interface directly into the program. 8) Project is complete and no transcribing errors have occurred.

Realized Cost Savings: Approximately 20% to 25%.

Many of our clients have already realized this and are working this process. There has been very little incentive for our competition to suggest this to their clients being as time and material (T&M) work becomes more profitable as more hours are worked.

UNDERSTANDING A MATERIAL SPECIFICATION

Juan Hernandez has just finished a PowerPoint presentation on materials. This will be used to better train our people in materials, component and fitting recognition and the use of specifications. We currently perform positive material identification for all of our clients. We have three units (Metorex and SpectroPort) for identifying the carbon and other chemistry in metals and three other units (Innov-X) capable of most of the chemistry with the exception of carbon. We can take these units and verify that our clients are receiving what they ordered or that the right filler metal has been used in making a weld. We can take all of the chemistry and determine the carbon equivalency (C.E.) with minimum effort. It's surprising the amount of mistakes that are made when there is no oversight. There is an old saying that goes something like this, "You don't get what you expect, but rather what you inspect."

We will start having classes within the next few weeks. Although, we already teach these classes, this program will give us a better opportunity to make sure that we don't miss anything. **We want our people to be the best that they can be!**

ANOTHER PRESENTATION BEING DEVELOPED

We have started on another presentation on how to properly use the Everest/VIT video camera. Although this is a relatively simple camera system, there are certain things that you must know. First, our system like most others are not intrinsically safe. Second, you can over-rotate the lens and cause damage to the articulating head. Third, these camera systems can be contaminated and damaged by corrosion, so we must know what environment we are being asked to video. Fourth, the single most reason for not being able to acquire a good image is the amount of light that is available either naturally or by the LCD lights on the camera. Most companies just send their people out to collect a picture, but rarely armed with the necessary information to do a good job. **We do not want to fit into that category!**

ANOTHER RTFI CLASS

We are currently working on setting up another Radiographic Film Interpretation (RTFI) course for "Baseliners" and outside people. This will be taught August 17th through August 19th. If you're interested please contact Juan Hernandez, Lindsay Beardsley or J.W. Ralls @ (361) 643-3400.

“RECOGNIZING A HEAT STROKE”

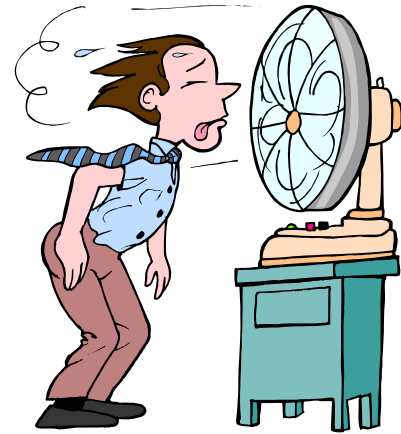
Submitted by: Rick Garcia

Well as of June 21st summer is officially here! Local forecasters have predicted this summer to be a scorcher. I would like to emphasize to all that have a profession that requires them to work in this heat and humidity to take extreme caution when in this heat and to stay hydrated & as cool as much as possible. It is very important for all of us to recognize some of the dangers that can occur due to the intense heat & humidity we all have to deal with in South Texas or wherever your job takes you. If symptoms are not recognized immediately, heat exhaustion can adherently lead to a heat stroke. Heat stroke occurs when the body becomes unable to control its temperature: the body's temperature rises rapidly, the sweating mechanism fails, and the body is unable to cool down. Body temperature may rise to 106°F or higher within 10-15 minutes. Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given.

Recognizing Heat Stroke

Warning signs of heat stroke vary but may include:

- An extremely high body temperature (above 103°F, orally)
- Red, hot, and dry skin (no sweating)
- Rapid, strong pulse
- Throbbing headache
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Confusion
- Unconsciousness



What to Do

If you see any of these signs, you may be dealing with a life-threatening emergency. Have someone call for immediate medical assistance while you begin cooling the victim:

- Get the victim to a shady area.
- Cool the victim rapidly using whatever methods you can. For example, immerse the victim in a tub of cool water; place in a cool shower; spray with cool water from a garden hose; sponge with cool water; or if the humidity is low, wrap the victim in a cool, wet sheet and fan him or her vigorously.
- Monitor body temperature, and continue cooling efforts until the body temperature drops to 101-102°F.
- If emergency medical personnel are delayed, call the hospital emergency room for further instructions.
- Do not give the victim alcohol to drink.
- Get medical assistance as soon as possible.

Sometimes a victim's muscles will begin to twitch uncontrollably as a result of heat stroke. If this happens, keep the victim from injuring himself, but do not place any object in the mouth and do not give fluids. If there is vomiting, make sure the airway remains open by turning the victim on his or her side.

