

Tailored Trends

VOL. 5 NO. 1

Sticky Situations

by Ed Hesive, Editor

An Interview with Bill Cochrane of C/3 Motorsports

The Midwest is gripped in the teeth of winter. Yesterday, I saw squirrels burying can goods and the snow man in front of my house is almost old enough to qualify for AARP. So I used my status as "editor" as justification for a trip to Arizona to interview one of TLP's customers who happens to be based in Tucson.

EH: Thanks for inviting me to Tucson, Bill.

BC: Actually, you invited yourself, Ed. But we're happy to have you visit.

EH: I figured there would be a standing invitation. You know, to golf, go dining, see the sites ... like others from TLP.

BC: Actually our interaction with TLP is by phone, fax and email. You make things so easy for us, there's no need for face-to-face meetings.

EH: We have email?

BC: But I'll be happy to show you our facilities.

EH: Just what is C/3 Motorsports?

BC: We build handcrafted, limited production cars based on a number of OEM platforms including the Daimler Chrysler LX, Ford Mustang, Porsche, BMW, Mercedes-Benz and others. We integrate cutting edge technologies, engine blue printing processes and styling design expertise to produce sophisticated automobile Clones, Customs and Conversions.

EH: Wow! Look at all of these cool cars. How does TLP fit in with something this unique and stylish?

BC: I searched a long time for a company that could help us brand our products and project the proper image for these types of upscale automobiles. It was a very frustrating experience because I wasn't exactly sure what I needed and suppliers were only interested in "selling" me something, rather than helping me. Then I found Deb Jensen at TLP and I thought I'd run into the equivalent of the "Shell Answer Man." She actually listened to what I was trying to do and



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TLP Named Best Workplace in the Americas



TLP was named one of the 2006 Best Workplaces in the Americas by Printing Industries of America/Graphic Arts Technical Foundation. Companies are evaluated in the areas of management practices, work environment, training and development opportunities, workplace health and safety, work-life balance, recognitions, and more.

"We understand the importance of empowerment and employee recognition and we allow our team members to grow in all facets of their roles," said Mike Erwin, President. "At the same time, TLP's provides a family atmosphere and a highly results-driven environment. We want our employees to know we value their daily contributions," said Erwin.



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Sue Cantwell

TLP Meets Audit Requirements for ISO 9001:2000

Meet Sue Cantwell

TLP recently passed an eight-hour Surveillance Audit that is part of the ongoing ISO (International Organization for Standards) 9001:2000 process. TLP met the requirements for the standard in 2003.

Sue Cantwell, Senior Quality and Process Excellence Engineer, had only been at TLP for about six months when the audit took place. "The audit is a spot check to be sure a company is following the procedures that were originally established to improve quality and document adherence to the ISO principals," says Sue.

The audit reviewed a number of areas including quality policy, customer focus, management commitment, resource allocations, production, work environment, monitoring and measuring, purchasing, control of nonconforming product and documentation.

While it could have been daunting to participate in such an audit when one is so new to the company, Sue claims that TLP's commitment to quality made the process relatively painless.

"TLP has many manufacturing controls in place and our employees have a genuine dedication to improving quality. The employees also understand the need to use the appropriate forms and document the various processes so we can demonstrate our conformance," she says.

"Since ISO 9001:2000 is an International Standard, our conformance to the standard provides assurance to our customers about the quality, safety and reliability of our products. This allows TLP to compete with label and/or adhesives suppliers around the world.

"It also shows our customers that we have processes in place to support their quality goals," she adds.

Sue and her husband, Bill, are both engineers. I am hoping to be invited to their house for dinner soon...I love talking about substrates, binders, inks and films and such.



Ed Hesive:
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