

Chris Voros
Lesson 11: "Seeing the Future"
4/9/07

Class Summary:

In this lecture, those who had not presented already gave their speeches. One student discussed the recent invention by StarTech called a Plasma Converter, which takes trash and converts it into usable energy. Afterwards we discussed the questions written down by students on the first day of classes and how they have been answered through the course of the semester. Explanations of the e-portfolio requirements were held in addition to discussions on seeing the future, which is considered to be a leader's greatest asset. The class concluded by watching "Global Tectonics" with the other section.

Response:

Seeing the future is critical for leaders, and as a leader in the construction industry I really feel that the Plasma Converter will be well received in my profession. Construction debris produces a great deal of waste and this presents a perfect opportunity to improve on the already effective LEED system. I am surprised however that this story has not been more widespread; its potential seems immense from my standpoint and to the all of the engineers in the class.

Analysis:

The student's presentation on the Plasma Converter was particularly interesting because it brought light a significant point: 80% of daily wastes in the United States are from construction. Being a construction manager I feel it is my duty to adopt recycling initiatives whenever possible on a project, and this situation adds yet another option to the scenario. It will be interesting to see if LEED adopts credit points dedicated to disposal of waste in plasma converters. In the meantime, I am definitely going to invest in StarTech upon graduation.

Sound-bite:

Invest in StarTech.