



Innovative Solutions for Your VMF

News and Updates from Jasper Innovative Solutions

December 2010



A Tribute to Gervase Schwenk

JASPER Associate
1946 - 2010

Chairman of the Board
1987 - 2010



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Jasper Engines & Transmissions mourns the loss of its longest-serving Associate, Gervase Schwenk. Gervase succumbed to cancer September 8th, at the age of 86.

“Not only do we lose a good friend, unbelievable businessman and chairman, but truly a gentle giant who was extremely humble and cared more about others than he cared about himself,” says JASPER president Doug Bawel. “His loss will be tough, but his legacy must live on.”

Gervase’s passing closes the book on an amazing 64-year career with JASPER, dating back to April 1st, 1946. A World War II Veteran, Gervase was hired by our founders, Hilda and Alvin C. Ruxer, as a bookkeeper. Though Gervase had very little formal higher education, he soon became involved in all phases of Jasper Engines & Transmissions, serving as general manager, building-construction planner and

equipment designer. As a self-taught computer programmer, Gervase has written company computer programs. As Chairman of The Board, he managed the company’s investments and finances. He was recently recognized as one of the Top 10% of fund managers in the United States.

Friends remember Gervase as a man who loved life. This was reflected by his hobbies of boating, water skiing, jet skiing, bicycling, riding his motorcycle, snow skiing, fishing, RV’ing and grandparenting. He had a well-earned reputation for thriftiness. A co-worker remembered Gervase as being the first on the ski lift in the morning and the last to leave the slopes at night, so that he would “get his money’s worth,” even though as a senior citizen (70+) he got in free. It was that same thrift, along with innovative

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VMF Spotlight

Gervase Schwenk
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VMF Spotlight Santa Clarita, CA Sierra Coastal District

The Santa Clarita VMF is home to 43 employees and is the District office for two auxiliaries - Van Nuys and Pasadena, CA. These employees consist of 39 mechanics, including Noah Dutton, Joe Corrales and Steve Buonanarati who are members of the million mile club. This club requires that you drive for a minimum of 30 years with no accidents. This club shows that they have a great appreciation for safety and an ongoing commitment to the USPS.

The Storekeeper, Mary Orvis, has been with the Postal Service for 35 years and in the VMF for 21 years. The Tool and Parts Clerk, Roger Orvis, has 23 years of service and the General Clerks, Jeff Lewis and Rosa Fuentes, have a combined 50 years of experience. The District VMF Manager, Dave Brown, has a number of years with the USPS and has experience in several areas of the country, including Maryland and Hawaii.

The Santa Clarita VMF is responsible for maintaining over 3,000 vehicles in the district, including mail handling and the

Southern California Inspection Service vehicles. Their vehicle makeup consists of LLV's, two ton's, FFV's, 11-ton Internationals, Dodge Caravans, Ford Focus's and Pontiac G6's. Despite not having a full staff of mechanics in the VMF, the dedicated crew has been able to stay current with all scheduled vehicle maintenance programs.

Besides the warm climate and beautiful rolling hills, the Santa Clarita VMF has several major fault lines that run through the area, like the San Gabriel and the San Andreas, which provide several hundred small earthquakes every year. Mary Orvis played on the issue of fault lines to share this poem with us:

**A little bit of shaking,
can't stop JASPER from
making,
our parts arrive
to keep our vehicles alive!**

thinking, that made Gervase "the answer man" - the one everyone turned to when there was a problem. He is remembered as an Associate who implemented Alvin C. Ruxer's business ideas, yet remained modest, and famously down-played the uniqueness of his own efforts for the company.

"Although we all have our special memories, and I'm sure many of those will be shared, each of us must work a little smarter to ensure the foundation Gervase has laid continues," added Bawel.

Gervase's skills as a businessman, and his love of community, caused many organizations in Southern Indiana to seek his counsel. He was an active board member of Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center in Jasper and on the Board of Catholic Foundation of Southwestern Indiana. Gervase previously served on the Vincennes University Foundation Board, The Dubois County Community Foundation Board for 10 years, the Precious Blood Capital Campaign, the Sisters of Saint Benedict (EAC and Investments Committee), the Board of Directors for Fifth Third Bank and the Saint Meinrad Archabbey Endowment Committee.

Gervase was the recipient of the President's Community Excellence Award in 2009 by the Jasper Chamber of Commerce, which pays special recognition to an individual who has done an outstanding job in making Jasper a better place to live. He was also the recipient of the Boy Scout Distinguished Citizen Award in 1995 and the Brute Society Award from the Evansville, IN, Catholic Diocese in 1992.

When considering a major decision for the company, or at home, Gervase's philosophy was "Let's sleep on it". Well, Gervase, you have earned a much deserved rest. Sleep well, Good Friend.

