



SIGMA

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Akshay

GURU OF THE MONTH

Bill Gates

"It's fine to celebrate success but it is more important to heed the lessons of failure."

This month we are introducing you to America's richest man.

Entrepreneur Bill Gates founded the world's largest software business, Microsoft, with Paul Allen, and subsequently became one of the richest man in the world. He has all of the toys you would expect from the world's richest man, from a private jet to a 66,000-square-foot home he nicknamed Xanadu 2.0.

Yet as his wealth has grown, Gates has done more and more philanthropy work, donating billions of dollars to charity projects through the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Born William Henry "Bill" Gates III has an estimated net worth of \$17.18 billion according to Forbes as of March 2014. He is regarded as one of the most influential persons of the 20th century. Bill Gates born on Oct 28 1955, is an American business magnet, futurist and philanthropist and the founder and chairman of Microsoft Corp Ltd. With his early interest in software, he began programming at the age of 13, Bill Gates is credited for revolutionizing the computer world through his highly user-oriented inventions and aggressive business approach. Gates, one of the greatest business minds of all time always tries to broaden his knowledge and capacity to absorb ideas. Reading, learning and blue sky brainstorming is considered to be the integral part of his job description.



This Harvard dropout was on top of the world's richest man list of Forbes and still sits at the 2nd spot after he donated \$ 30 billion of his wealth to charity. Reckoned as a leading philanthropist, he along with his wife Melinda Gates established the "Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation" in 2000 which is incidentally the world's largest transparently operated charitable foundation. Through this foundation Bill Gates hopes to eradicate the poverty and provide support for improving healthcare in economically backward countries.

"What's amazing is, if young people understood how doing well in school makes the rest of their life so much interesting, they would be more motivated. It's so far away in time that they can't appreciate what it means for their whole life."

NEWS

ABB Robotics unveils its first collaborative robot

ABB Robotics is planning to unveil its first collaborative robot, known as YuMi. The human-friendly, dual-arm robot is designed to work alongside human workers and is scheduled for release in April 2015. ABB has hailed it “the world’s first truly collaborative robot.” YuMi – a name designed to convey ‘you and me’ – will be used to conduct manufacturing tasks such as small parts assembly, where man and robot work alongside one another. YuMi is reportedly capable of handling everything from the delicate and precise parts of a mechanical wristwatch to the components used in mobile phones, tablets and desktop PCs. The accuracy of YuMi’s motion is said to be so precise that it can thread a needle.



Source: Phillips, Abigail (2014, October 13). Manufacturing Global. Retrieved from: <http://www.manufacturingglobal.com/technology/180/ABB-Robotics-unveils-its-first-collaborative-robot>

Innovative Samsung tech to boost IoT Wi-Fi speeds by 500 percent

According to reports Samsung has developed new technology that could increase Wi-Fi data transfer speeds by up to 500 percent. The breakthrough could make the Internet of Things and associated products invaluable to the manufacturing sector. The Korean firm has announced that it solved two setbacks stopping it from releasing Wi-Fi operating on the 60GHz spectrum. As a result, the new data transfer channel could see a 1GB movie moved wirelessly between devices in under three seconds. The technology will also pave the way for seamless TV streaming. Previously, signals sent on the 60GHz spectrum displayed poor penetration abilities and were susceptible to breaking up, resulting in inferior performance. Samsung claimed it would use the faster Wi-Fi technology in its SmartHome and Internet of Things products in future. Increased speeds could revolutionize the way manufacturing companies use data and analytics on the production floor.



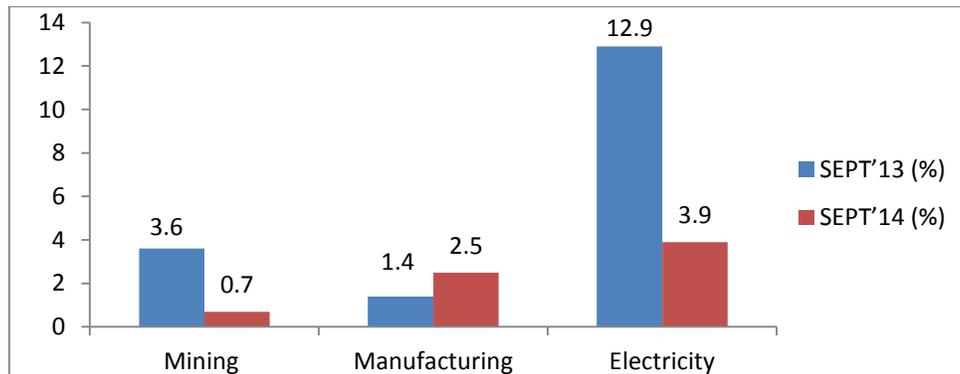
Source: Phillips, Abigail (2014, October 14). Manufacturing Global Retrieved from: <http://www.manufacturingglobal.com/technology/184/Innovative-Samsung-tech-to-boost-IoT-WiFi-speeds-by-500-percent>

INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

The Indices of Industrial Production for the Mining, Manufacturing and Electricity sectors for the month of September 2014 stand at 116.0, 181.6 and 175.6 respectively, with the corresponding growth rates of 0.7%, 2.5% and 3.9% as compared to September 2013. The cumulative growth in the three sectors during April-September 2014-15 over the corresponding period of 2013-14 has been 2.1%, 2.0% and 10.4% respectively.

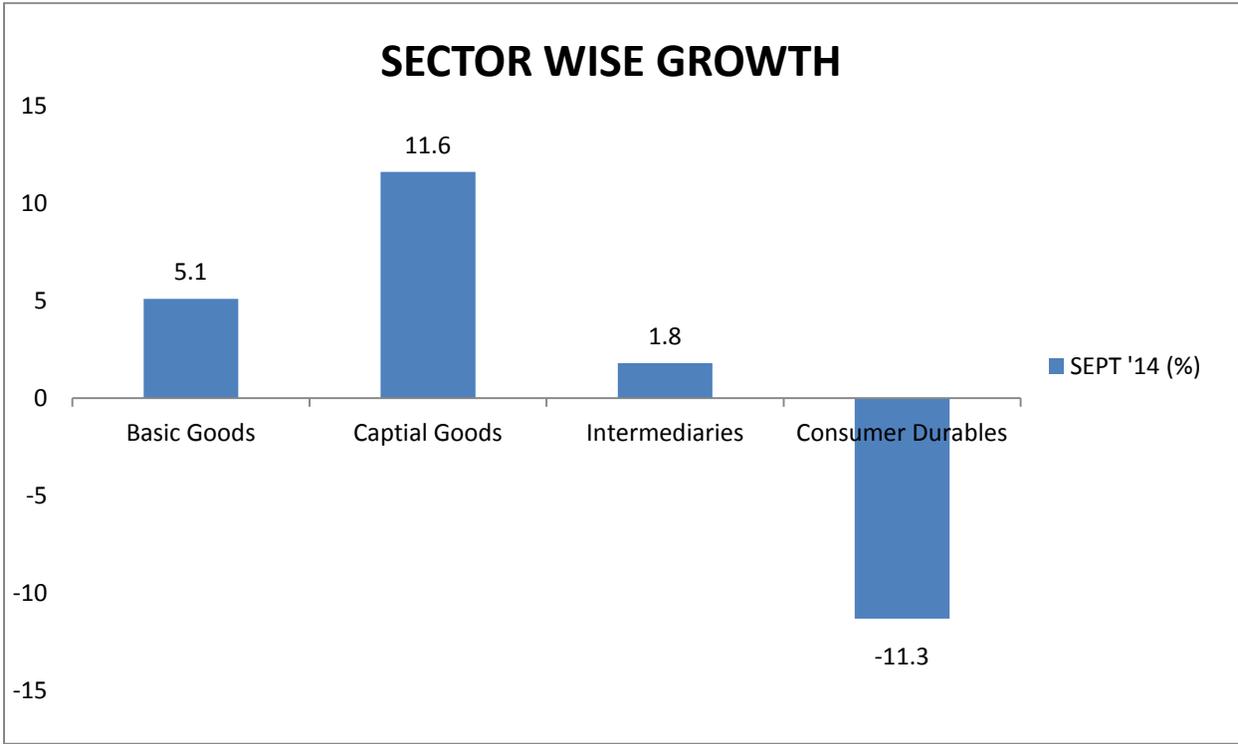


Sector	SEPT'13 (%)	SEPT'14 (%)
Mining	3.6	0.7
Manufacturing	1.4	2.5
Electricity	12.9	3.9

