

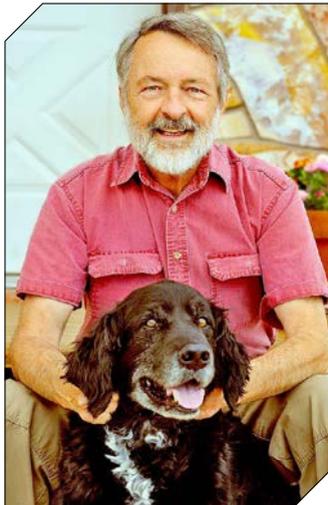
# Bob Errichello Retires

## ROB BUDNY AND ANDY MILBURN TO TEACH THE AGMA GEAR FAILURE ANALYSIS COURSE

After teaching the AGMA Gear Failure Analysis course for 27 years, **Bob Errichello** and Jane Muller of Geartech retired from instructing in June 2017. Two highly recommended industry professionals — Rob Budny, from RBB Engineering and Andy Milburn, from Milburn Engineering, Inc. — have been assigned by AGMA to teach this course that has become a staple in the curriculum over the years — as well as the most popular. Budny and Milburn led the facilitation of the course this past June. Errichello and Muller were onsite to assist with the final stages of succession planning.

“We have known Rob for over thirteen years and have cooperated with him on many failure investigations,” explains Errichello. “We are confident that they will maintain the high standards that we have set for the seminar.”

Budny is president of Petaluma, California-based RBB Engineering — a rotating equipment consultancy with special expertise in gearbox failure analysis. He holds a BSME degree from UMBC in Baltimore, Maryland. Before founding RBB Engineering in 2012, he was a mechanical engineering manager with Clipper Windpower in Carpinteria, California from 2004 to 2012. He previously held the position of mechanical designer and stress analyst with Lockheed Martin in Baltimore,



Maryland from 1997 to 2002. In 2014, Errichello, Budny, and Rainer Eckert co-authored the STLE Tribology Transactions paper — “Investigations of Bearing Failures Associated with WEAs in Wind Turbine Gearboxes.” This paper won the Edmond E. Bisson Award for the best STLE paper published in 2014.

Andy Milburn is president of Milburn Engineering, Inc. in Vaughn, Washington. He holds a BSME from the University of Washington. Before founding Milburn Engineering in 1990, he was a mechanical designer and failure analyst with The Gear Works in Seattle, Washington from 1975 to 1989. Milburn was an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1971 to 1974. In 1990, Milburn, Errichello and Douglas Godfrey coauthored the AGMA paper — “Polishing Wear.”

“I have enjoyed working with Bob and Jane over the last 19 months,” explains Casandra Blassingame, AGMA director of education. “I am looking forward to ‘what’s next’ and optimistic that they will continue to partner with AGMA on other endeavors. Going forward, I am looking forward to working with Rob and Andy!”

AGMA is grateful for all the work that Errichello and Muller have done to get *Gear Failure Analysis* where it is.

“We appreciate the hard work that was put in during the last couple decades to make *Gear Failure Analysis* the most popular class we offer at AGMA,” explains Matt Croson, AGMA president. “We look forward to continuing this legacy and building upon the educational foundation Bob and Jane helped start.

The next *Gear Failure Analysis* class will be in San Francisco, CA, December 6–8, 2017. People who are interested in signing up can visit: [www.agma.org/education/advanced-courses](http://www.agma.org/education/advanced-courses).

# Siemens Industry Inc.

## EXPANDS TECHNICAL APPLICATION CENTER IN ITS ELK GROVE FACILITY

With digitalization and the rapid changes in technology, training is more important than ever to keep employees’ skills up to date with the newest industrial technologies. In support of this need, Siemens announces the expansion of its Technical Application Center (TAC) which offers machine tool dealers, importers and end-users of Sinumerik CNCs a complete range of learning opportunities including classroom training, online instructor-led training, and online self-paced training.

Operating since 2009, the TAC provides the ideal setting for enhancing your CNC machining knowledge. Occupying more than 3,150 square feet of dedicated space at our Elk Grove Village, Illinois facility, the TAC is a short ride from O’Hare International Airport. The newly expanded Machine Lab now features three milling machines and one turning center for hands-on learning, plus a Kuka robotic center, and NX-CAM training station. Two state-of-the-art classrooms provide students with instructor-led, hands-on training using our exclusive



SinuTrain software and Sinumerik CNC simulators.

