

Engage!



A Newsletter Exclusively for Staffing Associates
Roth Staffing Companies, L.P.

Ultimate Staffing Services • Ledgent • Adams & Martin Group

April 2007

The joke's on you!

Workplace Humor Etiquette



Chances are, someone will try to pull a fast one on you this April Fools' Day – it's an anticipated tradition that

will play out at offices everywhere. With so many different levels of humor floating around out there, the question is...which types of jokes are appropriate in the workplace, and which ones are not?

Humor certainly has its benefits. It can be a welcome stress reliever when

you find yourself overwhelmed or challenged in your working environment. However, unless you apply it appropriately – it can produce some undesirable results.

Here are a couple humor etiquette tips to keep in mind:

- make light of workplace scenarios, not specific people
- timing is everything; make sure the mood is right and others are receptive
- don't over do it; otherwise, others may not take you seriously when you want them to
- avoid making jokes about culture, religion or politics – you never know how far your voice carries and who you may offend

April Fools' Trivia Teaser

Win a \$50 Gas Card!

Answer the following question correctly to be eligible to win:

The tradition of playing tricks on April Fools' Day originated in which country?

- a. Romania
- b. Sweden
- c. France
- d. Belgium
- e. Canada

Please submit your answer, along with your name and branch location information via email to contest@roth-staffing.com by April 15, 2007.

One winner* will be selected by a drawing held at our corporate office.

*You must be a currently registered staffing associate with Roth Staffing Companies, LP to win.



Have you ever received an email WITH A HEADLINE LIKE THIS?

If so, how did it make you feel? Perhaps like someone was shouting at you? Etiquette experts say you should minimize writing in all caps.

Here's why:

- If you use all caps when they're not necessary, they will lose their strong effect when used for truly urgent purposes ("the boy who cried wolf" theory)
- Writing in lower case letters is perceived as "more friendly"
- Some studies report that reading all caps text is more difficult to read and takes longer

To demonstrate how conditioned we are to reading text in small letters, read the paragraph below. The author of the less-is-more.typepad.com article it was featured in says it would be much more difficult to get through in all caps.

"Aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at an Elingsh uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoetnt tihng is taht frist and lsat ltteer is at the rghit pclae. The rset can be a toatl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae we do not raed evvey lteter by it slef but the wrod as a wlohe"



Staffing Associate of the Month

→ Ganpat Ambaram, Ledgent in Century City, CA

“Each one of us is unique. We are given a special gift.” Staffing Associate Ganpat Ambaram says this philosophy guides his personal and professional endeavors. His accompanying work ethic impressed the Ledgent Century City team early on. “We wish we could clone him,” says Service Manager Joslyn Osborn. “He has never missed a day of work and has the highest level of integrity.” Ganpat is on assignment at Westfield Corporation assisting Auditors in the Corporate Accounts Payable department. “My role model for my work ethic is my father. He taught me a great lesson: to love and respect my job.”

Ganpat is extremely dedicated to his assignment, despite the fact that there is no opportunity to become permanent. “Each day is a gift; therefore, I strive to live each day to the fullest by doing the right thing in the right way to the best of my knowledge and capacity.” Ganpat is also grateful for the opportunity to learn new skills on the job, including a new accounting and real estate software program. “We spend at least eight hours a day, five days a week at work.

It is a big portion of our life. We have to appreciate each day and the opportunities it presents.”

Ganpat’s unwavering dedication goes above and beyond his professional accomplishments – which include landing a full-time accounting position to move on to when his assignment with Westfield Corporation ends. Joslyn says he recently assisted her

“He has never missed a day of work and has the highest level of integrity.”

brother and sister-in-law when they adopted a baby from Ethiopia. Ganpat is originally from Ethiopia and speaks the national language, which is called Amharic. “My brother and sister-in-law wrote a letter to the baby’s birth family and Ganpat translated that letter into Amharic. When they traveled to Ethiopia, they were able to present this letter to the baby’s birth family. This is something that will always be special to my family,” says Joslyn, who adds that he even helped her learn some of the language basics. “I am glad they are happy,” says Ganpat, who says helping out brought him a great deal of personal satisfaction.

Congratulations to **Ganpat Ambaram**, “Staffing Associate of the Month” for March!

Comedy Corner

Some workplace stories are priceless. If you choose to share one of them with us, you will be eligible for a \$50 gas card!

Have you ever walked around the office for an entire day with a piece of toilet paper trailing from one of your shoes? Been caught with your zipper down? How about accidentally locking yourself in the stock room? Just a few ideas to jog your memory...

What’s the funniest workplace incident that has ever happened to you?

Please submit your story, along with your name and branch location information via email to contest@rothstaffing.com by April 15. One winner* will be selected by a random drawing held at our corporate office.

*You must be a currently registered staffing associate with Roth Staffing Companies, LP to win.



Winner of St. Patrick’s Day Trivia

The winner of last month’s Trivia contest is:

Sheila Rodgers.

She correctly answered the following question:

Which of the following animal legends is told about St. Patrick?

Correct answer:

He drove the snakes out of Ireland.

Sheila is a Staffing Associate at Ultimate Staffing in Denver. She will receive a \$50 Gas Card Award. Congratulations, Sheila!

