

Donald R. McVittie

1930–2008



Donald R. McVittie

It is with regret we report that Donald R. McVittie (1930–2008) passed away January 20, 2008 at his Seattle home. He was 77. Mr. McVittie was diagnosed several years ago with lung cancer.

At the request of his family, AGMA has created a memorial scholarship fund—the Donald R. McVittie Memorial Education Fund—to help fund the education of gear engineers. Contributions should be sent to the AGMA Foundation, 500 Montgomery Street, Suite 350, Alexandria, VA 22314 and designated for the Donald R. McVittie Memorial Education Fund.

McVittie is survived by his wife, Red, three children and four grandchildren.

Born in western New York, McVittie attended schools in Niagara Falls, NY and Portland, OR. He graduated from the University of Michigan in 1952 with a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

While attending Michigan, McVittie worked for a local engineering firm which specialized in paper mill processes and power generation. After graduation, he moved to Seattle and worked in marine engineering, designing, selling and manufacturing a variety of innovative auxiliary machines, mostly for the commercial fishing industry.

In 1962 he moved to Chile, where he supervised the design, procurement, construction and startup of an integrated fish production and processing operation in Iquique, on the north coast of the country.

McVittie joined The Gear Works—Seattle, Inc. in 1969 as executive vice president and was responsible for operations until his retirement in December, 1986.

In 1973 he helped form Gear Engineers, Inc., an engineering

corporation specializing in gear design, analysis of problem gears and computerized gear capacity studies. He was the principal engineer of the company since its organization, and in 1983 became its president.

McVittie was an active participant in the American Gear Manufacturers Association since 1972. His main interest was the Technical Division, where he served on many committees, including the Gear Rating, Wind Turbine Gearing, Inspection & Handbook, Epicyclic Enclosed Drives and Computer Programming committees.

He was President of AGMA in 1984–1985 and served as Vice President of AGMA's Technical Division from 1986 to 1991. In 1991, he became one of the original technical editors for *Gear Technology* magazine, and continued in that capacity until his illness.

McVittie received every possible award and recognition given by AGMA—the Technical Division Executive Committee Award, the Product Division Executive Committee Award, the Board of Directors' Award, the E. P. Connell Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award for service to AGMA. He was elected an honorary life member of AGMA in 1998. Additionally, he received ANSI's Meritorious Service Award in 1995 for his work in international standardization.

McVittie was a licensed professional engineer in Washington, and a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Society for Metals and the Society of Automotive Engineers.

A memorial service was held March 2nd at the Corinthian Yacht Club in Seattle.

Portable CNC gear pitch tester ES 4100



The portable pitch measuring instrument ES 4100 offers an extremely exact method of measurement. A high degree of operational convenience is possible by the built-in processing of the measured data and the tilt and Swivel display touch-screen. ISO, DIN or AGMA standards evaluation software. The measurements can be stored and printed out on an external PC.

Donner + Pfister AG *Tel: +41554402032*
Switzerland *info@dpag.ch*
www.dpag.ch

Sicmat

CELEBRATES TWO MILESTONES



Italian machine tool builder Sicmat S.p.A. celebrated its 75th year of operation with the announcement that it reached a two-year goal by shipping its 50th gear shaving machine to North America.

Sicmat, established in 1932 and based in Pianezza near Turin, Italy, originally produced a variety of universal machine tools, including radial drilling machines, shaping machines and hydraulic presses. In 1950, the company began manufacturing gear shaving and chamfering machines as its main products.

“A middle/small enterprise is not able to produce everything, and the competitive pressure forced us to become specialists in one type of technology,” says Sicmat managing director Ettore Miletto. According to Miletto, Sicmat began producing gear shaving machines locally in Italy because traditional methods for gear finishing were too slow, and importing the technology from the United States, where it was first developed by National Broach, was too expensive.

Today, Sicmat is one of only about four manufacturers of CNC shaving machines in the world. The company supplies gear shaving machines to the world’s largest automatic transmission manufacturer, as well as many other companies.

“We have made big investments in shaving technology and created a wide range of products, but our main focus is to analyze customer requirements, to share our know-how and to engineer the most technical and economical solutions,” Miletto says.

Sicmat offers two main gear shaving products, the RASO 200 and the RASO 400.

The RASO 200 has a slant-bed structure that gives it the stiffness of larger machines. Designed for both large manufacturers as well as smaller operations, it has options for



GROUND GEARS – Ten or Ten Thousand

For small to medium quantities of spurs or helicals that have to meet close-tolerance AGMA or DIN specs, our Reishauer grinders and M&M gear analysis systems are the perfect combination.

