Bio for Jim Korte

Jim Korte graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, better known as “WPI” in 1979 with a BS in Chemical Engineering. Currently, he is a Sr. Development Engineer at Baker Hughes in Houston where he has been for the past 12 years. Prior to that, he worked for Goodyear Tire, Dunlop Tire, and Continental Carbon at 5 different locations. In those 33.5 years of work he has had positions in production, product development, supervised test labs, and currently works in the Technology Innovation – Applied Sciences department at Baker Hughes. He is approaching his 25th Wedding Anniversary in April; his daughter Lindsey just graduated from SFA in 3.5 years and his son Eric will be graduating HS in June and is considering Texas State. Thus, a European trip is tentatively planned this summer to celebrate these events for perhaps one last family trip.

Abstract 1 – Commercialization

Working in the “real world” is significantly different than working in academia as you are finding out. Although, I have never worked in academia I have seen many come out the last few years that seemed poorly prepared for working in industry for many reasons. I will share some of my observations of what these were along with what traits and habits that I feel would benefit you significantly based on my experiences and observations in my career.

Abstract 2 – Technical

Baker Hughes is an Oil Service Company that provides all kinds of products and equipment to the oil field. Our customers are large name companies that you all have heard of such as Exxon, Shell and BP and many small companies such as Devon and Apache as well as many national oil companies such as Aramco and Pemex. I specialize in rubber products namely a product line called Packers. Basically, there are three types – inflatable, mechanical set and swell packers. I will attempt to explain a little about how these work, their differences, how they are made and some of the technical challenges of the swell packers.