



Graduate Seminar (EEL 6936)
Department of Electrical Engineering
http://ee.eng.usf.edu/Grad_Seminar

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Friday, March 21st, 2014, 10:00-10:45 a.m.
Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR) Room 143

Being Playfully Inquisitive-The Key to Sustaining Innovation

Abstract

The Manitowoc Company Inc is diversified industrial manufacturer operating in three principal markets, including cranes, foodservice equipment, and marine. The company's crane business is a global provider of engineered lift solutions and offers a full line of lifting equipment. Namely, it designs, manufactures, markets, and supports a line of crawler cranes, mobile telescopic cranes, tower cranes, and boom trucks. These products are marketed under the Manitowoc, Grove, Potain, National, and Crane CARE brand names and are used in many applications, including energy, petrochemical, and industrial. Meanwhile, its foodservice group (Manitowoc Foodservice) is a \$1.6 billion equipment provider business driving long-term growth through innovation, efficiency and performance. The company acquired Enodis Plc in October 2008 to transform its foodservice business and participate in the cooking product markets.

This talk will introduce the company and focus on its innovation strategies. Namely, the speaker will summarize his personal views and experience with innovation and also address how to deal with uncertainty and failure in the business environment. The critical need for playful inquisitiveness will also be highlighted along with the continued need to focus on customers, i.e., combining "possibility thinking" and "realistic thinking." The speaker will also present win-win negotiation strategies and talk about how to align strategic priorities, i.e., by balancing personal and professional developmental goals while having fun in the workplace. Finally, career opportunities at Manitowoc will also be highlighted.

Biography



Mr. Caron brings a creative set of innovation, strategy, technology, commercial, and executive skills to the Manitowoc Foodservice Group. He has successfully led both small and large organizations to set strategic priorities and execute business results. He is a strong believer in business processes to drive strategy and deliver financial objectives. Mr. Caron has demonstrated broad-based business expertise including operating general management, technology, marketing and corporate strategy. He also has a strong passion for business with a keen focus on customers that combines "possibility thinking" and "realistic thinking." Mr. Caron has been serving as the Chief Technology and Product Officer at Manitowoc Foodservice since 2012, where he is responsible for global product strategy and product roadmap development. He received his Bachelors degree in Chemical Engineering and Masters degree in Chemical Engineering Practice from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.