

March 5–6—2nd International VDI Conference: Maintenance of Wind Turbines.

Hamburg, Germany. Wind turbines have an expected service life of some 20 years. However, manufacturers' liability mostly covers only the initial two to five years of operation. But systems will age, so operators must ensure technical support for maintenance needed in their wind turbines. A pro-active service and maintenance concept is one of the major success factors governing system availability of a high level in any machinery or plant. The conference will focus on issues like which promising maintenance concepts are available and what are their associated costs and risks. Experts will highlight major mechanisms causing structural damage or difficulties in the operation of wind power plants. Expert presenters will come from various renowned companies to report on the maintenance of electrical components and systems in wind turbines, present a comparative study on concepts for offshore maintenance, and demonstrate asset integrity management. For more information, go to www.vdi.de/maintenance.

March 12–14—Gearbox CSI: Forensic Analysis of Gear and Braking Failures.

Hyatt Regency Baltimore, on the Inner Harbor, Baltimore, Maryland. Determining the cause of failure in a gearbox is like a "whodunnit" mystery. What caused the failure: The bearings, a gear, the lubrication or a shaft problem? Where do you start, and how can you tell? Instructors Raymond Drago and Joseph Lenski, Jr., from Drive Systems Technology, Inc., will help gear designers gain a better understanding of various types of gears and bearings. Learn about the limitations and capabilities of rolling element bearings and the gears that they support so you can properly apply the best gear-bearing combination to any gearbox, whether simple or complex. A certificate will be awarded upon

completion of the seminar. For more information, visit www.agma.org.

March 20–21—Gear Forum International 2013.

Parma Exhibition Center, Parma, Italy. Opinion leaders, international buyers of gears and gear suppliers will meet to talk about issues regarding the future of gears, including expectations and solutions. The event is coordinated by an international steering committee chaired by Prof. Carlo Gorla, of the Mechanical Department of Politecnico di Milano and technical director of *Organi di Trasmissione*, and represented by leading experts of the gear sector that will discuss research trends, standards, present and future trends in the United States, worm gear performance, software and simulation for gears and automotive power transmission efficiency. Speakers include Prof. Dr. Ing. Karsten Stahl, director of Technische Universität München; Charlie Fischer, vice president-technical division of the American Gear Manufacturers Association (AGMA); Michael Goldstein, publisher and editor-in-chief of *Gear Technology* magazine; Michel Octrue, president of Centre Technique des Industries Mécaniques; Dr. Ulrich Kissling, technical director and purchase manager of KISSsoft; and Andrea Piazza, transmission and hybrid design and testing department manager for Fiat Power Train. The event will be held within MEC SPE, the international fair on technologies in the mechanical and subcontracting sectors. For more information, visit www.senaf.it/MECSPE/home/117.

March 21–23—PTDA Spring Leaders Conference.

PTDA Spring Leaders Conference. Hotel Contessa, San Antonio, Texas. The three components of the Spring Leaders Conference include governance meetings for PTDA committees, the Leadership Development Conference and a General Educational Session. Kevin Boyle, president of Industrial Distribution Consulting, LLC, will

present a three-hour interactive workshop focused on the power transmission distribution channel. Randy Disharoon, strategic account manager of Rexnord Industries, LLC will present a workshop on developing leaders in the PT/MC distribution sales channel. For more information, visit www.ptda.org.

April 25–27—2013 AGMA/ABMA Annual Meeting.

Park Hyatt Aviara, Carlsbad, CA. More than 150 years ago thousands of people migrated to California, where they joined forces and tested their luck in the gold fields. In 2013 attendees will bring home ideas, meet new business associates, and create a lifetime of memories. Featured presenters include Jay Timmons (National Association of Manufacturers), Jim Meil (Eaton Corporation) and Dan Cam-pion (Solar Turbines). Former MLB pitcher Jim Abbott will also give a presentation on overcoming adversity. There's also a scheduled visit to the United States Marine Corps Air Station in Miramar and a night of entertainment celebrating the iconic music of the 1960s. For registration information, visit www.agma.org.

May 14–16—Eastec 2013.

Eastern States Exposition, West Springfield, Massachusetts. East Coast manufacturers come to Eastec looking for top suppliers and new partners and to evaluate new equipment and applications from industries like defense, aerospace, consumer products, medical, automotive, computers and more. Eastec traces its history to 1979 and attracts 45,000 manufacturers to learn about the latest management ideas. The educational program includes a leadership seminar, keynote speakers and a lean and a green resource center. Eastec technologies include bearings, gears and splines, material handling, packaging, sensors, controls, machine tools, machine centers, automation, plant efficiency and workholding. For more information, visit www.sme.org.