

Gearing for the Future

John Cross, Chairman of the Board, AGMA



In 2021, the AGMA Foundation begins its 27th year.

It is a critical year for the AGMA Foundation as our industry is facing incredible challenges and opportunities, and AGMA members are asking a great deal from our industry Foundation. For example:

- We need new ways to attract and promote our industry, to make students excited about who we are, and what we do as an industry.
- We need to financially support students and foster their commitment to our sector, so they join us in designing future power transmission solutions.
- We need more training, to ensure our employees are leveraging best practices from design to failure analysis.



What We Did

For the past five years, these three items have been the primary focus areas of the AGMA Foundation. Under the very capable leadership of Scott Miller from Caterpillar, Scott Moss from Comer, and Dean Burrows from Gear Motions and executed by our Executive Director, Cindy Bennett, the AGMA Foundation has made incredible strides responding to these challenges. Over the years, the AGMA Foundation has:

- In 2018 developed and published the industry's first ever promotion program. Entitled "Get Into Gears," this multi-faceted program offers our industry free, downloadable integrated marketing materials members are using at job fairs, tradeshow and other events where prospective employees gather. To date, 133 companies have downloaded the materials, with many making it a significant part of their outreach efforts.
- Since 2010, distributed \$312,500 in scholarship support to 45 engineering students. The AGMA Foundation scholarship program is incredibly successful: 87% of graduated students are now working in the mechanical power transmission industry, the majority for AGMA member companies.
- Granted \$446,000 to AGMA for the development of 15 new education and training courses for both engineers and operators. Due to this funding, the industry now has up-to-date courses covering gear design, gear failure, gearboxes, and operator training covering grinding, heat treat and gear cutting. More than 5,000 AGMA member company employees have participated in AGMA Foundation-funded training classes in just the past five years!

How it Happened

What did it take to achieve these outcomes, and be part of making a difference, supporting the future of our industry?

In a word — you!

Your leadership, your commitment — and yes, your financial support.

You see, the AGMA Foundation is driven by industry leaders — It's a virtuous cycle of giving — you give your time and money, and we work together to give it back in the form of scholarships, education and training, and industry promotion.

And that is why this is a critical year for the AGMA Foundation. These challenges and opportunities are not going away next year. If anything, COVID-19 has accelerated our need for more people and more support.

That means the AGMA Foundation needs more support. We need more volunteers to be on our AGMA Foundation Board of Trustees. We need more individual and corporate donors. We need you to leverage the AGMA Foundation in order for the entire industry to be as strong as possible.

How can you help?

One way is via a sizable donation — Linda and Bipin Doshi did this in 2018 with a \$100,000 financial commitment that has now become the Linda and Bipin Doshi



Past AGMA Foundation Scholarship Winners, (l-r): Yue Peng, scholarships in 2016/2017/2018, University of North Carolina at Charlotte; Tiffany Lim, 2017, The Ohio State University; Denis Lang, 2016, Penn State Erie, The Behrend College; Jack Jaeger, 2017, Waukesha County Technical College; and M.D. Fahad, 2015/2016, The Ohio State University.



Golf Carts ready to roll: for the AGMA Annual Meeting Golf Tournament fundraiser. Unfortunately Covid 19 canceled this event in 2020.

Scholarship. The AGMA Foundation has since granted annual \$5,000 Doshi scholarships to two outstanding engineering students.

Another way is a smaller donation -- \$100, \$500, \$1,000 — any amount will be helpful. All personal donations are 100% tax deductible, but adding them all up is where we make a difference. We have been giving away an annual average of \$49,000 in scholarships since 2016 and want to continue that pace in order to get a larger number of students (eventually employees) into our industry.

We know it's been a challenging year. We are all in the same place, but via the AGMA Foundation; we are making a noticeable and material difference. We are getting new employees, we are ensuring they are well trained, and we are doing our best to promote this great and noble industry.



A 2018 AGMA Foundation Scholarship Recipient, Caleb graduated from Western Michigan University and is now employed full time at the Eaton Corporation. (pictured with Cindy Bennett, AGMA Foundation Executive Director)

Check out our work at www.agmafoundation.org. Click on “Gearing for the Future” to donate online or download a pledge card.

Join us, as we work together to make a difference.

I will close by thanking all of the volunteers through the years that have helped make a difference, Foundation Board members, the Scholarship and Fundraising Committees, and of course our incredible AGMA volunteer leadership team.

Help me make a difference via the work of the AGMA Foundation.



John Cross
Chairman of the Board, AGMA
President and CTO, ASI Drives

