ISA Birmingham Section Meeting
March 10, 2020
Report

The ISA Birmingham Section conducted a technical presentation meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, and a good turnout was the result. The attendees heard a very interesting talk presented by Jeff Blair of Schneider Electric.

The meeting was held in the offices of W.G. Yates Engineering with a starting time of 4:00 PM. Mr. Blair has made presentations in Birmingham before, and is a known subject matter expert on level measurement technologies. The session presentation was “Choosing the Right Level Transmitter” with an explanation of some of the many techniques that may be used to determine the level in a vessel.

There are many ways and technologies available to employ for measurement of level in the process industries, based on situations and conditions encountered. This presentation discussed some of the various methods that may be used to give the most satisfactory results. A wide variety of measurement options should be considered and the selection based on the application, accuracy requirement, control needs, and facility practices.
Jim Key (L), ISA Birmingham Section Past President, discusses the presentation with speaker, Jeff Blair (R), Schneider Electric.
A portion of the crowd listens intently to a key point of discussion of level measurement techniques and which ones work in what situations.

The attendees found the topic of liquid level measurement and the various types, to be very interesting.
ISA Birmingham Short Course

The ISA Birmingham Section is proud to present the 50th Annual "Fundamentals of Industrial Automation, Instrumentation, and Control" training class. This popular and successful event will take place on May 5 – 7, 2020, in the offices of Revere Control Systems in Hoover.
The fee is a very reasonable $895.00 ($795.00 for ISA members), for a valuable three day course led by industry subject matter experts.

Please make this information available to anyone who can use instruction and training in basic fundamentals of process control. This is a great opportunity to have education to improve job performance and to advance technical competence. The instructors are subject matter experts with years of practical experience in control systems design and operation.

Brochures, schedules, and additional information may be obtained by contacting Gerald Wilbanks at gwilbankspe@charter.net or by phone at (205) 566-9801.

Please use the link below to register for the class and to obtain additional information on logistics, housing, schedule, instructors, etc.

https://www.isa.org/events-conferences/events-calendar/event-details/?productId=66931208

Mark Your Calendar:

➢ ISA Birmingham Facility Tour – Tuesday, April 14, 2020
  Alabama Power: Smart Neighborhood
  Topic: Microgrid Electrical System
  Time: 4:00 p.m.
  Attendees to meet in parking lot at 3545 Market Street, Hoover, AL 35226, and car pool on to the tour site.

➢ 50th Annual Short Course: May 5 – 7, 2020
  Revere Control Systems
  Birmingham, AL
Honors and Awards Dinner: Tuesday, May 12, 2020
Red Lobster Restaurant – Highway 31 in Vestavia
Recognition of the award recipients for 2019, presentation of all former ISA Birmingham Section Presidents, and introduction of the officers for 2020 – 2021.

Anyone with suggestions as to program topics and presentations, should contact Mark Isbell at misbell@wgyates.com, with ideas and suggestions.
ISA Birmingham Leaders 2019 – 2020

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

- President: Meg Moore – W.G. Yates Company (mmoore@wgyates.com)
- Vice President: John Cover – BBP (cover.john5@gmail.com)
- Treasurer: Patrick Joseph – Southern Company Services (pjoseph@southernco.com)
- Secretary: Steven Holland – W. G. Yates Company (sholland@wgyates.com)
- Past President: Jim Key – Southern Company Services (jimkey@southernco.com)
- Section Delegate: John Cover – BBP (cover.john5@gmail.com)
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- Historian: Skip Wells – Southern Company Services (skipandalice@att.net)
- Student Section Liaison: Yao Wang – Southern Company Services (ywang@southernco.com)
- Section Division Liaison: Charles Morris (c.morris7711@gmail.com)
- ECOb Liaison: Cliff Fleming – Control Equipment Company (cleming@eadsdistribution.com)
- President Advisory Team and Special Assignment:
  - Delane Ponder – Southern Company Services (X2ponder@southernco.com)
  - Grady Andrews – Hile Controls of Alabama (gandrews@hilealabama.com)
  - Cliff Fleming – Control Equipment Company (cfleming@eadsdistribution.com)
  - Frank Flow – Flexim Inc. (fnflow@yahoo.com)
  - John Edge – Sick (john4auburn@gmail.com)
  - Kiumars Bahri – Southern Company Services (kbahri@aol.com)

Matt’s – Word for the Day

**Pulchritude**
puhl-kra-tood
Part of speech: noun
Origin: Late Middle English, 15th century

1 Beauty
2 Physical attractiveness

Examples of Pulchritude in a sentence
"The princess was known for her pulchritude, with artists lining up to paint her portrait."

"The pristine wilds of the western U.S. were heralded as evidence of the country's breathtaking pulchritude."

Technical Brain Teaser
A plant has a 30-foot high water tank mounted on top of a 70-foot platform. What is the water level in the tank, if a pressure gauge on the first floor, height 5 feet, reads 40 psig?

a. 22.3
b. 27.3
c. 30
d. 10
You must take the platform height into account and remember that the gage reading is in psig. The specific gravity of the fluid is 1.0, since the material is stated as water. Therefore, you need to convert pounds per square inch into feet of water to have usable units. A key factor is to subtract the 65 feet from the reading to get the level of water in the 30 foot tank.

\[
P = 40 \text{PSIG} \\
\text{P} = \frac{40 \text{#}}{\text{in}^2} \cdot \frac{2.31 \text{ ft H2O}}{\text{#}/\text{in}^2} \\
P = 92.4 \text{ ft H2O} \\
\text{LEVEL} = 92.4' - 65' = 27.4' \\
\]

Answer is B 27.3