

March 23-25—Gear Manufacturing Troubleshooting. Star-SU, Inc., Hoffman Estates, IL. This training school for gear manufacturing is a basic course offered by the Gear Consulting Group in regional versions throughout the year to reduce the time employees spend out of the office while training. Other sessions this year will take place in Michigan, July 8-10, California, September 7-9 and Ontario, Canada, dates to be announced. Instructors Geoff Ashcroft and Ron Green teach participants both theory and practical aspects of gear manufacturing while imparting knowledge of everyday problems and understanding how to think through troubleshooting. Tuition is \$750 and includes all necessary materials, as well as a reference manual and certificate of completion from AGMA. For more information, contact the Gear Consulting Group at (269) 623-4993 or e-mail gearconsulting@aol.com.

March 30-April 2—WESTEC. Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles. More than 600 exhibitors showcase West Coast manufacturing's most advanced equipment, machine tools, knowledge and skilled professionals that will provide ideas and discuss the latest trends. According to show organizer the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, 81 percent of 2009 pre-registered attendees influence the purchase of products in their company, which is 5 percent higher than WESTEC 2008. Other statistics suggest the show will be larger than previous years, and attendance reflects California's position as the largest manufacturing state in the country. For more information, e-mail service@smc.org or call (800) 733-4763.

March 24-27—Detailed Gear Design: Beyond Simple Service Factors. Sheraton Premiere at Tysons Corner. Vienna,

VA. AGMA and instructor Raymond Drago present this four-day course in the Washington, D.C. metro area. The seminar covers detailed gear design with hands-on *PowerGear* software training to practice the principles of gear tooth optimization presented during the first three days. Each participant receives a student version of *PowerGear* as part of the registration fee. Attendees will learn about gear design and participate in solving carefully crafted problems to demonstrate the practical application of optimization methods. Registration is limited to 40 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, contact Jennifer Cochran at (703) 684-0211.

April 20-24—Plastic Gear Design and Manufacturing. Universal Technical Systems, Inc. headquarters, Rockford, IL. This training course starts with a full day of *TK Solver* software instruction, which participants will learn to use for equation solving, manipulation of units and the creation of tables and plots in math models. Multiple topics encompassing basic and advanced gear design and theory are presented. The course concludes with an hour of gear consulting from UTS experts. Cost: \$1,295. For more information, contact Kari Johnson, sales associate, at (815) 963-2220 or sales@uts.us.com.

April 28-30—Precision Machining Technology Show. Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, OH. The Precision Machined Products Association along with *Production Machining* and *Modern Machine Shop* magazines presents the biennial PMTS, which is an international exposition attracting manufacturers, suppliers and end users of products and services completely devoted to precision machined products and turned parts' production. Several hour-long technical sessions accompany

the trade show. They provide attendees with on-site expertise and the latest industry technology knowledge. Show admission and the technical sessions are free for pre-registered attendees. For more information, visit www.pmts.com.

May 19-21—EASTEC. Eastern States Exposition Grounds. West Springfield, MA. More than 440,000 East Coast manufacturers continue to use EASTEC as an opportunity to expand business since the show debuted in 1979. Growth industries such as medical, aerospace and defense are big ticket themes at the show this year as well as lean and green topics, which are all highlighted at official resource centers each day. EASTEC is organized into five technology buildings to help attendees navigate some 2,000 products on display. The buildings emphasize precision manufacturing equipment and systems; automation, supply chain and process improvement; plant, energy and environmental efficiency; design, engineering and rapid technologies; and tooling, workholding and machining accessories. For more information, visit www.easteconline.com.

June 22-26—MoldMaking Expo. McCormick Place, Chicago. The MME 2009 is co-located with NPE 2009, the International Plastics Showcase. It is an event exclusively dedicated to the moldmaking industry and the new products and processes that are helping shops increase productivity and profitability. On top of 25,000 square feet of exhibit space, the expo includes a two-day technical conference with presentations featuring end-user application approaches within case study, panel, workshop and roundtable discussion formats. The conference will focus on strategies for cutting costs and improving productivity, technological innovation and application and business and management issues. For more information, visit www.moldmakingexpo.com.