“Manufacturers are continuously looking for ways to train their employees on evolving CNC technologies as they transition to digital factories. Hands-on training and virtual pro-

grams like these are extremely important. We're excited to offer machine tool users a more expansive program to develop their employees," says Sascha Fischer, segment manager, Siemens Motion Control, Machine Tool Business.

Siemens offers professional-level training courses ranging from Sinumerik Operation and Programming to Sinumerik service and maintenance. In addition, the advanced training includes classes on mixed technology, flexible NC programming, multi-channel operation and programming, advanced measuring cycles, post-processor development, PLC commissioning and service, 4th-axis integration and part and tool probe installation.

In addition to the expansion of the TAC, a virtual TAC is also available to individuals looking to expand their CNC knowledge. The virtual TAC is open to anyone and available at no cost allowing individuals to watch professional-series webinars online.

Utilizing our exclusive SinuTrain CNC simulation software, these webinars will demonstrate how to maximize investments in Sinumerik CNC right from the comfort of one's own computer. Live training webinars are presented monthly by Siemens Sinumerik experts, covering a range of cost-saving and performance-enhancing insights, techniques and processes. Webinar topics range from Milling and Turning, to General Operations, Maintenance and Service. Attendees will also benefit from engaging Q&A sessions following the main presentation.

All past webinars are available for ongoing career development and viewing in the

ever-expanding archive library. Virtual one-on-one, custom tailored training courses can be requested for larger user groups looking to enhance specific skills of their programmer and operator teams. ([www.industry.usa.siemens.com](http://www.industry.usa.siemens.com))

## HBM Holdings

### ACQUIRES SCHAFER INDUSTRIES

HBM Holdings (HBM) has announced that it has acquired Schafer Industries (Schafer) of South Bend, Indiana. Schafer is a leading producer of high-precision, custom-engineered gears and machined parts for a wide range of applications, as well as transaxles, brake assemblies and other components for off-road vehicles.

The acquisition of Schafer is a continuation of HBM's long-term strategy to acquire and build market leading manufacturers of industrial products.

**SCHAFER**  
INDUSTRIES

"We are thrilled to bring Schafer into our portfolio," said Mike DeCola, HBM's CEO. "Schafer's leadership team has done a remarkable job of growing the company by helping customers solve complex problems. Building on this success, we look forward to further expansion of the business. Schafer is a perfect fit for our model, as the current ownership group is ready to transition the business to reach a new level of capability and success," continued DeCola.

Founded in 1934, Schafer is a privately held company oper-

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ating through two vertically integrated divisions: Schafer Gear Works and Schafer Driveline. Schafer Gear Works manufactures gears that power products across a diverse set of markets and custom applications, including aerospace, industrial warehouse equipment, and general transportation applications found in the automotive, agricultural and construction sectors. Schafer Driveline is a leading manufacturer of custom engineered and assembled transaxles and brake components, bringing integrated power delivery solutions to the recreational and off-highway vehicle industries. In total, Schafer operates four facilities in the Midwestern United States, with over 300,000 square feet of manufacturing space.

Bipin Doshi, CEO and president of Schafer, commented, "As we engaged in the process of selling Schafer, our priorities were our employees and our customers. Throughout the process, HBM Holdings stood out not just in value for us as shareholders, but in terms of cultural fit. They understand our markets, technology and resource constraints and have a talent development strategy that will help our people continue to grow and succeed. Their focus on growth will benefit both our employees and our customers."

Doshi, along with his wife Linda, and Stan Blenke, executive vice president and CFO, acquired the business from South Bend Lathe approximately 30 years ago. As a result of their leadership, the company has experienced tremendous expansion organically and through acquisitions. Both Doshi and Blenke will stay involved during a transition period.

