



# May

## Newsletter 2006

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## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

**ISA England Section has just hosted the District 12 Leadership Conference in Manchester and we hoped that it would showcase our section. It did and more!**

I cannot thank the organising committee enough; they managed a difficult task as well as doing their day job and are true stars. I also want to thank the sponsors because their support is vital to us.

Whilst the DLC was being organised the England Section also organised a technical seminar on safety systems held on the 4th April at the Catalyst Museum in Widnes (more on page 3). This event was a huge success and was undertaken with the co-operation of the Institute of Measurement and Control, Manchester and Chester Section, so a big thank also goes to Tom Nobes of BNG for his help. A special mention for Ian Parry from Hima Sella is deserved for the organising of this event for the ISA.

It has been a busy time since the last newsletter and my head hasn't stopped spinning yet. Organising these events is hard work, but we usually have some fun along the way and there is always room for more volunteers to assist. **If you want to get involved just contact one of the committee members and we will be very pleased to hear from you.**

Regards

Peter Partington

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# DISTRICT 12 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Manchester – May 2006

**Representatives from Abu Dhabi to Russia and all the points in between that make up District 12**, met in Manchester on 12th and 13th May for the annual District Leadership Conference. Hosted by the England Section, and supported by a number of sponsors, the two day meeting covered a diverse range of topics ranging from Membership Benefits, to Standards and Practices, and the future of ISA and the Automation profession.

Ken Baker, ISA President, followed Billy Walsh's (District 12 DVP) warm welcome, by giving a detailed presentation on the development of ISA and where it is heading in the future. In its aim to bring Automation to the fore within the engineering society, alongside the more easily recognised disciplines such as Chemical, Mechanical, Electrical or Electronic Engineering, ISA, with the World Batch Forum and OMAC, has become a founding member of the Automation Federation, an umbrella organisation formed to promote collaboration of working groups within automation through strategic alliances.

District 12 has continued to grow, with Sections in Abu Dhabi, Israel, Scandinavia, and most recently Kuwait. Despite the current skill shortage, there is hope for the future with Student Sections showing a growth in numbers, especially in Europe.



Five particular topics have been identified as those most wanted by Members as bringing the most benefit and among these were included Developing Standards; Providing Education and Training; and Publications – both books and technical articles. As a result Members are now able to receive – all downloadable from the internet:

- One free standard per year of membership
- Free access to over 40 online training seminars
- Free access to over 2500 technical papers.

These together with more focus on the Technical Divisions which give access to even more specific information on new technologies and past applications form the starting point on which to move forward.



Two days of hard work (yes honestly!) one during the unexpected but welcome heat – especially to delegates from hotter climes - of the British summer! – and the other more expected of Manchester, were supplemented by more social evening events.

On Friday evening, delegates were hosted at a Lord Mayor's Reception at the Manchester Town Hall, in recognition of the multi-cultural event and the importance of the industry sectors in which ISA works. To complete the event, on Saturday evening a Gala Dinner was held, as a thank you to delegates and sponsors alike for their support.

Jennie Norton  
Newsletter Editor

Thanks to our  
**Presenters**



A very special  
**THANK YOU**

to all the sponsors. Without your support the 2006 DLC would not have been the successful and enjoyable event it was.

**ABB**

**bürkert**  
CONTROL SYSTEMS

**EMERSON**  
Process Management

**Endress+Hauser**   
People for Process Automation

**HIMA-SELLA**

**Honeywell**

**MOORE INDUSTRIES**

**PEPPERL+FUCHS**  
CONNECTING YOUR PROCESS

**RM&C**  
for good measure

**Rockwell Automation**



# SAFETY SEMINAR AT THE CATALYST MUSEUM

Members and guests from a range of industries met at the Catalyst Museum, Widnes for a Safety Seminar based around the International Standard IEC 61508. The standard, which has been in use for 6 – 7 years, still raises many questions as to its application and affect on business and plant applications.

The meeting was chaired by a member from the HSE who himself was chairman of the HSE Committee responsible for the preparation of the new HSE Competency Guidance document and as such was able to respond to questions on the competency of personnel dealing with the standard which led to some lively questions from the audience.

