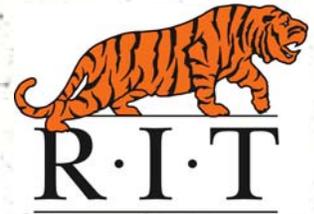


TOYOTA Production Systems Laboratory



Industrial and Systems
Engineering

Spring 2011.

Lab Expansion Underway

This 6th edition of our newsletter highlights activities from the winter and spring quarters of 2010-11. This includes the physical expansion of the lab, plans for new equipment, work on 2 grants, company visits, and numerous visitors.

Expansion

We have increased the size of the lab by 58% (830 sq. ft.), adding an adjoining room which will be used primarily for order picking, kitting, and distribution activities. The contractors completed their work March 4, and thanks to our great staff we re-assembled the lab and ran the first lab exercises on March 10.

Equipment

We ordered and installed a pick-to-light system and received training on the software in July. The system has 3 picking zones that are fully reconfigurable and are capable of displaying real-time productivity statistics. Professor Carrano



took 24 students to the Material Handling Industry Association's PROMAT show in Chicago in March and secured donations of two sets of flow rack and conveyors for the lab.

Industry Visits

We visited the Raymond Corp. plant in Greene, NY in December, and then hosted a visit from Scott Campbell of Raymond this spring. We are beginning to establish a working relationship with Raymond as

they are part of Toyota and are reasonably close to RIT.

Toyota USA Foundation Grant

We have begun work on the activities that will accomplish the objectives of the grant proposal. A key focus is the use of on-line lab teaching modules.

NTID

Our first experience working with faculty from NTID to provide a lab experience to deaf and hard-of-hearing students was a success.

Imagine RIT Festival

RIT held its 4th annual "Imagine RIT" festival on Saturday, May 7. 32,000 people visited the RIT campus this year, and of that large gathering **1,526** visited the TPS Lab. This is an 85 % increase from last year, which was nearly double the previous year. We ran the "lego challenge" game again this year, this time using

2 conveyor lines to keep up with demand, and having the kids (including the 50 year old "kids"!) actually convey their assemblies down the conveyor as if it was a moving line. In addition to the 2 lab directors and our 4 graduate assistants, 10 other industrial engineering students volunteered to help with the lego game, lab tours,

and other activities, and because of the large number of visitors we needed all of them!

Staffing

We continue to benefit from the work of our graduate students in the lab. Manuel Sosa, Abbey Donner, Kaushik Bhat-tacharya, and Niranjana Damle supported the lab the past two quarters. This summer Tim

Schmoke is a new addition to our staff. Manuel, Abbey, and Tim will be focused on summer camps for grade 5 through 12 girls, Toyota Foundation Grant activities, and other tasks.

Updated website is now available. We encourage you to visit our **TPS lab website** (see address above)

NEWS

- WORK HAS STARTED ON THE TOYOTA USA FOUNDATION GRANT.
- LAB SPACE INCREASED BY 60% IN RECENT EXPANSION
- NEW EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN INSTALLED IN THE LAB.
- PROF. MATT MARSHALL HAS JOINED THE LAB STAFF AND WILL LEAD EFFORTS ON ERGONOMICS.
- NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS:

www.rit.edu/ToyotaLab

QUICK FACTS

NUMBER OF STUDENTS DURING THE PAST ACADEMIC YEAR THAT PARTICIPATED IN EXPERIENCES IN THE LAB	178
NUMBER OF VISITORS TO THE LAB DURING IMAGINE RIT FESTIVAL	1526
NUMBER OF OTHER VISITORS TO THE LAB DURING THE PAST ACADEMIC YEAR	272