Gear Show 4.0

There have always been plenty of reasons to attend Gear Expo. For decades, it's been the best place to see all of the technology, vendors and solutions in the gear industry, all under one roof. You can talk to the people who develop the technology for designing, manufacturing, processing and inspecting gears. You can find any number of highly qualified gear manufacturers, whether you're looking for open gearing, standard speed reducers or custom, one-of-a-kind gearboxes. I've always said that Gear Expo was the greatest collection of gear knowledge under one roof all at one time that you could find anywhere in the world.

And that's still true. You can still see the newest and latest offerings from the major gear machine tool manufacturers. You still have the opportunity to interact with the engineers who develop, build and install the technology, so you can quickly and easily get the answers you want, resolve any manufacturing problems you're having and get a glimpse into your manufacturing future.

Also, as in year's past, the show is co-located with ASM's Heat Treating Society Conference and Exposition.

But now that it has evolved into the Motion + Power Technology Expo (taking place October 15–17 at the Cobo Center in Detroit), it's become much more than just a trade show. This event has grown into a one-stop educational, networking and buying event, and it's expanding its reach into other types of power transmission products as well. In particular, the AGMA has announced an increased focus on electric drives and fluid power as key elements of MPT Expo moving forward. That increased focus begins this year with the fluid power pavilion, which is being produced in partnership with the National Fluid Power Association.

That expansion of focus is taking place off the show floor, too, with greatly expanded educational offerings. For the first time ever, attendees can also take part in the MPT Conference, which includes seminars in two tracks: "Know Your Business" (the business track) and "Be Prepared for the Future" (the emerging technology track). The business track will include topics such as cybersecurity, supply chain and workforce development, while the emerging technology track will include seminars on 3-D printing, electric drives, IIoT and Robotics.

Those topics may seem a little bit removed from traditional gear industry fare, and there's a reason. The gear industry is changing, and only those who change with it will be ready for the future. The AGMA has put together a lineup of speakers designed to get you thinking about your company's future.



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But that doesn't mean they're abandoning the good, old-fashioned gear-themed education you've come to expect. MPT Expo overlaps with the AGMA Fall Technical meeting (Oct. 14–16), where you can hear 26 presentations from the world's foremost experts on the latest research and technology related to gearing. In addition, there are in-depth educational sessions throughout the three days of MPT Expo, everything from the basics of gearing to heat treatment, lubrication, fluid power, bearings, electric drives and much more.

I don't have enough space here to tell you about everything MPT Expo has to offer, so I'll refer you to our full coverage on pages 26–37 and to the show website at *motionpowerexpo.com*.

As always, we'll be at the show. We hope that when you come, you'll stop by and see us in Booth #3826. We promise that our booth will be full of activity and educational opportunities as well, including four sessions of *Gear Technology TV*'s popular "Ask the Expert LIVE!" show. In fact, if your company is experiencing any gear-related problems (whether they be design, manufacturing, heat treating or anything else), why not send us your questions? Even if you're not there, we'll ask our panel of experts for help, and you can see the answers on *Gear Technology TV*.

In addition, we'll be recording live sessions of our "Revolutions" feature, where we interview leading experts in the gear industry about the latest technology, how it works, and why it's important.

Between "Ask the Expert LIVE!" and "Revolutions," you can't help learning something just by sitting in the audience. In fact, all you have to do is come by our booth and listen in to get a little bit smarter about gears. That's our guarantee!

Michael Widse