



VALCO INDUSTRIES, INC.  
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# PRESSing NEWS

Valco News—April 2013

## Catching up with Former Valco Exchange Student

As many of you may remember we were lucky enough to have **Jan-Willem Nijland**, from the Netherlands, as an engineering exchange student from September 2011 through January of 2012. Jan came to us through an international program called “Cultural Vistas.” In a fairly short period of time, Jan was able to make a number of significant contributions to Valco on several important projects he worked on during his five months at Valco. We thought we would catch up with our international friend Jan and see where his educational journey has taken him since he left Valco and the United States by sharing this letter from him.

*Hi Eddie, Hi Dave,*

*I think I've been back from the US and Valco for little over a year now, and have been busy ever since. I had one more semester of classes left when I came back. I did a minor in Health and Technology: very interesting with the ever increasing cost of healthcare. We developed an algorithm which can detect what kind of movement a person is performing just by using a smart phone. Really nice project—the professors were amazed with our results.*

*After the summer I went to South Korea as a foreign exchange student. I was there for a period of four months at Konkuk University. It was a wonderful experience during which I learned a lot and had good fun (which is always important). I met a lot of really nice people from all over Europe and the U.S., one of which was an American girl from Minnesota. I was lucky to be able to fly out there and visit her a few weeks ago. We had a really great week together.*

*Right now I'm writing my final thesis at a small startup company called Convergence. They make flow test*

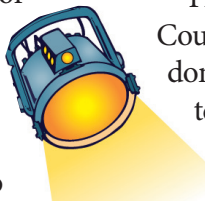
*Valco Exchange Student—Cont. on Page 2*

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## IN THE VALCO SPOTLIGHT: Zac Peck

Our Associate Spotlight this month shines on **Zac Peck** who has been a member of the Valco Team since September 2011. Zac works on second shift in the grinding department and we are glad to have him with us.

Zac was born and raised in South Charleston and graduated from Southeastern High School (Go Trojans) in 2006. While at Southeastern he played soccer and was one of 62 in his graduating class. After graduation, Zac attended Urbana University where he played soccer and majored in Art Education. After a year or so, Zac left Urbana to help with a family situation and took a job with an Arabian Horse Farm in South Charleston. He worked on many of the chores that are always necessary on a horse farm. After a period of time he also helped with the training of horses. After several years working with horses, he decided to work with cars (a lot more horse power) and became



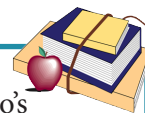
an auto tech with Wal-Mart in London for a couple of years.

From there he was hired by Coughlin Auto Dealership in London and became an auto service technician for a couple of years.

He then spent some time with the Manheim Auto Auction Group in Grove City as an auto body technician. Deciding to get away from cars for a while, he decided to spend some time around metal fabricated parts and so he joined the Valco Team.

Zac is the proud father of Ma-leah, age five, who is now following her father's footsteps and starting to play soccer. Besides spending time with his daughter, Zac is continuing his love of art and spends much of his free time painting and drawing. You can see and purchase some of his work on his facebook page. We are certainly glad to have Zac with us and appreciate the great job he is doing in a critical production area for us. We look forward to having him with us in the years to come.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION



Ongoing education and training are a key part of Valco's continuous improvement program and something we put a great deal of time and money into and place a very high value on. In early April, Russ Angel went to Hartford, Connecticut for maintenance training on the TruLaser 2030 at the headquarters of Trumpf. He says he was able to learn new processes and about all of the new ongoing technology advances being made and implemented on Trumpf lasers. He was able to meet and talk with other service technicians during the week and enjoyed picking their brains so he could fill his up before heading back to Valco. He enjoyed getting to tour the manufacturing facility to see how the machines are actually built. He tells us he is looking forward to attending the second maintenance course that covers laser theory in more depth. After a grueling day of delayed flights, Russ was happy to come home to see his wife and kids. Russ says he is very grateful for the educational opportunity he was given. We appreciate Russ being willing to travel, learn, and improve his knowledge of lasers and the maintenance of them. We are sure his new knowledge will transfer to making Valco's operation of its three lasers even more efficient and improve our run times.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Happy Birthday to

Jerry Reed ..... May 16<sup>th</sup>  
Gary Lehning ..... May 18<sup>th</sup>

We hope you both have a great day on your special day and a year of good health, lots of laughs, and much personal and professional success. Enjoy your Birthday! Here's hoping for many more in the years to come.