Read and Learn! Symptoms of a heat stroke are not to be taken lightly. If you happen to be working along side someone who you think is experiencing the above mentioned symptoms seek medical help immediately. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer brain damage or even death when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a heat stroke.

HOW HARD HATS PROTECT YOU

Submitted by: Misty Ralls

Hard hats protect you by providing the following features :

- A rigid shell that resists and deflects blows to the head.
- A suspension system inside the hat that acts as a shock absorber.
- Some hats serve as an insulator against electrical shocks.
- Shields your scalp, face, neck, and shoulders against splashes, spills, and drips.
- Some hard hats can be modified so you can add face shields, goggles, hoods, or hearing protection to them.



What types of head protection are available?

Look at the inside of any protective helmet you should see a label showing the manufacturer's name, the ANSI standard it meets, and its class.

Type I Hard Hats - intended to reduce the force of impact resulting from a blow to the top of the head.

Type II Hard Hats - designed to provide protection against both side impact and blows to the top of the head. Locations in your workplace requiring Type II protection will be determined by your Safety Management.

Hard hats are further more divided into three industrial classes:

Class G. These helmets are for general service. They provide good impact protection but limited voltage protection.

Class E. These helmets are for employees that are engaged in electrical work. They protect against falling objects and high-voltage shock and burns.

Class C. Designed for comfort, these light-weight helmets offer limited protection. They protect workers from bumping against fixed objects but do not protect against falling objects or electric shock.

Take note that ANSI Z87.1-1997 has changed the designations for the 3 electrical protection classes that apply to both Type I and Type II hard hats. However, the testing requirements remain the same.

Classifications under old and new standards:

| Z89.1 - 1986 (Old Standard) | Z89.1 - 1997 (New Standard) | Application | Test Voltage |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| A | G | General | 2,200 Volts |
| B | E | Electrical | 20,000 Volts |
| C | C | Conductive | Not Tested |

How do I make sure that my hard hat is kept in good condition?

It is important for you as an employee to understand the proper use and limitations of a hard hat and maintain and care for the head protection properly. Remember to inspect your hard hats before and after each use.

- Ultraviolet light and extreme heat, such as that generated by sunlight, can reduce the strength of the hard hats. Therefore, employees should not store or transport hard hats on the rear-window shelves of automobiles or otherwise in direct sunlight.
- Helmets with protruding parts inside the shell should not be used, as these may cause serious injuries in the case of a sideways blow; they should be fitted with a lateral protective padding that must be neither flammable nor subject to melting under the effect of heat. A padding made of fairly rigid and flame resistant foam, 10 to 15 mm thick and at least 4 cm wide will serve this purpose.
- Keep in mind that paint and stickers can also hide signs of deterioration in the hard hat shell. Limit their use.

TIME & MATERIAL VERSUS LUMP SUM

Many of our clients have developed a comfort level with the idea that time and material versus lump sum contracts are a better way of working contractors. With managers being so tied up with the bureaucracy of plant politics there is hardly time to develop a job scope for lump sum work. It becomes easier to keep a large staff of contract inspectors that are available to handle any contingency. It's less personal work to have available manpower to handle any "emergency work" that comes up. These inspectors become an extension of the client's workforce. **The question is, at what cost?**

Several years ago, I had a conversation with a manager of a large chemical plant. I asked him a simple question, that if you took all of the invoicing amounts for a unit that was being ultrasonically examined and divided that number by the total number of thickness measurement locations (TML's) that were shot during that period of time, what would be your cost per TML be? I told him that this should cover all cost, travel time, mileage, field work, consumables, off-site work and any data entry. I was totally surprised when he told me he didn't have any idea of what that number was. This is not "nuclear science." It's really just a simple math problem.

Too often the easy way is taken and it cost the company that we are working for more money. Some jobs lend themselves to having a team of people come in and perform the work, insert the data into a data management program and move out. This cost can be measured quite effectively and you know what your job cost is up front. You even can calculate what you are paying per TML. There are no people left after the project is complete and consequently no reoccurring costs. We can and will bid any work that you have. In many cases this can be the most cost effective way of doing your work!

A NEW EDUCATION TOOL!

Base Line Data, Inc. has just recently purchased a new Toshiba 850 digital copier. This copier can scan, photocopy, serve as a printer and fax data to our clients. It will produce 90 pages a minute, collate multiple booklets, hole punch and side stitch staple.

We are continuously having to make booklets for our education effort and that places a person at the copier the entire day feeding new booklets into the machine. This copier will eliminate this task. All you have to do is send

an electronic copy to the machine with the number of booklets needed and the machine does the rest. The girls and guys love it. Once an original is converted into an electronic copy then you can print on demand.

