

Gear Expo — The Drive Technology Show

Jenny Blackford, Vice President Marketing, AGMA



Where do you go to find new suppliers for your power transmission projects? Where do you test drive the latest technologies available?

More than 30 years ago a small group of gear manufacturers and suppliers realized that there was no event that focused on the gear industry and power transmission. Sure, there were shows like IMTS that focused on machine tools, and vertical shows focusing on one industry—such as ConExpo-CON/AGG and MineExpo—but there was nothing specifically for power transmission professionals. This group of AGMA members proposed a new show, Gear Expo, which started as a small number of table top exhibits in a Cincinnati hotel ballroom in 1986. Today, Gear Expo has expanded to be the “Drive Technology Show,” bringing more than 200 global companies and covering more than 60,000 square feet of the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio this October. We invite you to join us.

Gear Expo focuses on bringing all aspects of the mechanical power transmission industry together in one place. Leading manufacturers of gearing, bearings, lubrication, inspection and machine tools are all on display side by side for customers to be able to compare solutions, see the latest technologies, and interact with existing suppliers. Product engineers can bring their latest project specs and get valuable information and begin the specification process with potential suppliers conveniently in a matter of hours instead of stretching meetings over weeks. Purchasing managers can talk to a large number of their vendors all in one place—and compare offerings of new companies that may become suppliers in the future. And executives will have their peers in the industry all in one place for invaluable connecting.

Beyond the show floor, education

opportunities abound for all levels of product, manufacturing and design engineers. These seminars are designed to provide practical knowledge in a short amount of time—either a half day or one full day—and give you a chance to visit the exhibit hall as well. Of particular interest to power transmission engineers, there are seminars on bearing failures, gearbox maintenance, and understanding gear inspection reports. New this year is a half-day seminar, “Gearbox Field Inspection—Load Distribution, Lubrication and Condition Monitoring,” that focuses on potential causes of gearbox failure, and how they can be identified and avoided. These educational offerings are taught by professionals who have spent their careers doing this work, thereby bringing years of experience into the classrooms.

In addition to these seminars, Gear Expo has free education on the show floor at the Solutions Center. Each day exhibitors will showcase their latest capabilities and solutions to manufacturing problems in brief, 20-minute presentations open to all attendees. Pop by the Solutions Center for a short primer on a topic and then head to the exhibitor’s booth to find out more about their potential solution that could boost your productivity or

give you a new idea to solve an existing problem.

We will also have keynote speakers each day at the Solutions Center. This year, the keynotes will discuss important emerging technologies. Come hear about Smart Manufacturing IoT/Industry 4.0 solutions for your plants and supply chains. And then hear from Jay Rogers, founder and CEO of Local Motors on Thursday, October 26. Local Motors is a company focused on manufacturing of open source motor vehicles, mostly 3D printed, using talent from across the world in what he describes as micro-factories. All the presentations in the Solutions Center will inform, hopefully inspire, and in some cases make you think outside the box for improvements to your own business endeavors.

In three short days, power transmission professionals can learn from the best experts in the industry, have conversations with existing and potential new suppliers, see and test drive the latest power transmission technologies, and interact with thousands of your peers. What’s the cost of one new idea? For a day or two out of the office you can gain invaluable amount of new information.

I hope to see you in Columbus, October 24-26. **PTE**