### Years of Service...

Jamie Callan ..... May 2 ..... 2 Yrs.  
Don Snapp ..... May 12 ..... 5 Yrs.  
Jerry Reed ..... May 18 ..... 15 Yrs!!!  
Shawn Ayers ..... May 24 ..... 3 Yrs.  
Rick Osborne ... May 31 ..... 3 Yrs.

May was sure a great hiring month. Thanks to each of you for all you have done for Valco and our customers each and every day. Your many contributions to our growth and continued success are greatly appreciated. Here's hoping for many more years of working together.

### Valco Exchange Student Cont. from Page 1

systems for membranes. They asked me to redesign the interior of one of their systems to make it easier to assemble and maintain.

I'm graduating in June of this year. I will then have my bachelors or undergraduate degree. After the summer I want to continue studying for my master's degree. I have a couple of schools I'm looking at right now and I'll see which one I get accepted to. After that, I don't know yet.

If I have the time, I would love to come back to Valco for a bit, and I will definitely keep it in mind. Hope you and everyone else at Valco are still doing good.

We are glad, but not surprised, to read that Jan is doing so well and taking advantage of a wide range of educational and work experiences while even being able to work in a "fun" environment in Minnesota. Hopefully at some point he will be able to come back and work with us for another period of time.

## Ways to be Happier Right Now



Facing a fear brings reward no matter what. You'll be rewarded with success or you'll be rewarded with pride that you tried. Either way, you win. NBC's Parenthood may have said it best: "Life will knock you down more times

than you can possibly imagine. Don't knock yourself down." Yeah, you might fall or fail. But you might not. Don't let fear hold you back on the dock worrying what will happen if you stand up on the water skis; elbow it out of the way and try the ride. Whether you succeed or fail, when you put yourself out there, you win. Don't let fear take that prize away from you.



### Looking Forward to Memorial Day

Memorial Day will be here before we know it, or at least we hope so. This year we will be celebrating the **Memorial Holiday on Monday, May 27th**. We will taking Memorial Day as a paid holiday for all full time associates who have been with us for at least 90 days. Normal production hours and schedules will resume on Tuesday May 28. We are sure hoping the weather will finally cooperate so we can enjoy the outdoors and do the things we enjoy doing the most. Be careful out there and have a great holiday weekend.

## What Am I?

- I am a food item.
- I am a popular snack food.
- Flour and water are my main ingredients.
- I am often salted.
- Sylvester Graham made a sweet version of me.
- I go well with tea.
- Ritz is a famous version of me.
- Polly might want me.

## Interesting Health Fact

HEALTH CARE SPENDING IN THE U.S. AVERAGED \$6,815.00 PER PERSON IN 2009, AND PROBABLY GETTING MORE EXPENSIVE/WORSE EVERY YEAR. A NEVER ENDING UPWARD SPIRAL EVEN THOUGH THE US LAGS BEHIND A NUMBER OF OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES IN TERMS OF THE QUALITY OF OUR HEALTH CARE AND SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES.

### “Great Quotes”

“If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door.”  
—Milton Berle

“Keep your feet on the ground and keep reaching for the stars.”  
—Casey Kasem

“Instead of loving your enemies, treat your friends a little better.”  
—Ed Howe

“Most people are willing to change, not because they see the light, but because they feel the heat.”  
—Unknown

“Only put off tomorrow what you are willing to die having left undone.”  
—Pablo Picasso