

We Hope You Enjoy(ed) the Show

IMTS 2018 was the biggest ever, no matter how you want to measure it. With 129,415 registrations, the show far surpassed the previous record of 121,764 set twenty years ago, in 1998. There were also more exhibiting companies (2,563) taking up more floor space (1,424,232 sq. ft.) than ever before.

More importantly, most of the exhibitors we talked to were extremely busy—and I don't just mean at the show, either. Sure, the level of foot traffic was good. But most of the exhibitors also told us they're extremely busy back home. They report increasing backlogs and strong demand. Manufacturers are buying manufacturing equipment, including machine tools, cutting tools, inspection equipment, and everything else.

Backing up our own anecdotal evidence, the most recent Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) also indicates continued expansion. The PMI registered 61.3% in August and 59.8% in September (any reading above 50 is considered expansionary).

There's no doubt that manufacturing is still going strong in America.

We saw a lot of innovation at the show, too. Aside from the focus on Industry 4.0, which we saw in nearly every booth, most of the suppliers serving our industry were showing new gear manufacturing technology, with quite a few new machines making their worldwide debuts at IMTS.

Don't worry if you didn't make it to the show, though. Our editors spent the whole week learning as much as we could, and we're going to be bringing that information to you over the next several months. For example, you can read about some of the new technologies in our Product News section, beginning on page 10, as well as online at www.geartechnology.com.

But we're also working hard to bring that information to you in as many ways as possible. That's why we're pleased to announce the launch of *Revolutions*, the new video series that focuses on the technology of the gear industry, as well as relevant and interesting topics related to the day-to-day activities of the gear industry. *Revolutions* represents both the cutting edge changes in technology that can help you increase productivity and improve quality, as well as other information that will help you stay competitive in the gear industry.

We recorded 20 segments of *Revolutions* while we were at IMTS, and each segment features a one-on-one interview conducted by one of our editors with a leading expert from the gear industry. Each episode lasts about 5–10 minutes, and it includes insights you can't get anywhere else on topics like gear skiving, inspection, grinding, automation, chamfering, honing and much more. We even sat down with the leaders of the AGMA to find out about some of the new and exciting things going on with the association.



Publisher & Editor-in-Chief
Michael Goldstein

Over the next several months, we'll be highlighting various episodes of *Revolutions* as they apply to the different subjects we cover. We'll try to let you know if there's a video related to whatever we're talking about. We'll also be featuring episodes in the *Gear Technology* newsletter over the coming months. By the way, if you're not currently receiving our bimonthly newsletter, you're definitely missing out, because we're continually putting new content online, and the newsletter is the best way to learn about it (subscribe at www.geartechnology.com/subscribe.htm — it's FREE).

Of course, you don't have to wait for us to trickle-feed you all the episodes of *Revolutions*. If you just want to binge-watch the whole series, you can head on over to *Gear Technology TV* (www.geartechnology.com/tv/) and see them all there. I encourage you to do so, because, in addition to *Revolutions*, you'll also find our previously recorded video interviews there, as well as two seasons of *Ask the Expert LIVE!* recorded at Gear Expo 2015 and Gear Expo 2017. Tune in for insight about what leading suppliers are working on now, and what you can expect in the near future.

If you were lucky enough to make it to IMTS 2018, we hope you enjoyed the show. But whether you did or not, we hope you'll tune in to *Revolutions*, and we hope you enjoy *our* show.

