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2009 A Year to Remember

Well this certainly has turned out to be quite a year for Kibart, our clients, our local economy and the Nation. Nobody here at Kibart is old enough to remember the Great Depression, but we certainly will be able to tell our grandchildren about the Great Recession.

With the economic meltdown of our banking institutions in 2009, the money available to fund construction projects has all but dried-up, leading to the collapse of one of our largest and longest standing clients. This loss has certainly impacted each of us at Kibart, just like similar institutional failures have affected much of the U.S.

Instead of allowing ourselves to sink in the mud, we have taken this challenge head-on, immediately undertook new strategic initiatives, made difficult decisions, and have a plan to keep Kibart strong throughout the recession, which will enable us to grow when the economy picks up steam.

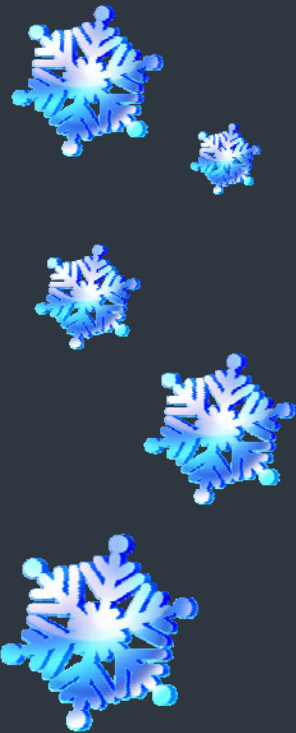
As a result of some of our initiatives, we are now performing our own Energy Modeling for LEED projects, made major strides with the AutoCAD MEP Suite 3D design software, expanded our Commissioning Department, picked up much more Kibart Prime work, and landed new clients like **Johns Hopkins University Homewood Campus, Baltimore City Public Works, the VA Hospital, and Holzmann Moss Architects, etc.**

Our current clients also continue to bring new and exciting work to Kibart, but nothing can be taken for granted. There is much more hard work to do, which will enable Kibart to shine! We are currently updating our strategic plan and will re-introduce it to the Company early this coming winter. Everyone will be participating with implementation of the plan in one way or another. Even in times of economic difficulty, there is tremendous opportunity. We must seize these opportunities and remain true to our core values, that:

- Our clients can trust that our work is done correctly;
- We will be a team player and put ourselves in the shoes of others;
- We go above and beyond the call of duty to make sure we do it right, the first time;
- We listen to and exceed our client's needs and expectations;
- We communicate well with the entire design team; and
- We arrive every day with a passion for our work.



Season's
Greetings



Safety Relief Valves

From our President, Ed Abbott



A. Boiler / heating system safety relief valves are critical components of any pressurized hydronic or steam heating system. The following summarizes key components of the Code in the State of Maryland.

B. First there are the regulations of the Board of Boiler Rules of the State which are found in Title 09: DEPARTMENT of LABOR, LICENSING and REGULATION, Subtitle 12 DIVISION of LABOR and INDUSTRY, Chapter 01 BOARD OF BOILER RULES, Authority: Article 48, 167-180A, Annotated Code of Maryland. The following are excerpts from those Regulations.

.02 Access and Egress

C. Discharge of safety valves, blowoff pipes, and other outlets shall be located to prevent injury to personnel.

0.24 Power Boiler - Safety Valve.

E. If an escape pipe is used:

(1) There may not be a valve of any type between a safety valve and the atmosphere.

(2) It shall be:

(a) at least the full size of the safety valve discharge, and fitted with an open drain to prevent water from lodging in the upper part of a safety valve or escape pipe;

(3) If a safety valve escape pipe has an elbow, the:

(a) elbow shall be located near the safety valve outlet, or
(b) escape pipe shall be anchored and supported securely.

C. The Board of Boiler Rules and, therefore, the State, has adopted ASME B31.1 Power Piping and the following are excerpts from that Code.

122.6 Pressure Relief Piping

122.6.2 Discharge Piping From Pressure Relieving Safety Devices

(A) There shall be no intervening stop valve between the protective device or devices and the point of Discharge.

(B) When discharging directly to the atmosphere, discharge shall not impinge on other piping or equipment and shall be directed away from platforms and other areas used by personnel.

