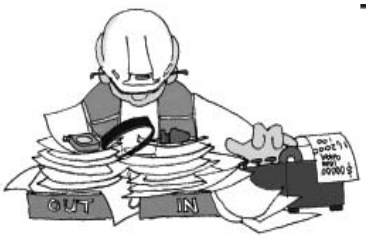
Workspaces can Reveal Clues



You can judge someone's personality by their workspace. People leave deliberate and inadvertent clues about themselves in their personal area. Co-workers are good at judging what these clues mean.

Deliberate clues are like plants, reveal that people intend to stay a while. Candy reveals that the person is an extravert. They want others to drop by and chat. Be careful about clues because one's image is at stake. As anyone can buy a plant but one has to be task oriented to keep it alive. Therefore, the image projected may be more powerful than the work actually done.

When it comes to projecting a positive image, some areas are easier to manage than others. A messy area is tough as people have to change their behavior to clean up their act. It is worth the effort. A clean area says that the person is productive. So, even if a worker can find everything, clean-up to look good. Start with a organizational system and take the last fifteen minutes of every day to maintain it. ❖

Sources:
Boston Globe, November 27, 2005 p. 1-7
Maintenance Management System Schematic, WSDOT, Winter 2002, pg. 13

Color-Blindness Affects Perception of LED Signals

Color-blindness affects the perception of green light-emitting diode (LED) signals. LED signals are becoming more popular and issues have emerged requiring investigation to determine the impact LED has on the driving public.

Color-blindness affects up to eight percent of the male population and 0.5 percent of the female population. There are two main forms of color blindness.

1. Red/green color-blindness is the most common deficiency
2. Blue color-blindness is an inability to distinguish both blue and yellow (they are seen as white or gray).

In 2002 and 2003, MNDOT conducted a green LED preliminary study. The study showed that the best solutions were different for the color-blind versus the non-color blind travelers.

- There is a difference in green LED perceptions between color-blind and non-color-blind people.
- The green-tinted lens is better for the color-blind, but the clear lens was better for the non-color-blind.
- The brand and the design of the head (high LED count verses low LED count) that was best is different for the color-blind versus the non-color blind.

The project recommended further study to determine whether any of the designs currently on the market can balance the needs of color-blind and non-color-blind drivers.

Source:
Guan, Rachel MNDOT, Technology Exchange, University of Minnesota, Spring 2005, Vol. 13, No. 2, p. 2.