

NEW FEATURES

First-Person Accounts

We are adding two new features to *THE ENGINEER*. These will be "first person" accounts by people who actually took part in some activity. The first of these features will present "I was there" accounts of the development of new technology or the conduct of some major activity. The second of these features will present "I started a new business" accounts by people who formed new businesses to provide goods and services in the local area. Details on each type of article are given below. Approximate length for each article should be 500 words. However, if you can adequately tell your story in fewer words, don't pad the article to fill out 500 words. If you need more words than that, use them. We'll either run the piece in installments or find a way to fit it in.

We hope to make these regular features, but to do so we need YOUR story. If you have one of these first-person accounts to tell, write it up and submit it to *THE ENGINEER*. If you need help in writing it up, contact Joe Martino at 513-492-4729, or FAX him at 513-492-0160. Let's get your story out to people who might be interested.

"I WAS THERE"

One of the strengths of the Engineers Club is its members who were "on the scene" when many of the technological achievements we take for granted today were just being developed. These personal recollections can be a source of inspiration to younger people today who are involved in advancing technology. This is a "call for papers" for an article about your experiences of being "in at the beginning," to appear in *THE ENGINEER*.

The article should be about some technological achievement, introduction of a new product, carrying out some construction project, solving a major problem, or other major activity, as reported by someone who was "on the scene." The writer need not have been "in charge;" indeed, may have been a "grunt in the trenches," but should be writing from personal experience.

The article should cover as many of the following items as are appropriate:

- Time period (when did you do it?);
- Firm or government organization in which the activity took place;
- The problem or issue which the activity was supposed to solve or deal with;

- The nature of the "new" activity; what was unique or different about it?
- What were the technical, environmental, or other challenges met in carrying out the activity?
- What problems were encountered in carrying out the activity?
- How did it turn out?
- What was your role in the activity?
- Any personal anecdotes (humorous or illustrative) which give the reader the flavor of what it was like to be there.

"I STARTED A NEW BUSINESS"

Many members of the Engineers Club have started their own businesses. Not all of these are engineering firms or involved in technical activity. However, the problems of a start-up business are much the same regardless of the nature of the business. If you started a business, some of your experiences might be helpful to other people thinking about starting their own business. This is a "call for papers" for articles about your experience, to appear in *THE ENGINEER*.

Your article should cover the following points, as appropriate:

- Why did you decide to start a business?
- How did you decide on the nature of the business you wanted to start?
- How did you verify there was a market?
- How did you develop a business plan?
- How did you finance the start-up?
- Did you have partners, and how did all of you get together?
- Did you start off with employees other than yourself or your partners?
- What problems did you encounter:
 1. in obtaining financing;
 2. in complying with laws and regulations (including zoning);
 3. in hiring;
 4. in marketing;
 5. in meeting your competition;
 6. other problems?
- How did you deal with your problems?
- Any "human interest" anecdotes which illustrate any of the points above, or which give the reader the flavor of what you went through.