

Editor's Desk

Randy Dufault makes a good point in his President's Message about employers investing in their human capital—by seeing the value of supporting their volunteer efforts.

I think we should take up Randy's torch and give thanks to all of the great employers that support their COMMON volunteers. Here is what some other volunteers are saying about their bosses:

Marshall Akins says, "The company that I work for (Hanna Steel Corporation) sees the value of going to COMMON. I have been attending since 1984. I report to Pete Hanna, who agrees that it is well worth the investment in knowledge that I have brought back from conferences over the years, since there is great value in keeping knowledge current—in order to take advantage of new technology. I have also served as a volunteer on the Nominating committee and the Judicial Affairs council. Conferences are one thing, but volunteer work is harder to quantify, so I am grateful to Pete for supporting my effort to give back for the common good.

Kevin Mort, Solutions Architect, Arrow Enterprise Computing Solutions says, "Over the last year and a half, as I transitioned into new roles within my company, I've had no less than three managers to report to. As many of us do, I've had to make my case for our continuing participation with COMMON. I am happy to say that this hasn't been a difficult sell. Through my volunteer work with COMMON I build relationships, gain knowledge and obtain insight into the IBM i business which I bring back to our office. I am grateful my managers recognize the value that my participation ultimately brings to our company, and that I have the support to continue being a part of COMMON's volunteer team.

Chris Rowell says, "I would like to thank Lita Shillenn, Executive VP at Penn Veterinary Supply for trusting me to see the inherent value in being an attendee and a volunteer at COMMON. Generally, a person benefits individually, and for their organization, in proportion

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Vaughn Dragland



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