

PIPELINE

piping systems inc.

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL/INSTITUTIONAL MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS

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Serving Big Mamie's Piping Needs

by Pauline L. Lally

Everyone needs some type of piping in their life, whether it's plumbing or heating. In fact it's pretty much guaranteed that there is some type of piping behind the walls of every structure.

One of the things that makes our work so interesting is the diversity of our clients. Every once in a while we service someone or some place that is extraordinary. Here's one that makes a great story.

Recently, we received a call to make repairs to a water main on the battleship *USS Massachusetts*, also known by her crew as "Big Mamie." This ship is docked right in our backyard and has quite a history.

This massive destroyer was delivered to the Boston Navy Yard in April of 1942 and commissioned the following month. From there, this amazing ship first went into action during the invasion of North Africa on November 8, 1942. She engaged in a gun fight with the French battleship, *Jean Bart*, firing the first 16-inch projectile missile from America out of anger during World War II. Only five hits later the enemy ship was silenced, allowing the *USS Massachusetts* to move in to aid in sinking two destroyers, two merchant ships, a floating dry dock and destroying multiple buildings in Casablanca.

In 1945 the *USS Massachusetts* was off to Japan with the third fleet. Here she

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bombarded the Imperial Iron and Steel Works at Kamaishi, firing the last 16-inch projectile missile of the war.

This amazing ship fired the first and last missile during its time in World War II without losing one soldier as a result of war-related causes. With peace achieved, the battleship returned to the States and was deactivated in 1946.

Upon being removed from the Navy Register in 1962 and ordered to be sold

for scrap, her wartime crew lobbied to save her as a memorial. With the assistance of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, school children were able to raise enough money to bring her home to Fall River, Massachusetts in June of 1965.

After housing approximately 5,000 men throughout her World War II career, she sits proudly displaying the battle flag with its bullet and shell holes as a reminder to all of us.

We, at Piping Systems, Inc., would like to thank all who have served, continue to serve, and remain involved in helping keep us safe and providing us the opportunity to work in such an extraordinary place.



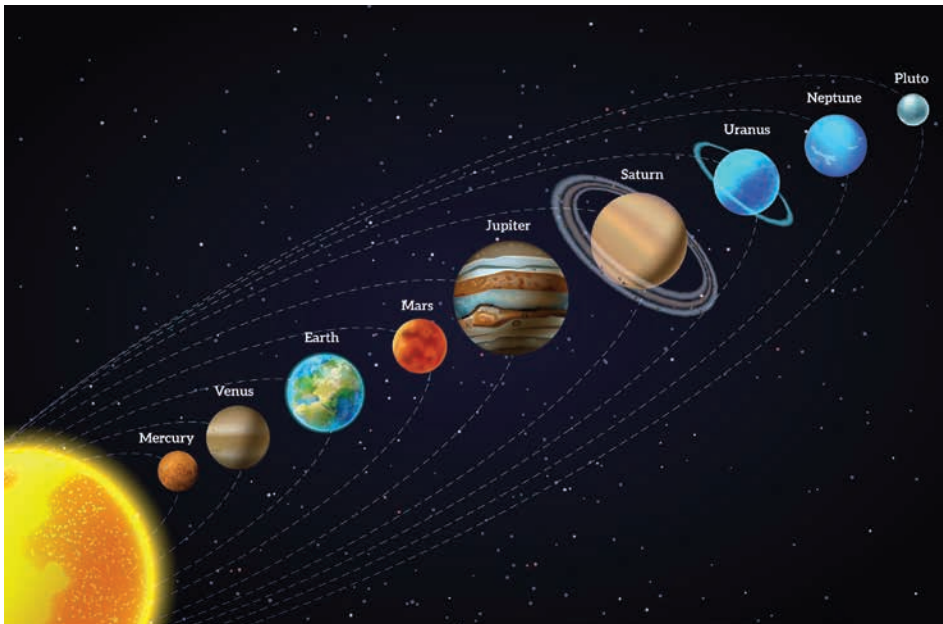
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A Quick Tour Of Our Solar System

