

Gear Expo: Mecca Mechanics



Publisher & Editor-in-Chief
Michael Goldstein

Last issue we observed a pause, or least some unevenness, in the markets served by most gear manufacturers. Despite the unsettled state of affairs, the evidence still seems clear that U.S. manufacturing — and gear manufacturing in particular — still boasts one of the healthier business environments in the world right now.

So it's an ideal time for a pilgrimage to AGMA's Fall Technical Meeting and Gear Expo, which take place in Indianapolis (see pages 28-47 for our extensive show coverage). Once again, gear manufacturers will have a unique opportunity to tap into a wealth of knowledge and experience in two formats. At the Fall Technical Meeting, you have the chance to sit in on presentations from many of the brightest minds in gearing, and to learn about the techniques, methods and technologies that constitute the gear industry's current state of the art. The Fall Technical Meeting takes place September 15-17 and includes 26 presentations in five subject-oriented sessions.

The second is of course Gear Expo itself, which takes place September 17-19 and offers an opportunity to review the machinery, tooling and services needed for gear manufacturing, as well as to make contact with some of your most important suppliers. There you will not only become familiar with these suppliers' current offerings, but it's also an easy way for you to develop or renew contacts with the salesmen, service engineers and technicians who know the most about gear manufacturing technologies. In fact, because of their experience dealing with other gear manufacturers around the world — many of whom face challenges similar to yours — these contacts can offer you valuable insight into the technologies and approaches that have been successful in other operations. They are often aware of the techniques and processes being used by companies like yours.

As in past years, Gear Expo will run concurrently with the ASM Heat Treating Society Conference and Exposition (Sept. 16-18), so you'll also have the opportunity to explore the latest in heat treating technologies as well.

We're fortunate to have had a couple of years of reasonably good to very good business. Hopefully, for many of you, this means you will have the ability to take a breather, spend some time in Indianapolis, and possibly find new opportunities or solutions that will allow you to take your manufacturing operation to the next level.

The location of the show—Indianapolis—makes it ideal for a large percentage of gear manufacturers in the United States. For most of you, a reasonable car trip through America's heartland will get you to the show.

When you visit Gear Expo, we hope you'll stop by to see us (Booth #1123). We'll be offering complimentary espresso at our booth, and we invite you to come and talk with our editors and staff. We'd like to show you how quickly and easily you can use our online articles archive to find technical information on virtually any subject related to gears. And if you're a seller of gears or geared products, we'd like to share information with you about how *Power Transmission Engineering*, our companion magazine, is continually growing and expanding in its efforts to reach your customers—the designers of geared systems and buyers of gears and gear drives—making it the perfect marketing and advertising venue for you.

No matter your place in the gear industry, Gear Expo is sure to offer plenty of opportunities for expanding your knowledge, your contacts, and your business.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in Indy.