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News and other interesting stuff about skilled trades, maintenance, and manufacturing

The power of versatility

Versatility.

Top of the list of desirable qualities. In a tough economy, we need to be multipurpose, adaptable, resourceful. We need employees who can do different things, assets we can leverage in multiple ways, resources that are nimble and multifaceted.

There's no better symbol of versatility than the Swiss Army knife. Many of us carry one around because you can do just about everything with it, from repairing stuff to opening a favorite beverage.

In honor of the 127th anniversary of the Swiss army knife, and in celebration of versatility, we present....

(drum roll)

The ProBusS Swiss Army Knife Quiz!

See if your knowledge is as versatile as the legendary knives!



The ProBusS Swiss Army Knife Quiz - part 1

10 questions. Answers below each photo.

Here we go...

1. Who named it the "Swiss Army Knife"?
2. What was the first tool added to the Swiss-made army knife, after the blades?
3. What's the Guinness World Record for the "most functions on a penknife"?



Answers:

1. American GIs in World War II called it a Swiss Army knife, apparently because they had trouble pronouncing "Schweizer Offiziersmesser".
2. Karl Elsener, owner of a Swiss surgical equipment company, made the first officer's knife and put blades on both ends of the knife, then added a corkscrew.
3. 87 tools. Introduced in 2008, it weighed nearly 3 pounds and cost \$1,200.

Swiss Army Knife Quiz - part 2

4. TV action hero MacGyver often solves complex challenges with his Swiss Army knife, and **what** other tool?
5. Swiss Army knives have been many places, including **which** of these locales:
 - Mount Everest
 - The Museum of Modern Art
 - Space Shuttle
 - North Pole
 - The Oval Office

6. What type of material is used for the outside (handle) of the knife?



Answers:

4. Duct tape. In case you're wondering, the Swiss Army knife models MacGyver used were the Tinker, Executive, Explorer, and Sportsman.

5. All of them. Fun fact: President Lyndon Johnson gave them to guests; other presidents have, too.

6. It's called cellidor, a thermoplastic compound made mostly of cellulose.

Swiss Army Knife Quiz - part 3

7. True or False: Most Swiss Army knives are now made in Japan, Indonesia, or Mexico.

8. Which of the following tools can you **NOT** get on a Swiss Army knife?

- Laser pointer
- USB drive
- Fingerprint scanner
- Window breaker
- Cell phone

9. Where does the brand name Victorinox come from?



Answers:

7. False! Factories in the towns of Ibach and Delemont in Switzerland still crank out all true Swiss Army knives. More than 15 million a year.

8. You can't get a cell phone on a Swiss Army knife. Not yet, anyway.

8. The founder's mother was named Victoria, and inox is short for acier inoxydable, French for stainless steel. He combined the two words to create Victorinox. The company owns both the Victorinox and Wenger brands.

Swiss Army Knife Quiz - Final Question!

10. Why is ProBusS like a Swiss Army knife?

Answer: We're both highly versatile, dependable, and always ready for work. For example, recently ProBusS has:

- **Replaced a portico** on a plant entrance, including metal and wood fabrication and installation of a rubber membrane roof
- **Implemented a preventative maintenance program** for a manufacturer's steel and wood fabricating equipment.
- **Reconfigured pallet racking** at a plant, integrating new and old racking.
- **Installed a semi-truck and trailer wash system**, including water pump rebuilding
- **Fabricated** guarding, dollies, storage racks, and other equipment
- **Installed new installation** on overhead doors
- **Built a special crate** for new equipment and arranged shipment for it across the country

We're not a roofing company, but we can handle small roofing projects (such as a membrane roof) that roofing companies won't bother with. We're not a shipper, but a custom crate we're happy to make. No job is too big, or too small.

When you need a versatile, dependable, and ready resource for skilled, experienced help, think **ProBusS**.

(Ever notice how our logo red matches a Swiss Army knife?)



Watch How They're Made

We know you did well on the quiz. So treat yourself to a short break, kind of a mini-training session in versatility.

Watch a cool, 5-minute video that shows how Swiss Army knives are made:

[Making Swiss Army Knives](#)

Check out the list of 40 different ProBusS services [here](#).

