

LET'S TALK TURKEY!

The first meal eaten on the moon by Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin was roasted turkey and all the trimmings.

95% of Americans eat turkey on Thanksgiving Day.

Of the 300 million turkeys raised annually, 45 million are consumed at Thanksgiving.

The top five most popular ways to serve leftover Thanksgiving turkey are: sandwich, soup or stew, casserole, salad, stir-fry.

Benjamin Franklin, who proposed the turkey as the official United States' bird, was dismayed when the bald eagle was chosen over the turkey. Franklin wrote to his daughter, referring to the eagle's "bad moral character," saying, "I wish the bald eagle had not been chosen as the representative of our country! The turkey is a much more respectable bird, and withal a true original native of America."

MASTERING THE INTERNET PAYS OFF BIG IN THE OIL BUSINESS

Undoubtedly, one of the greatest inventions of the 20th century is the Internet. That being said, if you have been kicked off the server in the past ten minutes, you would probably put up an argument. However, the potential uses for this tool are invaluable for the oil industry - most notably in the advantages it brings to the realm of communication capabilities.

Perhaps the most important quality of this tool is the ability to collect all relevant information in one specific place on any particular aspect of the company and allow multiple people access to it at the same time.

Its immeasurable value is evident in the fruits of effectively managed information. Having all pertinent material at your employees fingertips results in informed decisions made efficiently. As we are all aware, that is the key to a successful business.

An informal study by a major US oil company indicated savings in technicians' time could be 10-18% in a typical repair procedure on a large offshore drilling platform by using such technology to access required repair information.

In the case of a drilling rig, these data would include equipment manuals and specifications, operational guidelines, repair procedures, maintenance records, safety, regulatory and emergency procedures, rig blueprints, etc.

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The necessity of every employee being Internet savvy is becoming more and more related to a healthy bottom line. If they cannot find, research and/or utilize important data efficiently, the effects could be detrimental.

Increasingly, major corporations as well as smaller ones are becoming dependent on the services the Internet provides.

Case in point: BP Amoco recently announced that any vendor not using the Internet to conduct business could no longer do business with them.

Internet technology is clearly going to become more important in the way we conduct operations. Consider yourselves warned: those who insist on lagging behind will become obsolete!

PRODUCT CORNER

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VEN-REZ™ II is a chrome-free lignite derivative that was designed to provide improved filtration control and to stabilize rheological properties in high temperature water base muds.

VEN-REZ™ II is highly effective:

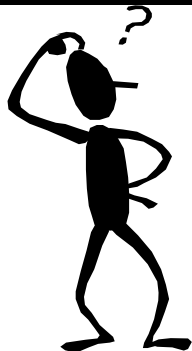
- in thinning almost all types and densities of water based drilling fluids
- in functioning as an emulsifier in oil-in-water muds
- in providing some emulsification and dispersing properties for liquid lubricants
- in stabilizing salt-contaminated muds
- as a high temperature filter loss additive in water based systems

For additional information on VEN-REZ™ II or any other Venture Chemicals product contact us at:

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THOUGHT TICKLERS



"In soloing - as in other activities - it is far easier to start something than it is to finish it."

- Amelia Earhart

"I have seen great intolerance shown in support of tolerance."

- Samuel Taylor Coleridge

"I am one of the people who love the why of things."

- Catherine the Great

"Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision just passes the time. Vision with action can change the world."

- Joel Barker

"I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something."

- Helen Keller

"It ain't enough to get the breaks. You gotta know how to use 'em."

- Huey P. Long

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VEN-BRIEFS

PLANKTON POWER!

Until recently, this was just a theory... An underwater fuel cell that runs on seawater and subsea sediment? It really can generate small amounts of power indefinitely - just as its inventor hoped.

"We've completed 220 days of continuous testing and the power level has been constant throughout," says Leonard Tender of the US Naval Research Laboratory.

The reactor taps into a natural voltage gradient created by a pair of chemical reactions happening on the seabed. Plankton release energy by using oxygen to break down organic matter in seawater or sediment. Deeper down in the sediment there is no oxygen, so the plankton rely on different chemicals. These two reactions set up a potential difference between the seawater and the sediment a few centimeters beneath. "Electrons then flow from one electrode to the other and that's how we harvest the power," he says.

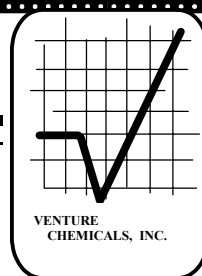
A TANKFUL OF SUNSHINE

Cars that run on hydrogen-powered fuel cells are squeaky-clean dream machines. The trouble is, the only way to make hydrogen now is to split water with electrical energy from polluting power stations. Now a team in Japan has found a new way of doing the job.

Here's the plan: A series of mirrors and lenses inside the satellite will concentrate solar energy. Another optical system, called a solar pump, will convert the light into a powerful laser beam. This beam will be targeted at a reactor on Earth containing particles of titanium dioxide, suspended in water. The oxide particles act as a catalyst that enables the energy from the light to split water molecules into hydrogen and oxygen. Collect the hydrogen and you can use it to run the fuel cells.

Japan's National Space Development Agency (NASDA) and the Institute for Laser Technology (ILT) in Tokyo hope to have the first experimental satellite in space by 2010 and a working model by 2020.

- *New Scientist*, October 2001



Five Cardinal Rules of Visual Presentations

- **CHOOSE COLORS CAREFULLY**

Make sure the color you use on your text has "pop" -- that is, that it jumps off the background color. For instance, red or blue text on a white background works nicely. Yellow with black lettering is considered the most readable.

- **DON'T OVERLOAD THE SLIDE**

Break up the information you're sharing with your audience into digestible chunks. Putting too much information on a slide is a dead giveaway that you don't know what you're doing.

- **USE A BIG ENOUGH FONT**

Try this: Look at this screen from 12 feet away, and then from 6 feet.

Sign painter's rule of thumb:

1" letter is readable from 10 ft.

2" letter from 20 ft.

3" letter from 30 ft.

Assume 72 point fonts are 1" high. You can do the math.

- **FONT SELECTION**

There's always that struggle to squeeze more words into limited space so using a narrow font may sometimes be necessary. However, don't sacrifice readability for style. Remember, your job is to communicate.

- **SLOW DOWN**

One rule of thumb is, if you think you're speaking at the right speed, you're probably speaking way too fast. Only if it seems slow to you is it at the right speed for them. Especially if you're building points in a presentation and the last point you made is crucial to the point you're about to make, then you really need to know that they're with you.

Happy Thanksgiving from
Venture Chemicals!



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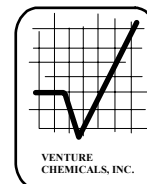
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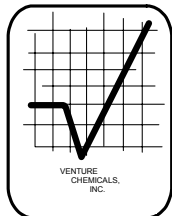
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