Deliveries and Scheduling

Jasper Innovative Solutions (JIS) shares the same vision statement as our sister company Jasper Engines and Transmissions (JET), ...Reduction of Waste through Never Ending Continuous Improvements in Safety, Quality, Productivity and Customer Service.

So what does this mean? JIS is all about working smarter, not harder. We are continuously looking for ideas and ways to improve every aspect of our business. So, when the opportunity came to review our distribution schedule with our Jasper Transit Division and Branches, we were excited. Our goal was to pick the most efficient time slot for our customers concerning the truck schedule, delivery schedule and pulling schedule, based upon past history and future sales outlook.

As such, any changes made were based upon eliminating “waste” and costs for our customers and for our company. By moving around some of these dates, JIS was able to reduce the amount of time an order was waiting to be loaded or waiting to be delivered. In addition, a customer’s pull time is closer to the ship time, which means more orders can be entered closer to ship out. As a result of these changes, JIS has been able to even out our work flow on a daily basis, leaving more time for restocking inventory, expediting orders and special requests.



Serialized Inventory

Lucky Charms - that’s my favorite SERIAL! Not quite. Jasper Innovative Solutions (JIS) is referring to unique identification numbers, or production numbers in JASPER standards. Currently, JIS is only using the system for differential units, but in the future we will have the capability to add and track many other parts from the receiving docks to the customer, and back for core credit.

With our current serialized inventory system for differential units, when an order is placed, we are able to check Jasper Engines and Transmission's inventory for that unit at their branches nationwide. If a unit is in stock at a branch to fill that order, then the unit is reserved for that customer and shipped directly from that JET branch.

Having this capability not only greatly decreases lead time, but allows JIS to track the units to ensure that the core is returned and credit is properly given. By knowing which units



Warehouse Move!



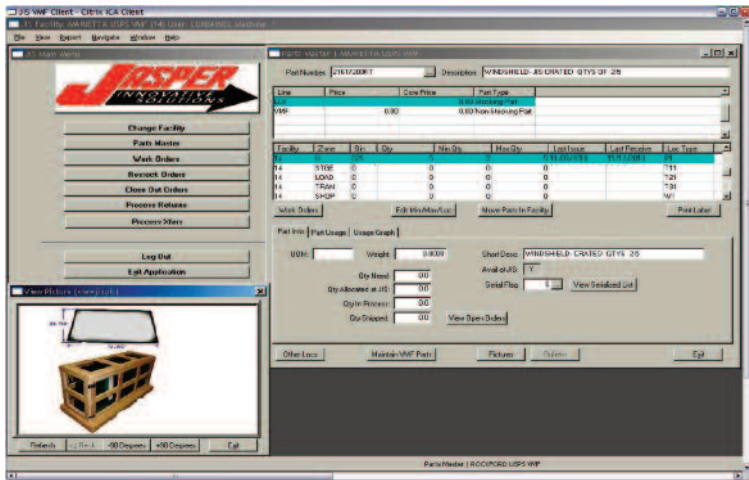
A little over a year ago, JIS made the move from Pennsylvania to Southern Indiana, allowing us to double our warehouse space and take up residence in the same building as our distribution center. Well, it is time to move again!

With JIS expanding, taking on new postal customers and new product lines, we have outgrown our 45,000 sq. ft. of space we currently occupy. We have broken ground on our new area and plan to be moved in by the first of the year. Our new footprint will be 90,000 sq. ft. and will allow us to be located closer to our distribution area for easier loading of trucks and extended availability to trucks before they leave the docks. We look forward to the move and the availability of more space to better serve you, our customers.

More information to follow in future newsletters!

Visit www.jasperis.com for our latest product updates.

JIS Consignment Now Available to All VMF's!



Jasper Innovative Solutions is pleased to announce our Partial Consignment Program to any VMF location throughout the country. This new program gives you the flexibility to stock our quality and economical parts without increasing your on-hand inventory investment!

Our online consignment tracking program is available from any computer with Internet access by

visiting www.jasperis.com. Part diagrams, pictures, pricing, invoicing, ordering and usage reports are all available from one location!

Our in-house JET Transit trucking company will deliver our product with lift gate equipped trucks in a timely and safe manner to most parts of the country in just a few days at NO CHARGE to the VMF. Our cour-

teous drivers will bring the product to the right location on a consistent basis.

We also offer a 5% consignment discount off our NOA pricing, so call now for a list of our line and to get set up on the program!

Season's Greetings

The Associates of Jasper Innovative Solutions Thank You for a very Blessed 2010. This year has been full of growth, not only with our Customers but also internally. We have a great deal to be Thankful for and owe that to you, our Customers!

We wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year! We look forward to a Blessed 2011!

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