



Roxsand

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The Cost of Holding On

By: Chad Hartman - Controller - Sioux Falls, SD

In accounting we are always dealing with costs. Costs of equipment, cost of repairs, utility costs, etc. But there are other costs everyone deals with that aren't necessarily attributed directly to dollars and cents. I ran across a story from Jon Muth's book "**Zen Shorts:**" years ago and it's as true today as it was back then.



Two traveling monks reached a town where there was a young woman waiting to step out of her sedan chair. The rains had made deep puddles and she couldn't step across without spoiling her silken robes. She stood there, looking very cross and impatient. She was scolding her attendants. They had nowhere to place the packages they held for her, so they couldn't help her across the puddle.

The younger monk noticed the woman, said nothing, and walked by. The older monk quickly picked her up and put her on his back, transported her across the water, and put her down on the other side. She didn't thank the older monk; she just shoved him out of the way and departed.

As they continued on their way, the young monk was brooding and preoccupied. After several hours, unable to hold his silence, he spoke out. "That woman back there was very selfish and rude, but you picked her up on your back and carried her! Then, she didn't even thank you!"

"I set the woman down hours ago," the older monk replied. "Why are you still carrying her?"

An article from the New York Times that dives deeper into the complications of retaining everyday frustrations, was also very impactful. It details examples of common interactions, daily woes, and forms of resentments, then questions our ability to pay the bill for those

heavy costs.

The faster we learn to drop our emotional dead weight, the more room we create for something better. I'm talking about everything from stewing about the guy who cut you off in traffic this morning to still refusing to forgive an old friend for an event 20 years ago.

Carl Richards implores the reader to examine what they can let go of, set that burden down, and pause for reflection. Practicing this technique gives back the resources (time, money, peace of mind, etc.) that were spent by holding those frustrations. Whether there are issues with the people you work with, family and friends, or complete strangers, this article is a friendly reminder to let go of the mental burdens weighing you down.

*The column, titled **The Cost of Holding On**, originally appeared in *The New York Times* on April 25, 2016.*



Pictured above: Jacob I. & Donald H.
QC at Ace Ready Mix



QC Corner

This year, Ace Ready Mix was awarded three bridge deck projects. In the past, we had shied away from projects with complex QC requirements. With the advancements in our QC team, we felt confident that we could accomplish this task. We recently completed the first project and only had one failing test that was fixed on the jobsite and all our strength tests passed with flying colors.

So, the question is what does it take to pour a bridge deck? The answer for us was having a dedicated crew on site consisting of DJ Steckelberg, Jacob Irwin, and Dan Rokusek with Missy Crippen handling the required plant aggregate testing. To say the least, we had a whole team of QC on this job. We would like to give a hearty thank you to Duke Joffer, Taylor Tracy, and Travis Irwin who were rock solid batch plant operators ensuring we had quality products on site. We'd also like to thank our leader, Owen Matson, who spearheaded the entire operation and made multiple trips to the jobsite during production. Thank you to all and remember with a team of qualified people we can take on any challenge and win!

Happy Birthday

Adam Chandler - May 25

Sioux City

James Klutman - May 26

Ace Ready Mix - Harrisburg

Mark Moreno - May 27

88th Transload - Colorado

Dave Cumrine - May 28

Firestone - Colorado

Patrick Delaney - May 28

Myrl & Roy's

Nathan Haak - May 30

Jasper Stone

Justin MacDonald - May 30

Dell Rapids East

Kody Moriston - May 30

East Sioux Quarry

Dennis Redenius - May 30

Myrl & Roy Shop

Anniversaries

Deanna Koopman - 10 Years

May 18 - D & I Railroad Co.

Ravyn Hoffman - 5 Years

May 20 - Dell Rapids West

Aaron Boltjes - 25 Years

May 26 - D&I Locomotive Maintenance



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- Ready Mix Truck Driver (Sioux Falls)
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- Haul Truck Driver (Dell Rapids)
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