Think you know a lot about the solar system we live in? UPI's website (www.upi.com) shares these intriguing facts about Earth's local neighborhood:

- **Mercury.** The planet closest to the sun can reach temperatures of 800°F, but also a chilly low of -279°F at night.
- **Venus.** Farther from the sun, but hotter than Mercury, Venus's surface has an average temperature of 875°F, hot enough to melt lead.
- **Earth.** Our rotation is slowing, but don't panic. The decrease is only about 17 milliseconds per 100 years, so we won't have 25-hour days for 140 million years.
- **Mars.** Looking for a rock from Mars? You can find them here on Earth. Meteorites from the red planet have been discovered in the Sahara, Antarctica, and other places.
- **Jupiter.** This gas giant has a magnetic field so powerful it draws space debris into its orbit, thus protecting the inner planets.
- **Saturn.** Saturn is famous for its ring, but they aren't unique. Jupiter, Neptune and Uranus also possess rings, but they're harder to see from Earth.
- **Neptune.** Winds on Neptune can reach a speed of more than 1,500 mph.
- **Uranus.** All planets rotate, but only Uranus does so on its side. Scientists speculate that a collision with another large object may have caused its tilt.
- **Pluto.** The dwarf planet really is small, relatively speaking. With a diameter of just 1,475 miles, Pluto is much smaller than the continental United States.

"Everything you can imagine is real."

—Pablo Picasso

One Step Back To Greatness

Actor Humphrey Bogart was a classic leading man, but even he felt self-conscious about his looks. When he was cast opposite Ingrid Bergman in the 1942 film *Casablanca*, he worried that audiences wouldn't believe that a beautiful woman like Bergman could possibly be attracted to a man who looked like him.

So he came up with an idea. In every scene he played with Bergman, he took a step backward, forcing her to move closer to him to remain in the shot. Bogart hoped that would convince moviegoers that she was genuinely attracted to him.

It worked, and *Casablanca* has become one of the most popular films—and love stories—of all time.

Lead Your Team On The Path To Innovation

When you're leading a team focused on innovation, you want to spark creative thinking in every member. Try these strategies used by successful leaders in every industry:

- **Build a community.** Look inside and outside your organization for enthusiastic, imaginative thinkers. Use your network to recruit people to your team, brainstorm ideas, test prototypes, and critique results.
- **Experiment.** Don't put all your eggs into one basket. When you come up with an interesting idea, test it on a small scale first. Encourage lots of experiments to find one or two that produce excellent results.
- **Combine things.** You don't always have to invent something completely new. Look at existing elements and resources, and explore how you might put them together in different ways that address your situation.
- **Tell stories.** Charts and data aren't very inspiring. To get creative juices flowing, share stories about people and problems. Find out what your customers want and what solutions would make them happy. Recount flashes of genius from the past. You'll get people thinking about the possibilities instead of the obstacles.

SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



"Secret" Word Origins

The origin of common words in the English language can be fascinating. Take "secretary," for example. The word "secretary" comes from the same Latin word for "secret." Originally, it referred to someone "entrusted with the secrets and confidences of a superior." Here's how it evolved over time:

- Probably the earliest use of the word was in relation to those people who acted for a king. A king would have his trusted agents handle correspondence on private or secret matters, particularly matters of state.
- In Middle English it was "secretarie" and in Middle Latin it was "secretarius."
- In France, from the 13th to the 16th century the word "secretaire" meant a confidant. It also became an administrative term meaning "someone who transcribes or arranges for another."
- In the 18th century, the English lexicographer Samuel Johnson quoted Shakespeare in his 1755 dictionary: "Call Gardiner to me, my new secretary." (Henry VIII, Act II, Scene 2.)
- By 1806, Noah Webster succinctly described a secretary as "one who writes for another."