We are continuing to look at better ways to conduct our business. I guess that's why our clients call us the "Technology" company. **Let's continue to look ahead and set the standard!**

WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING-7/27/05

While you were sleeping during the morning of July 27, 2005, there were four more suspects apprehended in England. One is strongly suspected of being a participant in the attempted bombings of July 21, 2005. The bombs did not go off. They also started draining a lake in Aruba looking for the body of Natalee Holloway. New witnesses are providing additional information of where the suspects were the night Natalee went missing. Pakistani authorities arrest 600 Islamic militants and there has been over 100 murders since June in and around the border of Mexico.

ON THE AIR



Some think that this type of information is not important, but you must know what is happening in the world. With the jet age allowing us to visit anywhere in the world in a matter of a few hours, we could be caught up in some of these maddening events. If you have any doubts, just ask the two girls from Tennessee, who were injured on the "tube" in the first bombing that killed over fifty people. I have ridden that same subway system. **The world has become a smaller place, so you need to know what's happening around you!**

BEE CAREFUL!



Pictured above are pictures taken by Robert Quinones while he was performing work at a local facility. They stress the importance of Bee...ing Careful!

These pictures were taken last week at a facility that we perform inspection work at. There was a swarm of bees that seemed to like the color red. Although usually harmless when left alone and not agitated, they can become quite deadly. Every year we have people killed by bee sting bites in this country. Some people are highly allergic to their bite. "Killer African" bees can attack without any provocation. The best way to keep from being stung is to avoid them.

If you notice a hive of bees in your work area, please let your client representative know, whereas the best course of action can be decided. And for a fact, be...ing careful can save you some needless pain.

IT'S NICE BEING APPRECIATED!

July the 27th, 2005, BLD had a meeting with a facility that we have had a three year contract with. We are about half way through the contract and the meeting was to cover any issues that might have developed within the past year and a half. I wasn't sure what to expect. As far as I knew, there hadn't been any problems, but you never know.

We met at 1:00 p.m. and everyone introduced themselves. We first talked about safety and that was easy. To my memory, we haven't ever had an injury at that facility. This covers a period of about fifteen years. I can't even remember a first aid case. Second, we talked about contract issues and no one was able to point out any. In fact, this facility uses a 0 to 5 grading system and every audit we have obtained the highest score. I asked the group whether our people were performing to their expectations and the answer I received was that they were doing an excellent job. We talked briefly about our people's certifications. Everyone had their API-510's, 570's, 653's and CWI's, with the exception of one having three and our junior inspector having none because of his experience level.

We made a commitment to talk to our people and find out what cost savings ideas they might be able to suggest. This meeting will take place next week and we will start forwarding this information a few days later. We all see things that could be done in a more efficient way.

Guys, it's nice being appreciated! It takes the whole team participating as one. The praise will always go to you. As an individual we can accomplish much, but as a team, we can accomplish anything! **Keep up the good work!**

Training:

CERTIFIED WELDING INSPECTION (CWI) COURSE

The next course begins **October 17, 2005** twice a week from 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. The location is Base Line Data, Inc. 206 Lang Rd., Portland, TX. The exam date is **December 17, 2005** @ the same location. If you are interested or know of anyone interested, please contact: J.W. Ralls, Lindsay Beardsley or Juan Hernandez @ (361)643.3400. All AWS Applications are due November 5, 2005.

2005 API-510 TEST

The next API-510 exam will be **December 7, 2005**. A daytime course will be taught by O.T. Lewis **November 7-12, 2005** from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The API Application Deadline for the December exam is September 23, 2005. The nighttime course is not yet scheduled.

2005 API-570 TEST

The next API-570 exam will be **December 7, 2005**. A daytime course will be taught by O.T. Lewis **November 21-25, 2005** from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The API Application Deadline for the December exam is September 23, 2005. The nighttime course is not yet scheduled.

2005 API-653 TEST

The next API-653 exam will be **September 28, 2005**. A daytime course will be taught by Ron Van Arsdale, **August 22-26, 2005** from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The API application Deadline for the September exam is July 30, 2005. The nighttime course will begin Wednesday, August 3, 2005 from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

RADIOGRAPHIC FILM INTERPRETATION (RTFI) COURSE

Base Line Data, Inc. is announcing that it will have another RTFI class starting August the 17th and ending August the 19th. This will be a daytime course from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The instructor will be Ron Van Arsdale. If you are interested, please contact J.W. Ralls, Lindsay Beardsley or Juan Hernandez.

