

Have you ever watched the odometer on your car as you approach 100,000 miles? Something about human nature compels us to watch the odometer roll over. It may be just a fascination with numbers: Seeing all those nines line up is rare, and we don't want to miss it. But it may also have to do with the feeling of being on the verge of something that won't come again.

When I look at the new year's calendar, I get the same feeling. We're looking at 1999 with a lot of anticipation. Much is happening in the world, in our industry, and right here at *Gear Technology*. We have exciting plans for 1999, and we've made changes you should know about.

We've added a new technical editor, Dan Thurman, to our panel of experts. Thurman joins Robert Errichello, Don McVittie and Robert E. Smith, whose articles, suggestions and other contributions have been invaluable over the years. Thurman comes to us with 35 years of practical experience in gear design and manufacturing from his career at Caterpillar, Inc., where he was responsible for gear and spline standards development, design and manufacturing specifications and the development of gear design and analysis programs. Thurman served on several AGMA and ISO technical committees, and he was chairman of the SAE/ANSI involute spline committee and the AGMA epicyclic gearing committee. He's a past member of the AGMA board of directors, the AGMA Foundation board of directors and the AGMA Technical Division executive committee. We're confident that his extensive gear knowledge and his enthusiasm and eagerness to serve the industry will be of great benefit to you, our readers.

We're always looking for ways to better serve our readership. We have a lot of topics to cover, and with only six issues per year, we often can't get to everything. With that in mind, we've added a new column, "Revolutions," to the magazine. We realize that the gear industry isn't all formulas and tables. We've created this column to give you a selection of lighter, easy to read feature-type articles on the people and technologies of the gear industry. It will appear toward the front of the magazine, and it will give us a chance to bring you many of the topics we can't cover in as much depth with full feature or technical articles.

We chose the name "Revolutions" both because we'll be covering breakthrough ideas or approaches and because the word expresses the continual, the mundane, the passage of time. So we'll be bringing you both the extraordinary and the everyday—but always the interesting.

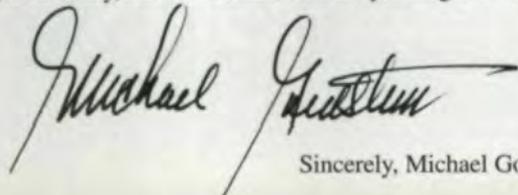
"Revolutions" won't be stealing space in the magazine from our other editorial features. We'll continue bringing you the top-notch technical articles that have become the staple of *Gear Technology* for nearly 15 years. If anything, we're committed to increasing our editorial content. Over the past several years, this magazine has grown, with the help of our advertisers, from a 48-page publication to one that normally runs anywhere from 56 to 80 pages. As long as you continue to let those advertisers know that you value this magazine and the information we provide, this trend should continue.

We're also committed to finding new and better ways to present the information you need. One of the areas with the most possibilities is on the Internet. For example, you can read about the next generation of gear machines and cutting tools in the magazine. But imagine being able to see the chips flying and the cutting fluid spraying, all without having to leave your desk. The reality of these experiences is much closer than you think.

In fact, *Gear Technology* is committed to being a pioneer in these areas. In conjunction with our upcoming 1999 "Show Central" version of AGMA's Gear Expo, we're already working with some of our key advertisers to explore new and exciting ways to use this technology.

If any of you have any ideas that will help us serve you better, we'd like to hear about them. Drop us an email at people@geartechnology.com or call (847) 437-6604.

We've a lot in store for you this year. We hope that you share our anticipation. So happy new year, gear industry, and don't blink, because you might miss something that won't happen again.



Sincerely, Michael Goldstein, Publisher & Editor-in-Chief

1999 and COUNTING