For Long runs, we offer the unique Liebherr CBN grinding process with full SPC quality control and documentation.

So whether your needs are for ten or tens of thousands, we invite you to join the growing list of INSCO customers who rely on us for consistent quality, reasonable costs, and reliable delivery.



412 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts 01450

PHONE: 978-448-6368
 FAX: 978-448-5155
 WEB: inscocorp.com

ISO 9001 Registered

loading systems, layout and number of axes. Its flexibility and high cycle speed performance enable its use by manufacturers of automatic gearbox gears, motorcycle gears and pump gears.

The RASO 400 employs a large, open "C" structure, allowing it to shave shafts and gears in varying sizes. When combined with internal and external automation, it can also handle auxiliary operations, including chamfering, deburring and centrifugation (spin off) marking. The RASO 400 is designed with the power and stiffness required for producing gears with large modules and face widths, such as those for agricultural equipment, earthmovers and industrial vehicles.

According to a written statement, Sicmat has an ongoing series of research and development projects, including integrating shaving machines with deburring and chamfering machines in order to eliminate multiple fixtures in production lines. Sicmat has also patented a new deburring and chamfering process that uses linear tools rather than rotational cutters.

For more information:

Mark Ritchie
 Star SU LLC
 5200 Prairie Stone Parkway
 Ste. 100
 Hoffman Estates, IL 60192
 Phone: (847) 649-1450
 Fax : (847) 649-0112
 sales@star-su.com
 www.star-su.com/RASO

PMA

RELEASES JANUARY BUSINESS REPORT

According to the January 2008 Precision Metalforming Association (PMA) Business Conditions Report, metalforming companies expect business conditions to remain steady over the next three months despite low shipping levels. The monthly report samples economic information from 159 metalforming companies in the United States and Canada.

When asked what they expect the trend in general economic activity to be over the next three months, 20 percent of participants reported that conditions will improve, 50 percent anticipate activity will remain the same and 30 percent expect a decline in business conditions. These same percentages were reported in December 2007.

Continued

Innovative Machine Tool Solutions






New O.E.M. Machines
BOURN & KOCH Gear Hobbers & Gear Grinders
FELLOWS Gear Shapers
ROTO-CHECK Gear Inspection Systems
BOURN & KOCH Hob & Shaper Cutter Inspection Systems
FELLOWS Lead & Involute Masters
ROTO-GRIND Precision Rotary Inspection Tables

Remanufacturing / Retrofitting
BOURN & KOCH, FELLOWS, BARBER COLMAN, GLEASON, LIEBHERR & PFAUTER
 Gear Hobbers, Gear Shapers & Gear Grinders
M&M, KLINGELNBERG, HOEFLER, ROTO-TECHNOLOGY & ITW Gear Inspection Systems
Recalibration of your Lead & Involute Masters

O.E.M. Parts/Service/Attachments / Field Retrofits / CNC Enhancements

Parts:
Bourn & Koch/Barber Colman 800/860-4013
Fellows 802/674-6500
Roto-Check/Roto-Grind 937/859-8503
Service: 800/860-4013

BK

Your True Machine Tool Source

2500 Kishwaukee Bl. Rockford, IL 61104
 tel 815/965-4013 fax 815/965-0018
 www.bourn-koch.com bournkoch@worldnet.att.net

Sales Enterprise Partner www.star-su.com
 Machines proposed & sold through the Star SU direct selling group


BOURNS&KOCH
 INC

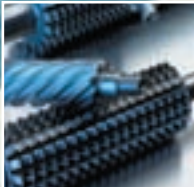

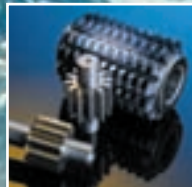






GEAR CUTTING TOOLS

MADE IN SWITZERLAND





GEAR CUTTING TECHNOLOGY

60 YEARS OF TOP TECHNOLOGY

US Distributor
HANIK CORPORATION
 PHONE 630-595-7333
 FAX 630-595-7343
 www.hanikcorp.com
 email: hanikcorp@aol.com

ph: 011-41-32-344-0400 • fax: 011-41-32-344-0404 • www.schnyder.com • mail@schnyder.com

Ingersoll **S-MAX** line



Member IMC Group
Ingersoll
Cutting Tools

Engineered Specials

With the super strength & productivity of "S-Max"

- Complex, one-of-a-kind forms are possible
- Using the latest grades and geometries available
- Application concepts to match machine tool to appropriate tool design
- Extended tool life and performance with S-MAX sub-micron grade IN2005
- Global application support
- Constantly upgrading traditional tool designs to the latest efficiency

S-MAX



Metforming companies also expect little change in their incoming orders over the next three months. Thirty-one percent of companies predict an increase in orders (down from 33 percent in December), 44 percent anticipate no change (compared to 37 percent last month) and 25 percent forecast a decrease in orders (down from 30 percent in December).

