The ISA Birmingham Section held a technical meeting on Tuesday, October 9, 2018, in the offices of KBR Engineering. This was a technical gathering and featured a presentation by Eric Woods of Vaughn and Associates in Huntsville. His topic was “Fundamentals of Gas Detection” and was well received by the attendees as an item of continuing interest and concern.

The presentation by Mr. Woods included:

- Introduction to gas detection
- Gas behaviors
- Sensor technologies
- Components of a gas monitoring system
- Hidden costs of a gas monitoring system
- Sensor site selection Calibration

One of the prime benefits of a meeting and technical presentation is the opportunity to interact with others and network. Dale Evely, Meg Moore, Yao Wang and Chris Sorensen discuss automation matters as Skip Wells is checking out some details with the speaker, Eric Woods.
ISA Birmingham Section President, Jim Key, expresses the appreciation of the section to Eric Woods for a very interesting and informative talk.

It looks like Hassan Tajer is really sharing some knowledge and insight with Robert Outlaw and Jared Stanbridge as the meeting proceeds. The ISA Birmingham Section expresses its appreciation to KBR for allowing the meeting to be held in the training room at the corporate offices in the Galleria.
ISA Birmingham Leaders 2018 – 2019

Visit the ISA Birmingham web site:
www.isa.org/birmingham

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Mark Your Calendar:

- Technical Meeting: Tuesday, November 13, 2018
- Time: 4:00 PM
Technical Meeting: Tuesday, January 8, 2019  
Time: 4:00 PM  
Speaker: Paul Gruhn PE, CFSE – aeSolutions – Houston, Texas  
Topic: “The Next Bhopal”  
Location: Revere Control Systems

Honors and Awards Dinner: National Engineers Week  
Sponsored by the Engineering Council of Birmingham (ECOB)  
February 19, 2019  
Location: Harbert Center – Birmingham, Al

49th Annual training class: “Fundamentals of Industrial Automation, Instrumentation, and Control”  
May 7 – 9, 2019 (8:00 AM until 4:00 PM)  
Location: KBR Engineering in Birmingham

Anyone with suggestions as to program topics and presentations, should contact Mark Isbell at misbell@wgyates.com, with ideas and suggestions.

SAFETY TOPIC
Where there is a will, there is a way.
**Technical Brain Teaser:**

From the figure below, the output of FT-1 is a (an):

a. Electronic signal  
b. Hydraulic signal  
c. Pneumatic signal  
d. Computer data signal

![Diagram showing a control system with components FT-1, FIC-1, I/P, FE, FV-1, and a feedback loop labeled P&D.](image-url)
Answer

This is a direct question relating to the ISA Standard S5.1-2009, Symbology for Control Systems documentation and diagrams. The standard was updated and issued about 6 years ago and includes means to handle fieldbus, wireless transmission, special instruments, software items, and safety instrumented systems. The dashed line has not changed and it is an electronic output from the transmitter.

Answer is A  Electronic Signal