Visit to Yakult Factory

139 students from E332 – Quality Control module took part in a learning visit to Yakult Factory at Senoko.

This visit complements the week’s learning of Control Charting in this module. Our problem statement was crafted with a Yogurt drink making scenario too.

At Yakult, we were warmly welcomed by the hosts and treated to a presentation before a site tour. Each of us was also given a free bottle of Yakult to drink.

Presentation by Yakult Host, Mr Yap, about Yakult drink and the company

Storage Tanks for main ingredients of Yakult – Glucose (energy source for the bacteria to grow) and Milk!
A Yakult staff at work in the fermentation area.

Seed Room – The original L. Casei Shirota bacteria strain is introduced here (shipped from Japan)

Bottle making – Yakult has an injection moulding machine to make its plastic bottles on site!
Injection Moulding Machine making Yakult bottles. The completed bottles are transported by blower pipes (on the left) to the bottle storage tank.

Quality Control Area – Yakult conducts tests here for quality control. One such test uses refraction to test for sweetness. Another test uses titration to measure lactic acid level and pH.

Filling up and sealing area
Sorting and Packing line

Overall, it was an eye-opening experience for our students and staff while understanding real-world operations at work.

Thanks to Yakult management for allowing the visits!
Visit to Sustainable Manufacturing Centre (SMC) and Precision Engineering Centre of Innovation (PE COI), SIMTech

A total of 2 out of classroom visits were organised for E218 Manufacturing Planning and Control students (DIOM&DMNT) to enhance their learning experience in this semester.

The 1st visit was to Sustainable Manufacturing Centre (SMC) and Precision Engineering Centre of Innovation (PE COI), SIMTech, in NTU as part of P06 – Sustainable Manufacturing lesson coverage. A total of 214 students and 4 staffs visited the SMC & PE COI and over a 5 days period in Jun’13. The visit aims to inculcate our students with basic concepts of sustainable manufacturing like carbon footprint, green labels and the various innovations, including the technologies developed in PE COI, to support sustainable manufacturing, so that they have a “green and sustainability” mind set while executing their job in the future.

Upon arrival at SMC, the hosts conducted a short introduction of ASTAR, SMC, PE COI and sustainable manufacturing follow by a short video clip. The students were then given a guided tour of the SMC exhibition hall and PE COI workshop where various sustainable manufacturing innovations were introduced.
Overall, the students thought that the visit to SMC & PE COI was an interesting, educating and eye opening experience for them. They were amazed by the various innovations that help to make manufacturing more sustainable.
Visit to Singapore Customs

75 students from E333 Quality Management Module Day 2 class visited Singapore Customs for a talk as part of their day’s learning for the topic on Strategic Management Planning. As Singapore Customs is the winner of the prestigious Singapore Quality Award in 2012. Singapore Customs hosted our students at their training academy, where they shared interesting experiences on their Business Excellence journey. Students were given worksheets to complete during the talk so that they apply what they have learnt from the talk into the day’s problem. Students found the trip to be fruitful and informative.