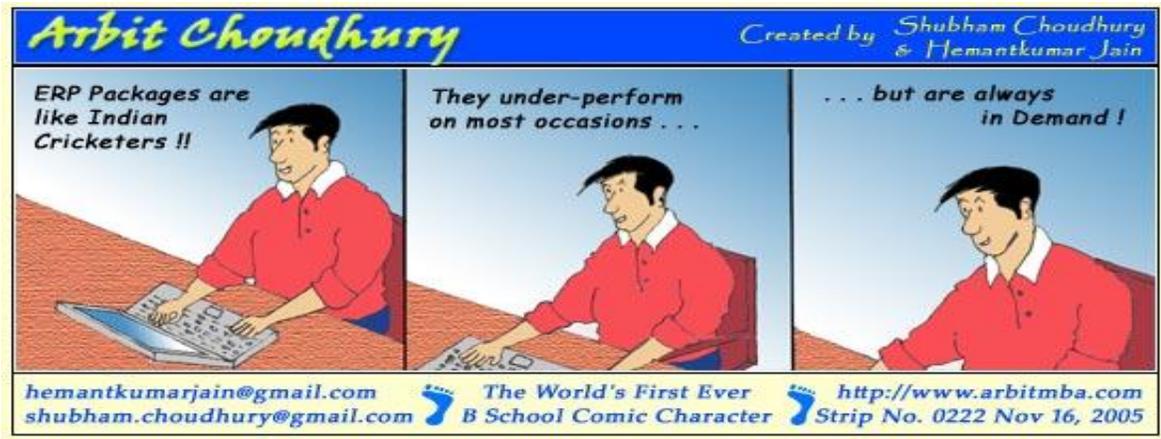


The growth rates in September 2014 over September 2013 are 5.1% in Basic goods, 11.6% in Capital goods and 1.8% in Intermediate goods. The Consumer durables and Consumer non-durables have recorded growth of (-) 11.3% and 1.5% respectively, with the overall growth in Consumer goods being (-) 4.0%.

Sector	SEPT'14 (%)
Basic Goods	5.1
Capital Goods	11.6
Intermediaries	1.8
Consumer Durables	-11.3



Good Times for ERP - Trends in ERP Technology @ 2014



Normally people in current scenario are in the same mentality that is being shown in the cartoon mentioned below that ERP packages would under perform and they are slow to change.

But wait!! Industry pundits have claimed that ERP would grow by leaps and bounds in the coming years and they have predicted that good times lie ahead in the ERP technology front and its associated growth.

Certain trends associated are listed as below:

Mobile ERP: Many industry pundits claim that mobility associated in ERP would be of a major factor and a big trend as most of the employees and the management would want the access of information in real-time irrespective of the position. Those were the days where the employers would like to access the ERP systems through the single desktop but through phones and tablets and industry also believes that businesses would embrace this technology for efficient key business processes.

Consumer impact through ERP: Trend is moving towards the interaction of the back office with the customers of the organization along with the front office present in order to ensure that the organization would be exposed through the cohesive views of the customers at various aspects. Thereby the companies would be able to achieve higher customer satisfaction leading to making informed decisions for increase profitability.

Social ERP: As the trend towards social media and networking is on the rise, vendors have cashed in on the same and have come up with ERP packages associating the social media.

Two-tier ERP: Traditionally, organizations have ERP systems that would take care of the operations revolving around the organization systems, but certain failures associated would impact the entire systems. Hence in order to overcome the same, strategies have been incorporated where there would be two tiers of the ERP. This would involve using first layer such as Oracle or SAP as the primary system and the other applications for the secondary systems.

Cloud ERP: Impact of cloud is being slowly moving towards ERP systems and that the organization would like to involve and integrate ERP with cloud technology. This would be achievable through the SaaS technology through which the organizations would not only unite the associated businesses but also they would have a platform for interaction with the supplier networks and ease of data communication between them.

Removal of Middleman: Traditional ERP systems would rely on the middleman systems such as barcodes, clock swipes etc. for collection of data and then send to the related systems for processing the same. This would be achieved through connection of the direct link between the machines and the ERP database for the consumption of the required data and processing the same in the systems.

