Information Technology Management at Plantronics

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Abstract:

Plantronics, the world leader in communication headsets, has been in business since the early 1960s. Since then, they have grown from an airline pilot's vision for a lightweight cockpit headset to a company with revenues of $650 million selling into 70 countries. In 1972, Plantronics started manufacturing headsets in Mexico as part of the Maquiladora program. Today Plantronics is a global company with distributed design centers and a strong manufacturing presence in Mexico and in Asia.

This talk will cover an overview of the Plantronics business, Information Technology (IT) at Plantronics, Plantronics globalization strategy, and IT as an enabler of globalization.

About the Speaker:
As Vice-President and Chief Information Officer at Plantronics, Tom has responsibility for company wide Information Technology. Drawing on more than twenty five years experience in IT, Tom combines his business partnering experience, technology knowledge and global team leadership in his role as CIO.

Before joining Plantronics, Tom held senior IT positions at Bay Networks, Tandem Computers and TRW. He has a BS in Business Information Systems from San Diego State University. Tom is a member of the Microsoft High Tech Customer Advisory Board, guest lecturer in the UCSC ISM program, Cabrillo College CIS Advisory Board Member and Santa Cruz County Business Council Board member.

Schedule for the rest of the quarter:

05/05/11: Professor Marc Mangel, Director, Technology and Information Management, on “Sustainable Seafood and its Supply Chain”; completed “Term Paper, Part A” due.

05/12/11: James Burnham, Lockheed, Software Engineering R&D Manager, “Doing Small Things in Big Companies”

05/19/11: Harshad Sardesai, Vice-President, Hewlett-Packard, on “How HP works”

05/26/11: Doug Morse, Managing Principal, Services Transformation and Innovation Group, on “The Services Oriented Enterprise”; “Term Paper, Part B” assignment handed out to class

06/02/11: Course Closure; Lessons Learned; Student Feedback; “Term Paper, Part B” due.