(C) It is recommended that individual discharge lines be used, but if two or more reliefs are combined, the discharge piping shall be designed with sufficient flow area to prevent blowout of steam or other fluids. Sectional areas of a discharge pipe shall not be less than the full area of the valve outlets discharging thereinto and the discharge pipe shall be as short and straight as possible and so arranged as to avoid undue stresses on the valve or valves.



Safety Relief Valves (Contd)

- (D) Discharge lines from pressure-relieving safety devices within the scope of this Code shall be designed to facilitate drainage.
- (E) When the umbrella or drip pan type of connection is used the discharge piping shall be so designed as to prevent binding due to expansion movements.
- (F) Drainage shall be provided to remove water collected above the safety valve seat.
- (G) Carbon steel materials listed in Appendix A may be used for discharge piping which is subjected to temperatures above 800 F (427 C) only during operation of pressure relieving safety devices provided that:
 - (G.1) the duration of pressure relieving safety devices is self limiting;
 - (G.2) the piping discharges directly to the atmosphere;



Kibart Tech Korner



Mike's Field Notes

from Mike Ford

Did you know?

- Published prices for major equipment need to be vendor verified; don't trust the books today.
- The current economic slowdown is still causing factories to cut production. Almost all manufactured equipment is taking 4-6 weeks longer than normal to ship. Keep checking CPM's for accuracy.
- My "I told you so" prediction: Owners will benefit from the low bids that the economic slowdown has generated. Two years from now construction budgets will be underfunded because they were based on these bids numbers. The unqualified vendors who submitted these numbers will no longer be in business.



This Month's thought:

In today's economy, the only constant is change.

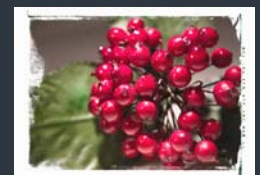
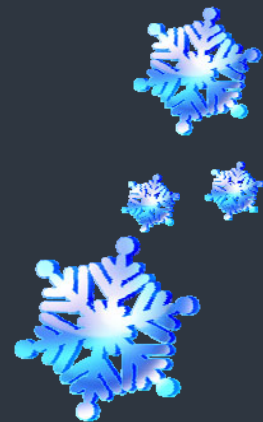
The Best of Baltimore Places to Work

Last Spring, for the first time, we participated in the Baltimore Business Journal's (BBJ) Best Places to Work competition. The BBJ uses an independent third party consulting firm to solicit input from the employees of each firm enrolled in the competition. The input is completely anonymous and an 85% minimum employee response is required in order for the company to even be eligible for the award. Only the top three company's were given awards at the awards ceremony, held on September 17, 2009 at the Hunt Valley Marriott.

The feedback and response from our staff was excellent and **we finished in the top twenty places to work in Baltimore**, out of a pool of more than a hundred applicant firms.

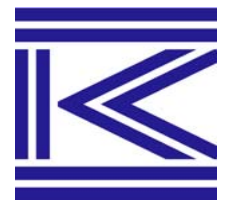
Not only were we honored with finishing in the top 20, but we have an excellent resource of employee feedback to use in developing our updated strategic plan. We plan to enter again in 2010 and want to thank everyone for their great input. It will be put to good use.

Thanks again!



Trusted
Design
Solutions
That Work

Happy Holidays from the Kibart Staff



Kibart's Holiday Schedule

Dec. 18: Kibart Staff
Secret Santa
& Staff Christmas Party

Dec. 24 & Dec. 25: Kibart Offices Closed—
Happy Holidays Everyone

Dec. 31: Kibart Offices Close at Noon

Jan. 1: Kibart Closed
Happy New Year!



Kibart Activities

Kibart Kares A Time to Give to those less fortunate

Kibart's Angel Tree

Villa Maria offers a holiday program that allows others to help local families in need during the holiday season. This is Kibart's second year, and we had committed to helping two families have a fun and joyful holiday season. We just added a third family thanks to the wonderful support of Kibart Staff! Everyone had the opportunity to choose an angel from the Kibart Angel Tree that lists a family member's name and gift item they specifically need or request. The family members range from age 4—17, plus parents. Once the gifts are bought, they are returned, wrapped and ready to go to the families! This has proven to be an awesome and fun way to give back to those who really need a little help during these tough economic times. Deadline for gifts is December 17th.

To date we have had over 20 people shopping for gifts for our three families!