VALUE STREAM MAPPING

Value stream mapping is a prime lean manufacturing tool that has emerged out to support the implementation of lean in an organisation. It is one amongst the most effective techniques that has helped organisations in identifying the critical time lag factors turning out to be the most deterrent in process efficiency. VSM is believed to be a conventional technique of recording, as it captures the information about cycle time, up time, utilisation time, set-up time, and change over time, work in process inventory, man-power requirement and information flow. VSM entirely deals with the concept of value adding and non-value adding activities.



VSM enables organizations to evaluate their present status of performance and constraint effects, thereby leading to a strategic path of lean thinking. Most popular tools used for VSM include Pareto and root cause analysis which help to identify the causes behind the problems that commonly occur. To enhance the performance, VSM also enables various process capabilities to be structured. Lean thinking is the best way to eliminate waste from various processes, which is generally considered to be beneficial for the growth of the organisation. Strategic optimization strategy is yet another way to enhance the performance in an environment of concurrent engineering. The major purpose of VSM as a tool is to analyse the information and identify the flow pattern in a specific family of products. Value stream mapping, throws light on potential areas of improvement which can be viewed as a huge bag of opportunity especially in terms of lead and cycle time measurements. It also identifies the best possible solutions to address the areas of improvement like incorporating Kaizen. It helps a log way for future advancements in any organization.

VSM has definitely brought a positive impact on maintaining inventory levels and speeding up the process, helping organisations improve in terms of creating value for its customers and satisfying their needs.

ACTIVITY BOX

And so it begins.....

The fiery crucible of placements is the ultimate test of an Institute, a course and the students. The placements season for the Lean Operations and Systems batch Of 2013-2015 started off with a bang with Hindustan Unilever Limited picking up five students from the main campus during the recruitment process in the month of October 2014. The recruitment process was conducted in Mumbai and started off with filling of an application form followed by Group Discussion round and multiple interviews covering technical topics related to the Supply Chain management and final HR round.



The students were well prepared in these areas and were able to showcase their skills and abilities with ease. Following HUL, multiple companies visited the campus in the first week of November 2014 such as V M Ware, Tata Consultancy Services and HCL. V M Ware and HCL selected just one student each from the main campus but the largest recruiter so far was TCS which picked up 25 students out of which 23 were from the LOS department.

Robert Bosch was the next company on campus and after many rounds of intense interviews the company selected 8 students out of which 5 were from the LOS department. Smart cube completed the first round which is the aptitude test and are yet to release the list of shortlisted candidates. Odessa Technologies was another difficult test with multiple rounds of interviews and a final round with the Chief Operating Officer at their office. So far only one student from LOS was picked up.

The placement season has just begun and looks very promising with a long list of companies yet to recruit students. To those who have been placed, I offer my hearty congratulations and wish them all the very best in their careers. And to those yet to be selected I wish them all the very best for the placements and for their careers.

Experience of a lifetime...

As narrated by Sanjana Sethi, IJK LOS

Hindustan Unilever Limited is a dream company for many. This was first company on campus for which almost the entire batch of Lean Operations and Systems applied to by filling up the Registration form on Sept 23rd, 2014. Very soon the list of shortlisted candidates was announced and we were asked to send the resume and filled up application form based on which 33 students were shortlisted and were asked to go to Mumbai for the interview on 31st Oct.



