

PDM: Keys to Successful ERP

When: February 21, 2012 (Tuesday) @ 6:00 pm

Where: Peerless

Essay:

“Implementing an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system is not an easy task.”

Almost anyone with experience implementing an ERP system would agree with that statement. ERP is difficult even if you: 1) Are APICS certified, 2) have a team that really understands the mechanics of ERP, 3) know your software application well, and 4) work for an organization with a strong management team. If you lack resources in any one of these areas, implementing ERP successfully is very difficult.

This presentation explores elements or keys that together determine how successful you are with your ERP implementation. These keys have evolved from my education, thinking and experience working with small to mid-sized manufacturing organizations (e.g., annual sales revenues from \$2M to \$100) over the past thirty years, as both a practitioner and a consultant.

The keys are found within four groups: Body of Knowledge, Corporate Culture, Software and Internal Expertise. The keys will provide you with a mechanism to assess your team and project and provide a list of potential opportunities for improvement. It should also provide additional areas for education and training.

Promises:

- One hour long presentation about implementing ERP.
- Present overview of ERP implementation elements from four areas of implementation.
- Support of APICS Body of Knowledge.
- White paper provided.

Speaker: William R. Elder, CPIM

William R. Elder is an authority on operational strategies for manufacturing organizations and President of Micro Manufacturing Systems, a management consulting firm servicing the Tier III ERP system market (Annual Sales less than \$250M). Through his teaching and consulting, he enables manufacturing organizations to convert business strategies into effective operational initiatives. His clients achieve competitive advantages through the application of proven technologies and management techniques that enhance performance and productivity, on a continuous basis.

With an operations management and information systems background, he specializes in the application of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software to the bottom line and provides unique opportunities for client operating managers and employees to contribute and grow.

Elder started his consulting business in 1990 with a leading PC-based manufacturing software company. Prior to becoming a manufacturing consultant, he held positions ranging from Foreman, to Vice President of Operations in various manufacturing companies in the greater Philadelphia area (military and medical electronics industries). He has also served in the United States Air Force.

Elder continued his studies of the business discourse for eight years as a member of the Leadership, Entrepreneurism, Innovation, and Power (LEIP) program designed and delivered by The Aji Network of Sunnyvale, CA, where he also completed the two year Business Professional's Course. He obtained a Masters of Business Administration degree from Temple University (MBA, 1988) concentrating on Management and Organizational Behavior. He graduated with honors with a degree in Business Administration from Rowan University (BA, 1981).

He has been an active member of the APICS, The Society for Operations Management since 1984 and prior to relocating to Eastern Tennessee, has lead in various capacities (i.e., Publicity, Membership, President, Past-President and Chapter Constitution teams) for the APICS Philadelphia Area Network. He currently serves as the Director of Social Media for The East Tennessee Chapter. He is also a longtime APICS instructor for the Certified in Production and Inventory Management (CPIM) program.