Big THANK YOU to **Christina Gideon** and **Wendy Webster** for coordinating a large box of food items donated by **Wegman's** for each of the families! Also, thanks to **Mike, Ed, Farshad** (and his sons) for their willingness to purchase bikes for two brothers who had them listed on their Santa wish list! Special thanks to **Mel Stimmel** who also donated a complete dinner for each of the families! Again, thank you to everyone who helped make this caring and thoughtful activity a HUGE success!

Kibart's Annual Food Drive - 'til Jan. 8th

Running until January 8th, Kibart is once again collecting non-perishable food items for the Assistance Center of Towson Churches, to help stock their shelves for the winter ahead. A collection box is located in Kibart's reception area.

Suggestions:

- * Cereal
- * Canned Fruit
- * Peanut Butter/ Jelly
- * Spaghetti / Sauce
- * Soup
- * Mac & Cheese
- * Saltines (boxes with individual packages)
- * Pasta Meals (canned or boxed)
- * Canned Vegetables (corn, peas, green beans, potatoes)
- * Dry Milk
- * Tuna
- * Rice
- * Canned Meat (beef stew, chili, spam)
- * Pork and Beans
- * Potatoes (canned or boxed)
- * Canned Tomatoes

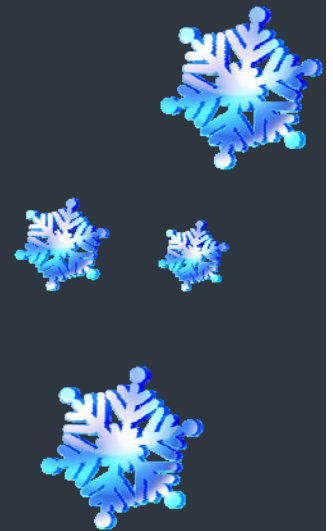
****Also there is a great need for Baby Items: Diapers, Baby Food, Formula, Cereals, Wipes**

ACTC provides food for 550-600 individuals per month. Along with the 3-5 day supply of food provided for each **family**, ACTC gives a coupon for use at SuperFresh so that some perishable items, such as bread and milk, can be purchased. Street bags are provided each day for 40-50 homeless men in the Towson area. This year, ACTC has been hit especially hard due to the quantity of individuals needing help. Monetary donations are also appreciated—please see Toni at Kibart for more information.

***Please think of those families less fortunate—
Spread a little cheer the Kibart way!***



Kibart's 2008
Angel Tree!!



Kibart Family Highlights



Darian Kassiri was selected as the 2009 GoodSports Award Winner presented by Howard County Recreation & Parks. GoodSports is a nationwide effort to focus on the importance of bringing out the best in us through sports. Each year HCRP receives nominations from organizations in the county and honors only one youth player and one coach in the county for their good sportsmanship, on and off the field.

Darian is also selected to the 2009 Howard County Football All-Star Team as the starting quarterback, and was crowned as the regional wrestling champion in his weight class, earlier this year.

In addition to all his sports accomplishments, Darian enjoys playing cello for his school's advanced string orchestra, and rocks as the lead guitarist in his band "Face First." But his parents, **Farshad & Bitia**, are most proud of the fact that he is a straight A student in fifth grade and one of the top students in his GT math class! **Darian is truly an AWESOME kid and we know his parents are extremely proud of him!**

Here are two cute pictures, scary little Dracula and sweetie red devil, Shane Wyatt Cullison. These two little monsters are the grandchild of Kibart staff member, **Kevin Cullison**, showing off his Halloween costumes!



Celebrating Halloween, here are a few more Kibart cuties all dressed up for tricks and treats: "Princess" Dakota and "Cowboy" Hunter, along with "Mommie" Kibart staff member, **Kristine Gilmour**!! You might notice the third little Gilmour "pumpkin" making a statement here as well!



Kristine Gilmour, and her husband, Brian, are the proud parents of Dalton Nottingham Gilmour, born 12/11/09 at 11:23 a.m. 8 lbs, 13 oz., 20 inches.

Momma and baby are doing fine.

Welcome to Kibart's newest little one!



Welcome to Kibart



James G. DeWitt (Jim) is the newest addition to the Kibart Staff, as a Mechanical Senior Project Engineer on Mohamad Jamal's team. Jim has worked in the Engineering field for over 10 years, here in Maryland, as well as in North Carolina. Jim and his wife, Catherine, recently relocated back to Baltimore. A big Kibart welcome to Jim!!



Kibart Spot Light Award is Presented to...

