

World and National Engineering News in Brief

GE Energy lands Iraq generator deal worth \$200 million

ATLANTA - The energy unit of General Electric announced Wednesday that it would be undertaking two independent power projects in northern Iraq.

The projects will involve supplying "power generation equipment and services," according to a press release from GE.

GE will supply four Frame 9E gas turbine-generator units for the 500-megawatt, simple-cycle power plant in Dohuk; and two more to the plant in Sulaimaniyah, for a total generating capacity of 750 megawatts.

New artificial foot can "recycle energy" for easier walking

An artificial foot has been developed that would recycle energy normally wasted while humans walk.

The foot uses energy from the heel striking the ground and transfers it to the motion of pushing off with the ankle and toes. A microcontroller regulates the process to ensure that the energy is returned just at the right time to give extra "push-off" power.

The foot was developed by Art Kuo and Steve Collins, at the University of Michigan departments of Biomedical and Mechanical Engineering.

Clemson researchers develop hands-free texting application

"If you can't keep people from doing it, make it safer," said Clemson professor Juan Gilbert, whose research team has developed a hands-free texting application.

The application, called VoiceTEXT, would allow drivers to verbally dictate a text message to a Bluetooth headset while keeping their eyes on the road.

A survey for the product is online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/DC6S5X7.

GENERAL ELECTRIC • TRANSPORTATION

GE CEO Simonelli advises Behrend students

RYAN FRANKOWSKI

engineering reporter • industrial engineering

Lorenzo Simonelli provided advice for students staring down the barrel of a bleak job market on Monday.

Simonelli, the current CEO of GE Transportation, spoke to a packed Samuel P. "Pat" Black III Conference Center. Those students in attendance came from a variety of backgrounds – business, engineering, communication – but all were united by a common desire: attaining a job.

Since Simonelli's section of GE employs over 10,000 people worldwide, he was a prime candidate to answer questions regarding that crucial job-seeking programs that many students will soon face.

Much of the presentation was question and answer, and students could voice their own concerns as they stared down the job market.

"What attracted you to the position as a CEO?" one student asked.

"When you are given the opportunity to become CEO, you take it," Simonelli responded.

His career as a CEO speaks for itself as a success story. Originally from Italy, he has spent time in a variety of nations in various capacities for GE. His last residence was in Budapest, Hungary. He can speak French, English, Italian, and German after having moved 27 times.

Having a second language, or even a third, is very important, he said, because it can greatly assist you in moving up the corporate ladder.

Much of language-learning deals with expanding your own intellect, which Simonelli emphasized as a huge part of moving through a career. He recommended trying for a minimum GPA of 3.2 coming out of undergraduate studies.

Still, when it came down to it, the biggest driving force in Simonelli's career was hard work, he said.



Photos by Jon Klein / The Behrend Beacon

CEO of GE Transportation Lorenzo Simonelli spoke to a large assembled group of students regarding their futures with jobs, careers, and internships.

"I'm no different than anyone else," he said. "I just did hard work. GE is unique because you can start off at an entry-level position, and with hard work, you can work your way to the top."

With the economy in a downturn and even GE experiencing difficulties, many students had a bleak view on the job and internship market.

That outlook, Simonelli said, "depends on what businesses of GE you apply for. With engineering, there definitely are opportunities; you just need to apply. There's no doubt we need leaders for tomorrow."

For those who might not get hired right away, the operant idea is to maintain focus and effort in getting the position. Many complaints he hears from applicants, he said, came from people who applied and were turned down



once and then quit. "If you don't get hired in summer, keep applying, keep at it, and eventually you'll get in."

So what type of engineers are GE looking for?

"All types of engineers, all across the board," he said, "there's a need for smart engineers."

For Simonelli, his routine is fairly set, and he knows how to organize his priorities.

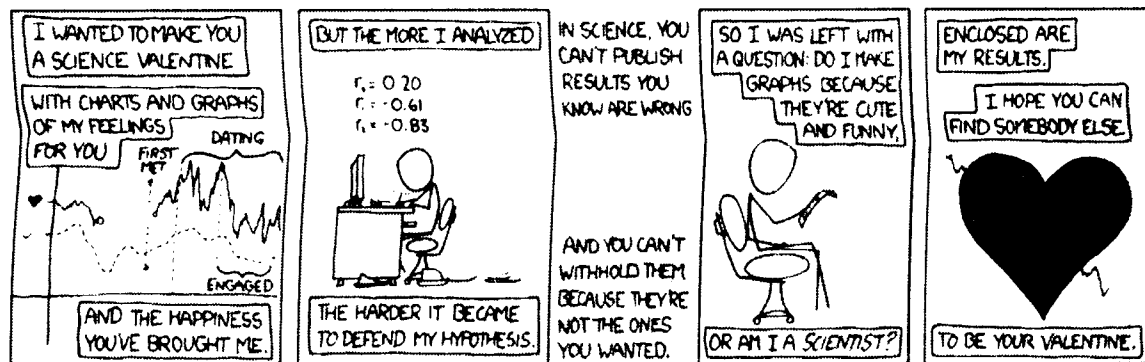
"I get up early, and leave the office late," he said, saying he had woken up at 4 a.m., having visited Milwaukee before his 7:00 speech in Erie.

It's all in a day's work for Simonelli, who was named one of the top CEOs in 2009 as one of Fortune's 40 under 40.

"Being a CEO can be a relatively easy occupation," he said. "Depending, of course, on the quality of the people surrounding you."

A webcomic of romance, sarcasm, math, and language.

xkcd



Engineering Internship available:

Position: Materials Engineer - Summer 2010
Employer: Plastikos, Inc.
Job Function: Engineering
Location: Erie, Pa.
Qualifications: Junior/Senior (in Fall 2010), enrolled in a PLET program
Deadline: Mar. 26, 2010

Details:
Intern will work with internal material testing, including improving and expanding current systems, processes, and databases; will work with project engineers and material suppliers on alternate material recommendations.
Also open to potential part-time employment in Fall 2010 and Spring 2011. Pays \$12.00-14.00 per hour. Send resumes to rcooney@plastikoserie.com to apply.

Make yourself multi-dimensional.

Positions are available for engineering reporters with the *Behrend Beacon*.

Applicants should be:

- Within the School of Engineering
- Self-motivated
- Able to network with professors and students

Every year for a decade, employers have rated communication skills as their biggest priority in new recruits.

What are YOU doing to set yourself apart?

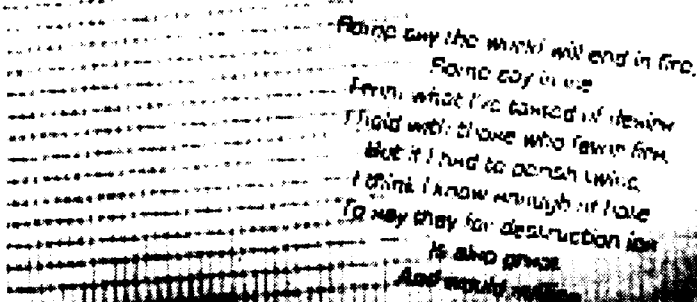
To apply: visit www.thebehrendbeacon.com/joinus or contact editor@psu.edu.

THE BEHREND SHOWCASE

a presentation of the culture page featuring the works of students

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