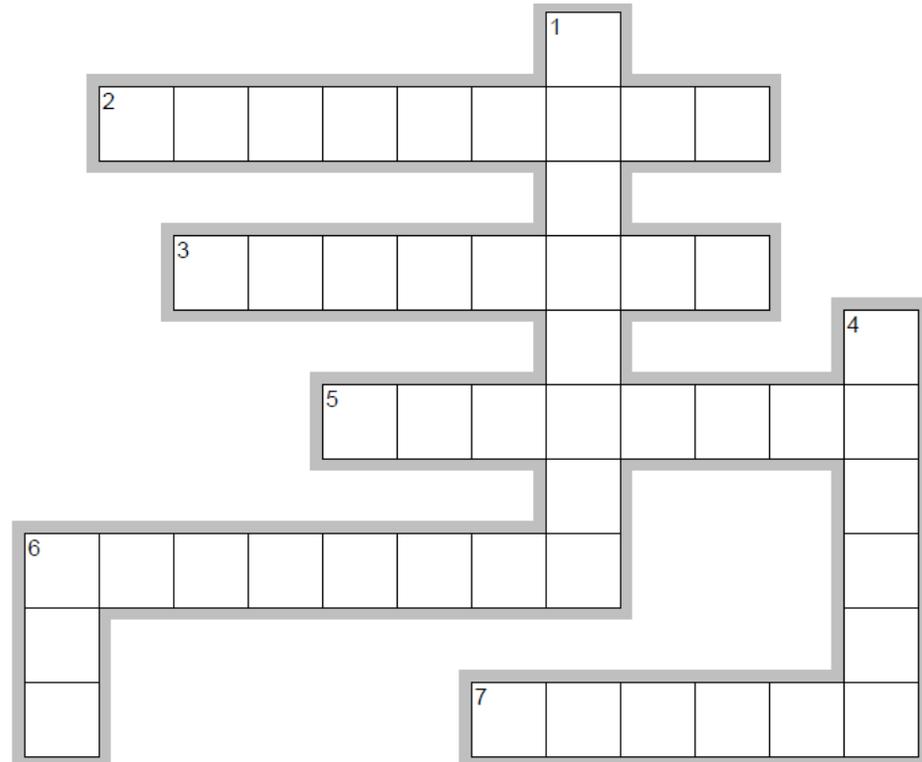
On 31st Oct, 2014 our day started with filling up an application form. A total of 65 students were present from SRM, Loyola, JDBMS and other prestigious colleges. The whole day process was preceded by Niharika Dutt, HR and the pre placement talk was given Swapnil Joshi, a Senior Management employee in the area of Supply Chain after which we were divided into groups of 10 people for the Group discussion round.

Group discussion was case based and each group were given different case studies, my topic was "ORGANIZING A COLLEGE FEST "and we had to discuss about the various events that would take place, budget allocations, promotions etc. The comparisons that were made to fish market by our seniors rang true that day there but controlling everyone and making myself heard ensured that I was one of the 30 shortlisted students after the GD round.

The interviews started shortly after the announcement of results. My 1st and 2nd interview rounds were purely technical and the questions were based on my SIP and supply chain concepts. I wanted them to ask me questions about my SIP so when I was asked to tell something about myself, I mentioned about my sip at the end driving my own interview towards my SIP. There were many questions where I did not know the answer and I admitted, "I don't know sir". It does not matter how many right answers you give in the interview round, but what matters is the right attitude.

When it was time for us to leave, I was called for the 3rd round as well which was an HR round. With that, started the long wait. The results were announced next day in the afternoon and I was one of the 10 lucky selected ones.

C R O S S W O R D



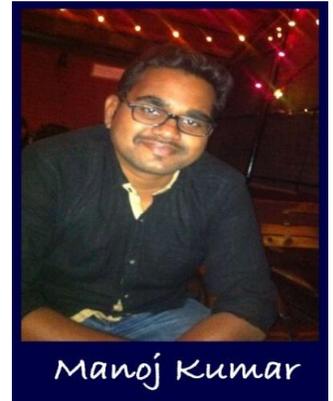
Across

2. The management of flow of resources between the point of origin and destination
3. A trend of larger and larger swings in inventory in response to changes in demand
5. First company to implement six sigma
6. The time taken for a product to move from one part of the production line to another (4, 4)
7. Japanese word which means improvement of manufacturing process

Down

1. Also called as Dr. Ishikawa Chart
4. It is used to control the logistical chain from a production point of view
6. I is the first Indian two wheeler company to win the Deming's Application Award

Think Tank



1. Name the person, who was sworn-in as the tenth Chief Minister of Haryana?
2. Which player has won the European golden boot award 2014?
3. Who has designed the logo and gave slogan campaign "swachh bharat abhiyan"?
4. Who has been conferred the 2014 liberty medal?
5. The Laffer curve is the graphical representation of?
6. The world health organization in its first ever negative recommendation, has recently called on governments to immediately ban blood tests prescribed and used to detect?
7. India's first integrated check post was opened in which state?
8. Which country has the highest per capita emitter of carbon dioxide in the world is:
9. Anthony De Mello Trophy is associated with Test cricket series played between
10. Where is the headquarters of the Olympics Committee located?



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