The three presentations took a varied look at the standard, including what questions should be asked or at the very least considered before and during the standard's application; addressed some of the worries people are experiencing in actually applying the standard; and also looked at the problems in the use and application of SMART instruments in IEC 61508 applications.

Some of the more common issues raised covered the need for diverse or Duplex systems, what about certification of devices, where do we obtain SIL equipment, where can failure rate data be found, what can and what can't be used!

A lively question and answer session completed the Seminar – for more information on these and a more detailed report on the event, please visit [www.isa-england.net](http://www.isa-england.net) or come along to the next evening seminar on this subject (see back page).

Ian Parry



## MEET THE HONORARY SECRETARY



### Rob Stockham I Eng, MIEE, B.A, Dip M, MIoD

Originally student apprentice trained at Marston Ltd in Wolverhampton, a division of IMI specialising in diverse aerospace and process engineering, progressed through works engineering and onto aerospace development for gas turbine 'engine rings'. Many projects involving process control stimulated interest in these technologies and this, combined with close support to sales and commercial activities, lead to the career choice and move into process instrumentation and technical sales.

After joining Moore Industries in 1988 in a field sales role, then with subsequent promotions to General Manager of Moore Industries-Europe, Inc. Responsibilities include looking after UK & Export sales, application support of the company's range of signal interface, fieldbus products and engineered systems.

Recently involved with the challenges IEC61508 and one of the founders of the 61508 Association in the UK, also presented papers at international nuclear conferences on 'smart' instrumentation.

A professional and 'Incorporated' engineer, business studies graduate, together with Diploma from the Chartered Institute of Marketing and member of the Institute of Directors.

## INFORMATION UPDATES

*One of the key points to come out of the DLC was that in order to keep Members up to date with what was going on in the ISA in general and in District 12 and the England Section in particular, Members information needed to be as up to date as possible.*

*It's so easy to forget to update contact details during the excitement of moving house or job, so if you have done either in the not so distant past, can you please check the contact details you have registered at ISA by going to [www.isa.org](http://www.isa.org), and update if necessary. MAKE SURE YOU KNOW EVERYTHING YOU ARE ENTITLED TO!*

# YOU ARE INVITED TO A SAFETY SEMINAR

To be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2006  
**The Royal Berkshire Conference Centre  
Madjeski Stadium, Reading**

**Come along and find out the answers to questions such as:**

What you need to ask to make a 'safe system' according to IEC61508 and IEC 61511  
The Instrument is Certified, Compliant, Evaluated – what does it all mean?  
Wireless Communications and Safety Systems – is this a good thing?  
It's People that make a system safe – are they competent?

Start 6.30pm with anticipated finish 8.30 – 9.00pm  
Refreshments available between 6.00pm and 6.30pm.

The event is supported by Hima-Sella Ltd, Moore Industries, Westermo Communications and the 61508 Association and is free of charge to members and non-members alike.

If you, your colleagues or your customers would like to know more about a subject that is integral to our industry, in an environment where you can question or exchange Ideas, then this event is not to be missed. Further details can be found on the enclosed flyer.

Places will be limited, so if you wish to attend please contact  
Gordon Childs, Secretariat at [GordonChilds@compuserve.com](mailto:GordonChilds@compuserve.com) or 01322 550409

## Welcome to New Members

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

**Andrew Warburton**

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

## Dates for your Diary

1. *The next England Section Committee Meeting will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> June at Hima-Sella Ltd.  
MEMBERS AND GUESTS WELCOME  
For more information contact the Secretariat, Gordon Childs at [GordonChilds@compuserve.com](mailto:GordonChilds@compuserve.com)*
2. *England Section AGM to be held in September. Date, Venue and Topic will be announced after the June Committee Meeting. For further details visit [www.isa-england.net](http://www.isa-england.net)*
3. *The Annual Presidents' Dinner Dance will take place this year at The Palace Hotel, Manchester on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November.  
DON'T MISS OUT – BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW*