



January Newsletter 2008

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*The ISA England Section acknowledge,
with gratitude, the sponsorship of this
newsletter by Pepperl+Fuchs*

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

I would like to wish you a happy and a prosperous New Year. Thank you to all who sponsored and attended November's Annual President's dinner dance at the Palace Hotel in Manchester. It was great to see every body especially the illustrious recipients of our ISA service awards. I personally received many messages of thanks from members and customers for an excellent evening. Listening, at the start of this year, to the financial forecasts 2008 looks although it could be a difficult year for our domestic economy with credit squeezes, falling house prices and low confidence in the high street. Paradoxically our industrial automation industry always seems to be resilient to typical general economic trends. Recent market indicators for our industry sector have predicted double digit growth for 2008 and confident increases towards the end of the decade. This is welcome news for us, but this healthy indicator highlights another problem our industry has been facing, that of declining skill sets throughout the spectrum of our sector, from end user to supplier. It has been widely documented in our Intec magazine that the baby boomers who entered the automation and instrumentation industry are in the 50's and 60's are either retired or looking to retire within the next 10 years. Evaporation of apprentice schemes and the industry seeming unfashionable to graduates add to our skill shortage problem.

We would welcome any inputs on this subject or any other for Publication in our next Newsletter. – **Russell Hobbs**



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Coming Events

ElConnect

25th-27th February

Venue: Novotel London West, Hammersmith

HazardEx

27th & 28th February

Venue: East of England Showground, Peterborough

District 12 Leaders Conference

18th-19th April

Venue: Madrid, Spain

IMC SIL Safety Seminar

2nd June

Venue: Warrington

Welcome to New Members

We are delighted to welcome the following new members to the ISA England Section

Raymond Ekow Cole
Michael Crabtree
Philip Matthew Denby
Frank Given
Andrew Jonathan Kelshaw
Jarlath Lally
Steve McWhinnie
Simon Osborne
Doug Scott
Lung Wei So
Muzaffer Ali Syed
Ikpaiaong Effiong Ukpe
David Miles Williams

ATTENTION!

We would like to be able to include letters from members in the Newsletter. If you would like to air an opinion on a particular topic relating to our industry sectors please send letter by email to the Newsletter Editor at :

editor@isa-england.org.uk



Anyone wishing to learn more about the ISA and the benefits it brings should contact either

Ian Parry, Membership Chair

or

Gordon Childs, Secretariat

Contact details given on front page



England Section

HazardEx

Peterborough 27th & 28th February 2008

HazardEx is a conference led exhibition supporting the global hazardous area marketplace.

As a partner to the event, the ISA-England section will be represented at **stand No. E7**, so please come along and visit us.

Entry to the exhibition is free, providing you have completed and returned the registration form enclosed.

However, should you wish to participate in the comprehensive two day conference, please visit **www.hazardexonthenet.net**

Delegate packages for the conference start from as little as £125.00 +VAT

The event also includes a Gala awards Dinner on the first evening.

We look forward to seeing you there!

EIConnect

Booking Now

25 - 27 February 2008

ISA England will be supporting the award winning EIConnect event, dedicated to the Oil & Gas and Power industry sectors.

The Energy Industries Council is the trade association to UK companies that supply capital goods and services to the energy industry worldwide.

EIConnect will be held at the Novotel London West in Hammersmith and aims to offer delegates variety, versatility and value for money with registrations starting from £230 +VAT. The first two days will be dedicated to Oil and Gas topics and the third day to Power Generation sector.

Entry to the event is as a delegate only.

Book your place now by completing the enclosed booking form.

Profile – Webmaster

Chris Marklew has been the section webmaster since 2000 and has been an ISA member for 13 years. He graduated in Electrical engineering from Aston University in 1970 and qualified later as a Chartered Engineer. He is a Member of the Institution of Engineering and Technology and Fellow of the Institute of Measurement and Control.

His career has been primarily spent in the field of industrial measurement and control and gained much of this experience in the process weighing industry during which time he was an active member of the Institute of Measurement and Control weighing group.

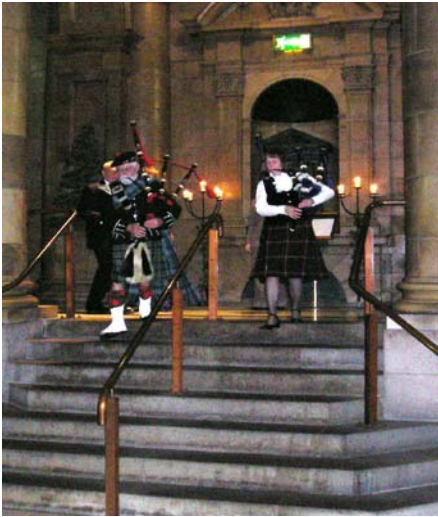
He gained over 20 years of experience in engineering management including the management of design and development teams and of project engineering teams and held several senior management positions. His hands on background covered both electronic circuit design and software design having developed microprocessor based weighing instrumentation for Salter, Avery and Nova Weigh.



As a consultant engineer with Aston Dane he has been responsible for the design of process control systems employing batch process control packages and in implementation of manufacturing information / reporting systems. His current technological experience encompasses reporting systems based on SQL server, data historians based on OSI PI and Automsoft RAPID and custom software applications written in 'Java' and .Net languages. His involvement in batch control gave rise to his interest in the early development of S88 part 1 standard and his subsequent contribution to the S88 part 4 standard through the S88 standards group. He is married with two daughters and still finds time to research family genealogy, play guitar and keep fit by cycling to the office. His interest in the time consuming activity of gliding ensures that spare time is rare commodity.

ISA England Section – 2007 Presidents Dinner

Once again the England Section held its annual dinner dance at the Palace Hotel, Manchester, on November 30th, and once again it was a huge success! Firstly we must thank those who organised this event, in particular Gordon Childs. The amount of time and effort required to organise these events should not be underestimated and this effort was rewarded with an evening enjoyed by all who attended.



As the event coincided with St Andrews day we were initially entertained by two very fine pipers, sponsored by Hima-Sella



The ISA Student Award, part of which is a year's free membership, is made annually to the most outstanding student achieving an MSc in Process Automation through part-time study at Newcastle University. The modular MSc course is run by PACT (Partnership in

L-R, Jonathan Love (PACT Course Director), Russell Hobbs (ISA England Section President), Sean Atkinson (Student Award Winner), Gordon Childs (ISA England Section Secretariat and Education Chair)

Automation and Control Training) which consists of the University and a consortium of companies, supported by the ISA England Section. This year's award was made to Sean Atkinson from Roche Ireland – Congratulations! Please contact Gordon Childs for further details of the scheme.

The President's Dinner also provided the ideal opportunity to show appreciation publicly to several stalwart and recently retired Committee Members; most of whom had given over 15 year's continuous service in various posts. Indeed, without dedicated volunteers such as this, it would be difficult for the Section to operate successfully. The recipients of long service awards were Alan Palmer, Michael Scott, David Norman, Ron Migliorini, Frank McKenna, David White and Gordon Childs.



After the formalities we were entertained into the late hours with the exceptional vocal talents of Steve Bayliss and a lively disco.

Thank you to all who attended to make this such an enjoyable night and also to all those companies that sponsored the event.