Make New Friends Throughout Your Entire Life

Building friendships and creating thriving social circles is a key component of good health throughout your entire life. From Mayo Clinic's *HealthQuest* newsletter come these suggestions for making new friends, no matter how old you are:

- Take your pet for walks. Make conversation with folks who stop to chat.
- Join a hobby group.
- Volunteer in community groups or at a local hospital, church or school.
- Take a course at your local community college.
- Shape up while meeting new people in an exercise class.
- Get active in a social cause or goal.
- Go out to lunch with a work or social acquaintance at least once a month.
- Ask a small favor of a neighbor or co-worker, and do the same for him or her.
- Volunteer to usher at your local community theater.

"I am tomorrow, or some future day, what I establish today. I am today what I established yesterday or some previous day."

—James Joyce



Test your art history prowess...

Artful Pursuits

- 1) How many paintings did Vincent Van Gogh sell during his lifetime?
a) none
b) one
c) twenty-four
d) six
- 2) Who was the Spanish surrealist painter best known for his work "The Persistence of Memory"?
a) Pablo Picasso
b) Joan Miró
c) Salvador Dalí
d) Federico García Lorca
- 3) What French sculptor created the Statue of Liberty?
a) Jean-Baptiste Pigalle
b) Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi
c) François Joseph Bosio
d) Albert Bartholomé
- 4) What 19th century French painter and sculptor is well known for his scenes of ballerinas and café life?
a) Édouard Manet
b) Edgar Degas
c) Paul Cézanne
d) Claude Monet
- 5) Name the artist who created the painting titled *The Blue Boy*.
a) Sir Joshua Reynolds
b) Anthony van Dyck
c) Joshua Reynolds
d) Thomas Gainsborough

Answers: 1) b "The Red Vineyard at Arles"; 2) c; 3) b; 4) b; 5) d

What You Should Know About OSHA 3825

In August 2015, OSHA published a new regulation: OSHA 3825 that imposes new guidelines on what is considered “confined space.”

Confined space is defined as follows: “A confined space also has limited or restricted means for entry or exit and is not designed for continuous occupancy. Confined spaces include, but are not limited to, tanks, vessels, silos, storage bins, hoppers, vaults, pits, manholes, tunnels, equipment housings, ductwork, pipelines, etc. It is the responsibility of the employer to evaluate all confined spaces to determine whether they are permit-required spaces, or permit spaces, and must take steps to protect workers only if a space is classified as a permit space.”

Identification of permit spaces is critical, because it determines whether precautions are required before employees enter the space. Failure to take those precautions can result in death or serious injury to workers. Each employer engaged in construction work must ensure that a competent person identifies all confined spaces in which its workers may work on its worksite, and evaluates each confined space to determine whether it is a permit-required confined space. The competent person must answer the following four questions to determine whether a confined space is a permit space. If the answer to one or more of the questions is “yes,” the space is determined to be a permit space. Up until this latest regulation went into effect, basements and attics were typically not considered as confined space.

The four questions are:

1. Does the space contain or have the potential to contain a hazardous atmosphere?
2. Does the space contain a material with the potential to engulf an entrant?
3. Does the space have an internal configuration such that an entrant could be trapped by inwardly converging walls or by a floor that slopes downward and tapers to a smaller cross section?
4. Does the space contain any other recognized serious safety or health hazard(s) that pose an immediate danger to a worker’s life or health or would impair the worker’s ability to escape from the space in the event of injury?

Some cities and towns have a requirement that a “rescue team” provided by the municipality be on site while the permit space is being worked on.

You can rest assured that, here at Piping Systems, Inc., we will do whatever is necessary to comply with existing regulations. With more than 45 years of experience, we can safely say “been there, done that.”

For additional information on OSHA 3825, go to their website at: <https://www.osha.gov/confinedspaces/>.



We're doing our part!



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