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Some Assembly Required: The CSI Newsletter

October 2021

Welcome to the Sixteenth Edition of *Some Assembly Required!*

CSI Team Attends the NCIA Conference!



Jeremy Elder, Brian Pantzloff, Jessie Ball, Sam Palin, Ed Poppert, and Alan Wessel attended the NCIA Conference held in Indianapolis, Indiana. During their week of excitement they had the chance to network, see what is going on in other correctional industries, and even part take in a cooking competition. (Congratulations to Brian on his 1st place finish)! Here are just a few photos from their trip.





3 Questions With a CSI Employee - Shawn Martindale, IT Business Systems Analyst

1. What is the best and worst part about using E1? I cannot forecast to you the action of E1. It is an enigma wrapped in a mystery, wrapped in a tortilla, but perhaps there is a key. That key is E1's predictable unpredictability. That being said I like the fact that after almost 15 years of using E1 I still learn something new almost daily. On the flip side, the bad thing is that after almost 15 years I don't know even a fraction of what I need to know in E1.
2. You've worked in various areas of CSI, how do you think CSI has evolved throughout the years? This sounds like a simple question to answer since a short stroll through the building will show how CSI's product lines have changed over the years. From construction, to fit and finish our furniture and seating has come a long way in the last 15 years (Mono Black wasn't around when I got here). I could point to our use of technology (and sometimes the failures of technology) and process changes, for the better in most cases, since I have been here having added to our evolution. The more things change the more they stay the same though, and by that I mean our mission: ***CSI MISSION STATEMENT: Use work as a tool to prepare incarcerated men and women for successful reentry back into our communities. We provide meaningful work experience by building quality products, providing services and creating value for our external customers. Work skills are supplemented with training, education and certifications so CSI workers can effectively translate their abilities into post-release success.***
Building on our Mission is the area in which I have seen CSI evolve the most. Shifting from a PICEP focus to Workforce Development focus has been fun to watch. From the outside most would think that I don't pay much attention to those areas but I see a lot of good stuff going on in Brian Koch's world. It is really amazing the amount of trainings and certifications our population has earned and I am excited to see the further developments that come.
3. Any favorite memories working at CSI? I started at CSI as a SOS Temporary worker as the Sales Staff Assistant => Sales => Driver => WH Manager => QA => Business Systems Analyst. Each stop on my path holds fond memories that contributed to that part of the journey. No one single activity stands out more though than the memories of co-workers past and present. So many great people and friends have passed and are passing through these doors daily. Work can be a grind sometimes but the fellowship that co-workers provide (positive and negative) makes it a memorable experience.
4. Bonus question: What is the best popcorn seasoning? Butter is my go-to, but...on a wild afternoon, I like to throw on (½ and ½) Nacho Cheese + Cheesy Jalapeño. That combination is fire.

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• **Welcome to the Team!** •
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• Doug Bohling- Operations Manager for the TSCI Laundry and Wood Shop •
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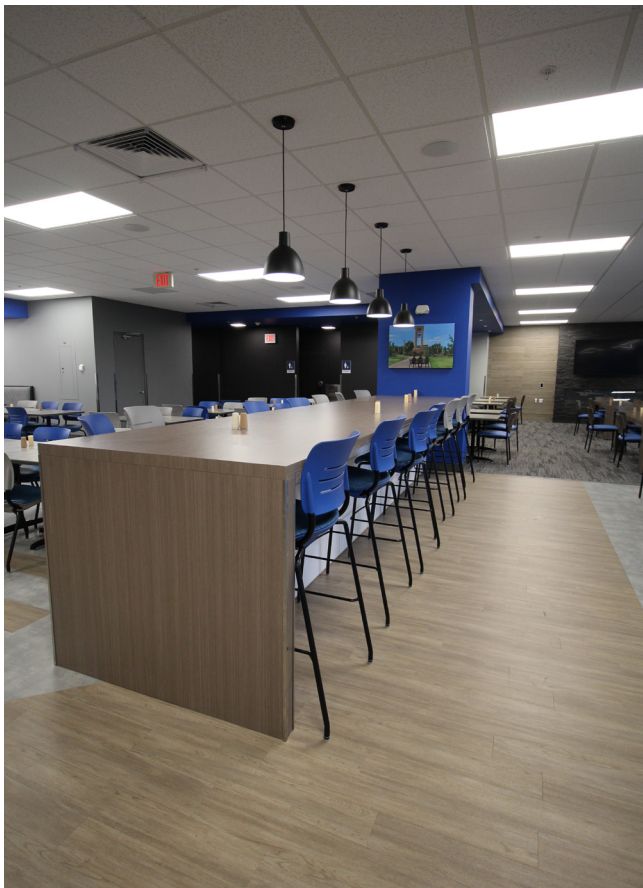


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University of Nebraska - Kearney Sitka Chairs in Cafeteria!

Shop 20 (Chair/Wood Shop @ NSP) put together Sitka chairs for the University of Nebraska at Kearney's newly remodeled cafeteria. These chairs look incredible in their new home! Special shout out to all of those who participated in this project, it was a large one but so worth it!!





Department of Administrative Services Display Cases

by Matt Capps - Engineer

The Department of Administrative Services was in the process of remodeling their offices. They approached us about fabricating three polycarbonate display cases to house a model ship (USS Nebraska) and two submarines (USS Nebraska, and USS Omaha), replicas of actual U.S. military vessels. They rededicated the updated space with a Nebraska theme.

We had not attempted cases of this design before this point. We accepted the challenge, re-researched the fabrication process, and are very pleased with the results. The shelves are constructed of Birch hardwood and plywood with a mono-black finish. A dark grey laminate was applied to the shelf as a background for the models. The polycarbonate was cut to size and “welded” together using a special solvent. Two of the models, the ship and one submarine, are displayed on a metal wall.

Magnets were installed on these as no holes could be drilled in the wall. The other submarine is mounted on a typical wall, using a metal hanger system of our own design.

Many staff members were involved in the process, a special thanks to the workers of the NSP and LCC wood shops (Shop 20 and 39). Their skill level, dedication, and willingness to accept new challenges never ceases to impress.