Current average daily shipping levels, however, plummeted in January to their lowest levels since January 2002. Only 13 percent of companies reported that current shipping levels are above levels of three months ago (compared to 24 percent in December), 43 percent reported no change (the same percentage reported last month) and 44 percent reported that January shipping levels are below levels of three months ago (up from 33 percent in December).

The number of metforming companies with a portion of their workforce on short time or layoff fell to 14 percent in January, down from 18 percent in December.

“PMA member companies are reflecting overall economic uncertainty in their projections for the first quarter of 2008, especially compared to their outlook one year ago, in January 2007, which was decidedly more positive than it is today,” says William E. Gaskin, PMA president. “While daily shipping levels at year-end fell sharply, expectations for incoming new orders over the next three months remain positive, with 75 percent expecting higher or at least similar levels of customer orders as received in the fourth quarter of 2007. Profits in 2008 will be challenged by constant price pressure from customers and rising steel and energy costs.”

Full report results are available at www.pma.org/about/stats/BCreport.

Bernstein

JOINS ROMAX ENGINEERING STAFF

Romax Technology recently announced that Charles Bernstein has joined its engineering department. Bernstein has over 40 years of experience in design and development in the transmission and automotive industries. According to the company’s press release, Bernstein recently took the technical lead in the development of transmissions at FAW and Tsingshan in China. Before joining Romax, Bernstein was a senior manager in transmission engineering at BMW, Rover Group and Land Rover.

“I’m looking forward to being part of this fast-growing and dynamic company and bringing with me another dimen-

Continued

Residual Stress Retained Austenite Measurement



THE MODERN APPROACH TO SOLVING ENGINEERING PROBLEMS.

- Crack initiation
- Crack propagation
- Stress corrosion cracking
- Distortion
- Fatigue life

LXR Laboratory Residual Stress Measurement System

Automated NDT Systems & Service
PROTO
Manufacturing

www.protoxrd.com tel: +1 (519) 737-6330

SPIRAL BEVEL GEARS (Transmissions)



Spiral & Straight Bevel Gear Manufacturing.
Commercial to aircraft quality gearing.
Spur, helical, splined shafts, internal & external,
shaved & ground gears. Spiral bevel grinding.
Midwest Transmissions & Reducers.
ISO compliant.

MIDWEST GEAR & TOOL, INC.
15700 Common Rd.
Roseville, MI 48066 midwestgear@sbcglobal.net



CONTACT:
CRAIG D. ROSS
(586) 779-1300
FAX (586) 779-6790

Yesterday's Reliability Tomorrow's Technology



Fifty years of VARI-ROLL applications provide:

- Production Composite Inspection
- Custom Design & Build Part Gear Mounting Fixtures
- Standard Mounting Fixtures — Spurs, Helicals, Pinion Shafts, Worms, Throated Worms, Bevels, Internals

When coupled with the VARI-PC Composite Gear Analysis System will provide:

- Reduced Inspection Cost
- Improved Accuracy
- Historical Record Keeping
- Serialization of Parts
- Interface to SPC programs

Experience the difference. See why customers worldwide have chosen the VARI-ROLL/VARI-PC. For further information, please contact us.

VARI-ROLL



Precision Gage Co., Inc.
101 Shore Drive Burr Ridge, IL 60527
630-655-2121 Fax 630-655-3073
www.precisiongageco.com



NEWS

sion to their engineering capabilities,” Bernstein says. “There are many business opportunities and great challenges ahead.”

Barry James, engineering manager at Romax, adds, “Charles’ addition ensures practical implementation of our advanced technology, allowing us to expand the scope of our engineering services and enhance our existing capabilities, providing a complete package to our customers from design to development through to manufacturing.”



Charles Bernstein

Fairfield

UNVEILS NEW RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER IN INDIANA



Fairfield Manufacturing Company, Inc. officially opened the James R. Dammon Center with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in December of 2007. According to the company’s press release, the 8,800-square-foot engineering center in Lafayette, IN will be equipped with a broad range of testing equipment for mechanical-hydraulic-and electric-powered applications.

The ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony was hosted by Fairfield President and CEO Gary J. Lehman.

TOPOLOGICAL GEAR GRINDING



Advanced topological gear grinding, based on MAAG 0° grinding system.

With levels up to CNC.