We are proud to announce that the Spot Light Winner is...

Kevin C. Cullison



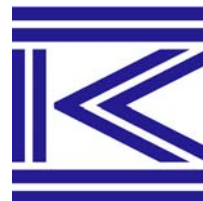
This issue's Spotlight Award Winner is Kevin Cullison.

Kevin has been with Kibart for nine years, and has taken on many challenging projects. Among his strengths, he has a great understanding of electrical / mechanical equipment and installation requirements and finding a way to tackle even the most challenging designs.

Often this effort goes unnoticed by members of the design team and ultimately clients, but such effort was recently recognized on a finished construction project. Kevin worked tirelessly with Gaudreau Architects on the Baltimore City Community College (BCCC) and Smith School of Business fit outs within the UMB Bio-Park Building 2. The projects turned out extremely well, and the occupants are thrilled in their new space. This was particularly evident by a recent article in the Baltimore Sun Business Section, praising this new facility. Kevin was personally commended by the project's architect when news of the article began to spread. The building owner, Wexford Science and Technology, plans to submit the BCCC project for award consideration.

Kevin also never hesitates to involve himself in the details of demanding renovations or complex laboratory designs. This effort is notable on the current Fort Frederick Officer's Quarters historical reconstruction design and the multiple laboratory projects with Wexford in St. Louis, MO.

Moreover, Kevin always goes out of his way to help fellow employees; he frequently does it with a wide smile on his face. He is very proactive in alerting other staff members about deadlines, design issues that may not be related to his own discipline, and constantly shows great care about the quality of Kibart's work. He is a true professional doing what he does, and he performs in a manner that makes him well liked by his colleagues.



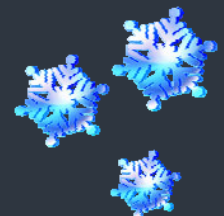
Kibart Special Recognitions



Kevin Cullison

As a result of this achievement, Kevin will receive a trophy, a Kibart shirt, and a gift card.

Special thanks to those who volunteered to be a part of Kibart's Spotlight Award Committee.





Kibart's Secret Santa will be held Friday, December 18th for all Kibart Employees!



Kibart's Mission Statement:

As Maryland's most innovative team of mechanical / electrical engineers, we excel at providing quality driven master plan studies, design documents, construction administration, commissioning and LEED consulting. We deliver trusted design solutions that work.

Kibart, Inc.

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Our Customers:

Our expertise is best suited for the following markets:

- Education (K-12 schools and universities)
- Technology (data centers, scientific R&D, pharmaceutical)
- Retirement (retirement communities, assisted living)
- Corporate (commercial buildings, corporate centers)
- Healthcare (hospitals, doctor's offices, outpatient suites)

We're On The Web
Kibart.com

Kibart Chronicle Issue 16 December 18, 2009

Kibart Employee Highlights

Kibart Anniversaries

- ★ Farshad Kassiri, 20 years in Nov.
- ★ Mel Stimmel, 1 year in Nov.
- ★ Shawn Burstyn, 3 years in Dec.
- ★ Walter Lynch III, 4 years in Dec.
- ★ Jeffrey Bauer, Jr. 2 years in Jan.
- ★ Matthew Armstrong, 2 years in Jan.
- ★ Kevin Matthai, 4 years, in Jan.
- ★ Christina Gedeon, 10 years, In Feb.
- ★ Chris Pettman, 6 years in Mar.
- ★ Emagii Graves, 3 years in Mar.
- ★ Kevin Cullison, 10 years in Mar.
- ★ Nadine Hawkins, 23 years in Mar.

Kibart Birthdays



- ★ Craig L. Williams, Jr., 12/01
- ★ Nadine L. Hawkins 12/03
- ★ Kevin E. Cullison 12/17
- ★ Joyce C. Ey 12/18
- ★ Steve P. Brzezinski, 01/01
- ★ David J. Fuller, 01/10
- ★ James G. DeWitt, 01/21
- ★ Christina Gedeon 01/21
- ★ Bryan R. Taylor, 02/05
- ★ R. Gordon Carroll 02/14
- ★ Toni M. Watson 02/19
- ★ Matthew T. Armstrong, 03/12
- ★ Travis J. Polletto 03/15
- ★ Joseph A. Del Pilar 03/16
- ★ Karen S. Ford 03/21
- ★ Melvin L. Stimmel 03/25