Eric Van Rens will become the company's CEO effective immediately. Since 2004, he has served as the vice president, sales and marketing for Mississippi Lime, an HBM portfolio company. He also held prior roles in operations, marketing and general management with Astaris and FMC Corporation. He holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from University of Wisconsin and a master's of business administration from Rutgers University. ([www.schaferindustries.com](http://www.schaferindustries.com))

## Forest City Gear

### WELCOMES PROCESS ENGINEER

Forest City Gear has added **Brian Gustafson** to its growing team of process engineers, with responsibility for creating the routings, machine instructions and process drawings that are critical to the success of every precision gear manufacturing project.

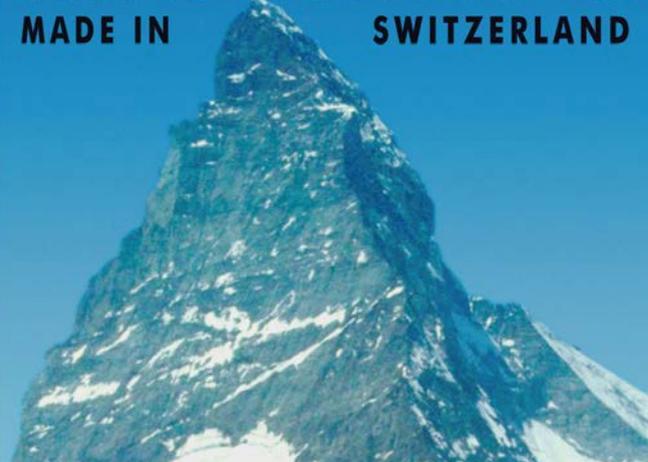
Gustafson has 15 years of diversified design and manufacturing engineering experience, ranging from CNC machining and programming to overseeing the shop floor operations of a gear production facility. He has a B.S. degree in Manufacturing Engineering Technology from Bradley University.

Gustafson's extensive manufacturing background made him an ideal candidate for the position, says Forest City Gear President Wendy Young. "His deep understanding of gear manufacturing processes gives him special insight into the needs



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our customers. He will be an important asset to help ensure that projects flow efficiently from order entry, to scheduling to shop floor production.”

For over 60 years Roscoe, IL based, family-owned Forest City Gear has been one of the gear industry’s leading sources for the development, manufacture and inspection of the highest quality gears, for use in applications that range from medical devices to motorcycles, airplanes to automation, even including the Mars Curiosity Rover. ([www.forestcitygear.com](http://www.forestcitygear.com))

## Felsomat USA

### NAMES NEW PRESIDENT/CEO

Felsomat USA, Inc. recently announced the appointment of **Blake Consdorf** to the joint position of president/CEO. Starting on July 10, 2017, Consdorf returned to Felsomat after 10 years at Acieta, LLC, where he rose from engineering management to divisional president during his tenure there.



Consdorf graduated from Purdue University in 1997 with a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering. Upon graduation, he joined Wes-Tech, Inc., an automation company in Buffalo Grove, Illinois, as a design engineer. During his eight years at Wes-Tech, Consdorf held several positions culminating in becoming vice president of manufacturing and engineering, overseeing 110 employees.

“I’m thrilled to be returning to Felsomat,” stated Consdorf, “as it’s an exciting time to be involved in all the new developments in automation technology. Felsomat is perfectly positioned to deliver this technology to our customers which enables them to stay at the forefront of today’s competitive global manufacturing environment.” ([www.felsomat.com](http://www.felsomat.com))

## Ipsen

### OFFERS CREDIT TOWARD NEW HEAT TREATING EQUIPMENT

Ipsen believes that one of the most valuable things a company can do is invest in others. They are also committed to advancing the heat-treating industry with the latest innovations and updated equipment. As part of that commitment, they are investing \$1,000,000 in the industry this year.

Companies can take advantage of Ipsen’s investment by trading in their old furnace to receive a \$50,000 credit toward the purchase of a new Titan vacuum furnace (applies to the 2017 list price of any Titan model). Ipsen will accept a trade in of any brand heat-treating furnace (vacuum or atmosphere) in any condition. To receive this credit, transactions must take place by October 31, and the new Titan furnace must ship from Ipsen’s facility by December 31, 2017. Learn more about this opportunity at the website: ([www.IpsenUSA.com/Invest](http://www.IpsenUSA.com/Invest))

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