Applicable for:

- Shaving cutters
- Dressing tools
- Prototype gears
- Master gears
- etc.

Donner + Pfister AG
Switzerland

Tel: +41554402032
info@dpag.ch
www.dpag.ch

Joining in the festivities were Lafayette, IN Mayor Tom Roswarski, State Senator Ron Alting, State Representative Sheila Klinker as well as key representatives from Purdue University.

The research and development lab was dedicated to James R. Dammon, vice president of engineering at Fairfield, who joined the company in 1966 after graduating from Purdue University's School of Engineering.



Dammon's list of accomplishments at Fairfield includes pioneering the development of electric drive gear assemblies for an industrial forklift application as well as a fully integrated drive assembly for a mobile scissors lift.

"Jim Dammon's innovative spirit, dedication and commitment to Fairfield speak for itself," Lehman says. "Dedicating this facility to Jim is just a small recognition of our appreciation for Jim's 41 years with this company and all that he's done to put Fairfield out in the front as a technology leader in the industry."

Dedicating the new research complex to Dammon was kept a secret at Fairfield until the ribbon-cutting ceremony last December. According to attendees of the event, Dammon was shocked, surprised and honored for the recognition of his accomplishments. For more information, visit www.fairfieldmfg.com.

Ipsen Inc.

ADDS 12 TO ROSTER IN 4TH QUARTER

Ipsen, Inc., a designer and manufacturer of industrial vacuum and atmosphere furnaces, recently expanded its North

Continued

Do your gears need:
More strength?
Longer life?



Shot peening is the answer. To learn more, subscribe to **The Shot Peener**. The Shot Peener is dedicated to raising the awareness and appreciation for the shot peening process.

Magazine Subscription Request

I want a **free** subscription to **The Shot Peener**. Please send it to the address below.


Please print or attach your business card:

Name _____ Title _____
 Company _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____
 Telephone _____ Fax _____
 Email Address _____

Fax: (574) 256-5222
 Mail: The Shot Peener
 56790 Magnetic Drive, Mishawaka, Indiana 46545 USA
 The Shot Peener: www.shotpeener.com

GT

Get Your Addendum On!



While the Addendum column is both entertaining and fun to write, our staff will occasionally sit and stare at each other in meetings attempting to generate story ideas for the back page. If you're knowledgeable in the gear industry and have an idea to share, we'd love to hear about it. We only ask that your anecdote is **60% entertaining, 40% informative** and **deals specifically with the gear industry.**

Just Like This Ad

Please help us start talking to each other again by submitting your ideas to:
mjaster@geartechnology.com, jmcguinn@geartechnology.com
 or wrs@geartechnology.com.



By now, MFN (Metal Finishing News) is probably the world's only publication entirely focusing on peening, blasting, cleaning and vibratory finishing!

MFN has a circulation of over 5300 issues, is distributed in 64 countries and published 6 times a year. Contact info@mfn.li for 2 free sample issues!

www.mfn.li

New: A subscription of MFN includes the magazine IST, which is published twice a year (September and March). IST covers all aspects of surface technology such as liquid coating, powder coating, automotive finishing, electroplating, parts cleaning, paint removal, blasting, conveyor technology and measuring.



American roster with 12 new hires in the 4th quarter of 2007. The positions have been filled in engineering, production, quality control, purchasing and aftermarket services. A strong showing in 2007 allowed the company to expand its staff.

“Adding a balanced mix of experienced and entry-level positions at the Rockford (IL) and Souderton (PA) sites assures that we can deliver high performance for years to come,” says John Menne, human resource manager at Ipsen. “We are taking initiatives now to re-launch a revitalized Ipsen internship program in the first half of 2008 to ensure that we also train the experts of tomorrow.”

Hypertherm

ADDS TWO MEMBERS TO NORTH AMERICAN TEAM



John Brennan

Hypertherm, a designer and manufacturer of plasma cutting technology, recently announced the appointment of John Brennan as North American distribution director, and Randy McMurtry as national distribution development manager.

Brennan brings 27 years of experience to the job, including work as a vice president of marketing for Merriam Graves and 19 years of welding and cutting industry experience at Hypertherm. Brennan most recently served as the company's national distribution manager.

McMurtry recently served as a divisional manager for Hypertherm. In his new position, he'll support the national distribution network, working to execute sales and marketing programs. He will also ensure distributors have the knowledge to sell plasma cutting systems and consumables.

“The appointment of John and Randy to these two new positions brings added strength to Hypertherm's North American team,” says Jeff Deckrow, Hypertherm's North American regional director.



Randy McMurtry