



Post Harvest

Measuring the impacts

Over the years, CTI's Omega and Ewing grinders have been helping families and communities throughout developing nations, particularly in Africa. In an attempt to quantify some of these effects a CTI volunteer, Diego Bonta, has undertaken a 3 year study of Ewing III grinders to measure their economic impacts on households in Eastern > Uganda. In January Diego launched this project in the town of Tororo, Uganda by coordinating a survey of 200 families in villages with and without grinders. Feedback like this from the field helps CTI to enhance our services and Diego also intends to apply his findings to his PhD work at the University of Minnesota.



ERMIS Africa/CTI Food Security Project

Under a collaborative venture with Environmental Research Mapping and Information Systems in Africa (ERMIS), CTI is conducting a year-long research project to expand CTI's Ewing III grinder model into crops and products other than peanuts for which it was initially designed. Kathleen Graham has recently returned from Kenya where she set up and supervised the training of trainers for the project.

CTI Marketing

The CTI Board of Directors has convened an ad hoc committee to advise us on the best ways to "market" our technologies. The purpose of this effort is to more fully realize our potential to benefit the rural poor of the world through simple technologies. Members of this committee which met for the first time on Feb. 15 include: Gary Ballman, Steve Clarke, Ken Hjelm, Bob Mairs, Roger Salway, Rob Scarlett, Paul Healey, Barbara Thompson, Ralph Thrane, Ozzie Way, Bruce Humphrys, Bert Rivers, and Jenni Amundson. Issues that the committee will explore are:

- Where are CTI technologies most needed?
- How can/should CTI increase delivery of our technologies?
- With whom in the field should CTI collaborate or partner?
- How should CTI position itself vis-à-vis the alternatives available?
- What kinds of volunteer, staff & financial resources should be applied?

We Welcome New Suppliers to the CTI Family

Changepond Technologies Limited of Chennai, India is performing some invaluable engineering services for CTI. They are helping us reverse engineer our potato processing equipment. For several years, some of our designs have not been formalized in drawings. Changepond, with the help of a volunteer in India, is helping us with this project.

Pengo, a Paladin Utility of Cokato, MN will be delivering, early in March, a supply of thin helices for both the Omega and Ewing grinders. If this production run is successful, we will be evaluating, with Pengo, other possible partnership opportunities. As an aside, Pengo is part of the corporate giant Dover Corporation. One of Dover's subsidiaries is Unified Brands, whom we have been working with as a potential corporate supporter. Small world, eh?

Network For Good Donations

We have recently received donations through the [Network for Good](#) website. If you'd like to contribute to CTI online, via credit card or your checking account, this is a great way to do it. Of course, you can always call the CTI office and give us your credit card information too. The link above will take you to the donation website, or you can find a link in the [CTI website](#) as well.

Assembly Days

We continue to receive outstanding support from new and experienced volunteers, as we convert our raw material inventory into finished OmegaVI grinders. On February 13, a group from The Covenant Village (George Ewing's residence) assembled 14 grinders for us. Thanks very much gang, it was great having you here!!! Since we started these Assembly "Daze", we have built, for inventory, 56 complete grinders. It is really helping our sales efforts to have product available when it is needed, and not having to wait for delivery. Many thanks to all who have participated.

Volunteers Needed

We continue to have a need for specialized volunteers.

For activities related to grinders please contact [Bert Rivers](#) if you can help.

- **Grinder Assembly** - a few volunteers to come in during the week to finish the details on each of the already assembled grinders (including attaching handles & wrenches, putting serial #s on them and preparing parts for next assembly day)

For projects in the office please contact [Anne-Marie](#) if you can help. Some examples of tasks include:

- **Website Redesign** – we would like to “jazz” up our site a bit and remove the frames-based design. We are looking for someone with web-design experience, using Dreamweaver, to help us re-design our website so the staff may maintain it on an on-going basis. If you can help, or know someone that can, please let us know.
- **Marketing Copy Writer** - to help create marketing materials, which includes posting an article about CTI on Wikipedia.org
- **Filing** – on-going
- **Put Updated Address labels on Brochures and Envelopes** (this could be done outside the CTI Office)

Meeting Date Reminders

Committee meetings provide opportunities to hear more about some of the work happening in each region or even a chance to get your hands dirty at the technology committee. You might also learn more about a project that interests you specifically and find new ways to engage in CTI projects. All meetings are held at the CTI office and anyone is invited, meaning you're welcome to come even if you aren't a committee member!

America Committee	March 12 th -- 4:30-6pm (2 nd Monday of every other month)
Africa Committee	March 13 th – 4:30-6pm (2 nd Tuesday of every month)
Asia Committee	March 15 th 3:30–5pm (3 rd Thursday, every other month)
Technology Committee	March 17 th – 9-11:30am (3 rd Saturday of every month)
Board of Directors	April 17 th – 4:30 pm (3 rd Tuesday every other month)

**Please contact Board President [Rob Scarlett](#) if you would like to attend the board meeting.*

Compatible Technology International Staff

Bruce Humphrys	<i>Executive Director</i>	bruce@compatibletechnology.org
Jenni Amundson	<i>Program Director</i>	Jennifer@compatibletechnology.org
Anne-Marie Hendrickson	<i>Administrative Director</i>	anne-marie@compatibletechnology.org
Bert Rivers	<i>Supply Chain Manager</i>	bert@compatibletechnology.org
Keely Franke	<i>Program Assistant</i>	Keely@compatibletechnology.org

800 Transfer Road, Suite 6, St. Paul, MN 55114 Phone: 651-632-3912 Fax: 651-204-9033

www.compatibletechnology.org

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