

# Cast Your Ballot

**It's presidential primary season here in the United States, and we thought we'd get in on the action by encouraging you to take part.**

No, this is not a message about politics. We don't care whether you're Republican or Democrat. But we do want you to vote. We want you to vote for us.

The ballot appears on page 55, and it looks suspiciously like a subscription form.

Please fill it out. We need your support.

A vote for **Power Transmission Engineering** helps us better understand who you are, what you do and how we can provide you with the information you need. In addition, your support helps us in a number of very tangible business-related ways :

- Your subscription helps us communicate to our advertisers that we reach a very specific, targeted audience of people who are potential buyers of their products.
- Having subscribers allows us to claim the periodicals postage rate afforded by the USPS, which costs less than mailing via any other means.
- Most importantly, a vote for **PTE** lets us know that you actually want this information, that you find this resource valuable. We don't want to waste money, paper, transportation and other resources it takes to get this in your hands if you don't find it valuable.

Of course, no stump speech would be complete without telling you what we've done for you lately. However, unlike what you often hear from politicians, every word that follows is 100% true!

Every issue we try to give you a blend of mechanical power transmission articles, and this issue is no exception. We start it off with our focus on fluid power. Alex Cannella's article (page 20) touches on increasing power density in fluid power systems as well as ways to extend the service life of fluid cylinders. Also, the IFPE trade show—held in conjunction with CONEXPO (March 10-14 in Las Vegas)—only comes once every three years. So don't miss Senior Editor Jack McGuinn's IFPE preview on page 40.



Senior Editor Matt Jaster's in-depth feature on mechatronics (p. 24) delves into the flexible, intelligent drive systems being offered by many of the leading suppliers, and his article on gearmotors talks about harsh environments, digitization, customization and improved service life.

For something on the lighter side, we have an interesting case study on an agricultural application you may not have heard of: automated brush systems for cows (p. 36). Our technical articles this issue focus on computing gear sliding losses (p. 42) and motor sizing for unusual loads (p. 46).

And our Power Play this issue tops it all off with some really big bearings (p. 56).

We're proud of the issue, and we believe you'll find a lot of great articles to read. So please turn to page 55 and cast your ballot for **Power Transmission Engineering**.

Randy Stott