BERWANGER ULTRAPIPE COURSE

Another Berwanger UltraPipe course will be conducted tentatively in August of 2005. This will be an entry Level UltraPipe course. The course will last three days from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The instructor will be Joe Schomette from Berwanger.

EXCAVATION COMPETENCY PERSON TRAINING

Base Line Data, Inc. will schedule another "Excavation Competency Person" Course in the near future. Please contact J.W. Ralls, Lindsay Beardsley or Juan Hernandez, if you are interested in attending.

PROPOSED VISUAL TESTING (VT) COURSE PLANNED

Within the next couple of months a "Visual Testing" Course will be held at our 206 Lang Rd. Facility in Portland, TX. The course will be from 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. If you are interested, please contact J.W. Ralls, Lindsay Beardsley or Juan Hernandez.

PIPELINE OPERATOR QUALIFICATION (OQ) TESTING

We are currently performing on-line NCCER Pipeline Operator Qualification Testing at our 206 Lang Rd. Facility in Portland, TX. If you are interested, please contact J.W. Ralls, Lindsay Beardsley or Juan Hernandez.

LIQUID PENETRANT & MAGNETIC PARTICLE COURSE PLANNED

Base Line Data, Inc. will be scheduling a Liquid Penetrant and Magnetic Particle course in the near future. We have several people who need this training and have had several clients request participation. If you are interested, please contact J.W. Ralls, Lindsay Beardsley or Juan Hernandez.

SCHEDULING INFORMATION

All classes will be held at 206 Lang Road in Portland, TX unless otherwise noted. Please contact J.W. Ralls, Lindsay Beardsley or Juan Hernandez @ (361) 643-3400, for pricing info. and applications on all classes. **Base Line Data, Inc. applications must be submitted three weeks prior to the start of the classes or examinations.

Happy Birthday! Jessica Pyles, Garrett Seay, Chad Leur, Gail Adams, & David Del Bosque.

Congratulations to Renee Upham. She is the proud grandmother of a baby girl named Laney Ranae Cantu. Laney was born on July 12, 2005 at Bay Area Hospital in Corpus Christi, TX. She weighed 6 lbs. 12 oz. and measured 19-3/4" long. Laney is pictured to the right.



Congratulations to David Del Bosque. His daughter, Nicki, delivered a beautiful baby boy named Dominique I. Garcia. He was born on July 21, 2005 at Spohn South in Corpus Christi, TX @ 4:43 p.m. He weighed 7 lbs. 7 oz. and measured 21.5 inches long.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Oscar Benavides for winning a \$50.00 gift certificate to the Home Depot. Oscar took the initiative to complete a job without being asked. In fact, he did it on his own time. Although the job only took a few minutes, it showed an interest in completing necessary work. It would be nice to see more of this type of effort. **Thanks, Oscar!**

Congratulations to Carol Frazier and Patty Mikeman. Both submitted articles in last month's newsletter. Carol submitted "*Cannibals*" and Patty "*By Changing Your Thinking.*" Thanks girls for your contributions.

KNOWLEDGE

Knowledge is, indeed, that which, next to virtue, truly and essentially raises one man above another.-J. Addison

A man is but what he knows.-Francis Bacon

Where there is shouting there is no knowledge.-Leonardo da Vinci

We sometimes get all the information, but we refuse to get the message.-Cullen Hightower

Knowledge, the thing that separates the "wannabees" from the ones that are.-Anonymous

Ideas are everywhere, but knowledge is rare.-Thomas Sowell

Every man takes the limits of his own field of vision for the limits of the world.-Arthur Schopenhauer

Not ignorance, but ignorance of ignorance, is the death of knowledge.-Alfred North Whitehead

TRUISMS

People who have time on their hands will inevitably waste the time of people who have work to do.-Thomas Sowell

The eye sees only what the mind is prepared to comprehend.-Henri Bergson

Where all think alike, no one thinks very much.-Walter Lippmann

The best way to turn a woman's head is to tell her she has a beautiful profile.-Sacha Guitry

Education is learning what you didn't even know, you didn't know.-Daniel J. Boorstin

Integrity has no need of rules.-Albert Camus

If you cannot be the master of your language, you must be its slave. If you cannot examine your thoughts, you have no choice but to think them, however silly they may be.-Richard Mitchell

We Want to Hear From YOU!!! Every employee is encouraged to submit information for publication in the newsletter. Each month a \$50 gift certificate to Academy or the Home Depot will be awarded to the participant with the best monthly article. Information can address: safety, recognition, updates, corporate news, labor relations issues, special events, etc. Please submit information to lbeardsley@bldata.com or Fax us @ (361)643-8442.