

POM 2008 Martin K. Starr Excellence in Production and Operations Management Practice Award

The *Martin K. Starr Excellence in Production and Operations Management Practice Award* has been instituted by the Production and Operations Management Society (POMS) to recognize contributions made to the field of Production and Operations Management (POM) by POM practitioners. The award is based on achieving outstanding quality of contributions to the POM field and is presented to an individual who has done an exceptional job in making advances in the practice of POM, promoting the profession, having significant impact, and building a linkage between industry and academics. These contributions are not restricted to a single organization and may span time spent at several organizations during the career of the candidate. The cumulative contributions made by the candidate during his/her career are evaluated. It is an international award open to all POM practitioners from around the world. It is POMS' most prestigious award to recognize a masterful practitioner and industry leader.

The POMS' Board in its annual meeting held on April 28, 2006 in Boston, U.S.A., unanimously approved that the award be named after Dr. Martin K. Starr. The POMS' Board in its deliberations noted that Dr Starr has contributed to POMS and its activities since its inception and has been a constant source of guidance and inspiration to POMS. Naming this award after him is indeed a great recognition of his services to the POM profession in general and the POM Society in particular.

The first two recipients of the award are Mr. Lee Cockerell (2006) and Dr. Corey A. Billington (2007). Both of the recipients are the most esteemed members of the POM field. Mr. Lee Cockerell is a consultant, author, and speaker, now retired as the Executive Vice President of Operations for the Walt Disney World Company. Dr. Corey Billington recently returned to the world of Academia as Professor of Operations Management and Procurement at IMD in Lausanne, Switzerland after having worked as Senior Vice President for Hewlett Packard (HP) where he developed many important and well-known applications of inventory and supply chain theory.

The committee for the 2008 award unanimously selected, from among a slate of excellent candidates, Dr. Dino Petrarolo to be the recipient of this year's award. Dr. Petrarolo is the Global Head of Manufacturing Development, SABMiller plc, Sandton, South Africa.

Dr. Petrarolo has had extensive and substantial experience as a practitioner of operations management. He has always brought academic discipline and rigor to his practical work. He has contributed to the OM literature by writing significant papers based on lessons that he learned in practice.



Dr. Petrarolo joined South African Breweries (SAB) in 1997 where his initial job was to move the company along its World Class Manufacturing journey. Later, in 1999 he joined the team that planned, designed and implemented the newest green-field brewery of SAB in Ibhayi, South Africa. This project constituted an application of POM knowledge. Dr. Petrarolo's focus was on the design of the management system for this innovative brewery. That system is now considered to be a global benchmark within SAB's breweries and bottling plants in different regions of the world and has received considerable attention from companies outside SABMiller in different industries.

In 2003, Dr. Petrarolo was appointed *Manufacturing Development Manager* responsible for developing and implementing manufacturing strategy for all SAB's breweries and soft-drink bottling plants in South Africa. He applied many of the things that we teach, but customized and modified them. For example, he initiated a process to reduce variability and lead times using a unique blend of lean methods, Six Sigma and the Theory of Constraints.

In 2005, Dr. Petrarolo was promoted to the position of *Group Head: Manufacturing Development*, becoming responsible for the development and implementation of SABMiller's "Manufacturing Way" worldwide. In this position, he initiated a formal program to codify SABMiller's best practices accumulated over 15 years around the globe, and instituted an interesting common set of global key performance indicators (KPIs). These activities have received recognition both inside and outside of SABMiller, for example, his presentations at the Cardiff Business School.

Early in his career, he worked for Highveld Steel and Vanadium (a large steel manufacturer in South Africa) where he worked on improving the inventory management system. He wrote a paper on management of spare parts inventory based on his experience, for which The Institute for Mechanical Engineering of South Africa awarded him the Ingham award for the best journal article in 1990. Highveld Steel and Vanadium Corporation continues to use the system developed by Dino Petrarolo – 18 year later.

Dr. Petrarolo received his MS and PhD in Industrial Engineering in 1997 from the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. Including many other activities in addition to those described above, Dr. Dino Petrarolo has shown outstanding dedication and "exceptional quality of contribution to the POM field." For these achievements, Dr. Dino Petrarolo has been chosen to receive the 2008 *Martin K. Starr Excellence in Production and Operations Management Practice Award*.

The committee for this year's award consists of the following:

- Lee Cockerell, Lee Cockerell, LLC & Retired Executive VP Walt Disney World® Resort (Chair)
- Corey A. Billington, IMD, Switzerland.
- Sushil Gupta, Florida International University
- Rafael Menda, McNeil Consumer & Specialty Pharmaceuticals, USA
- Martin K. Starr, Rollins College