



Turbine Tribune

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Special points of interest:

- > R&S Maintenance and Repair— International Efforts
- > NCSRC— Changing times
- > Axis Mechanical Group has Faro
- > STG Users Group Conference
- > S.T. Cotter Project Report
- > A Note From Shawn's Desk

International Efforts

R&S Maintenance and Repair Services, GP Ltd. is officially operational and actively pursuing opportunities in Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, and even Egypt. We are engaging with many potential customers, and we have been busy generating quotations for upcoming outage work. With our expertise being power generation, heavy industry, and oil and gas, we should have something to offer just about everyone. We provide field service personnel and tooling for turnarounds and outages for



ALL types of rotating equipment. Please visit our website at www.RSMRService.com for a more complete company review including personnel, tooling, capabilities, and experience. For those of you with assets abroad within your company, please refer your colleagues to our website ...

or simply drop me a note to my email below. We have qualified, trained staff that are properly tooled up and ready to be at any site for scheduled or emergent outages/turnarounds. Now we need your help in filling up our backlog. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Rodney Johnson
President Sales and Marketing
R&S Maintenance and Repair Services
505-860-3261
RJohnson@RSMRService.com

Thank you!
We appreciate your business!

Adapting to Changing Times

Changes are in the nature of the world, and our union is not immune to changes either. Our contractors change their bidding practices as well as changing tooling to enhance their ability to remain competitive amongst other contractors union and non-union. Our union changes to keep pace with the market and industry and even the dreaded political climate that affects our Union's ability to strengthen our member-



ship and level the playing field for our contractors to compete. One of the largest changes for our members belonging to the Twin Cities health plan was changing from an hour eligibility based system to a dollar bank system. The former being more difficult to understand, much less explain to members and

contractors alike. From rolling quarter and the look back and not being able to continually bank hours because of banked hour limit which didn't benefit the craftsman that had the opportunity to work steady. Any additional hours worked went into the health fund coffers to help offset shortages or increases in healthcare that were outpacing our contribution increases.

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Changing with the Times. continued

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The dollar bank system deals in a straight forward approach that makes it easier to understand and explain. It also benefits the millwright that has continuous employment and the millwright that hits sporadic periods (shutdowns) and has been unable to make bank for healthcare because of the rolling quarter and the look back. The dollar bank works off the premise that for each hour

worked the hourly contribution goes into the member's individual account and can be banked without a limit of dollars being banked for that member. That means that a member doesn't lose hours (now dollars) they earned and once a member has the dollars required to pay the quarterly premium any additional hours are stored in their personal account. And after initial required payment

has been met for the quarter, if a member misses the dollar amount required for the following quarter they are allowed to self-pay the difference whether it's ten hours or one hour which was not allowable in the hour bank system. A career member that works his or her career under this system could bank a large dollar bank that could allow them to pay for their healthcare premiums for a longer pe-

riod of time after their retirement. We also are hopeful to allow a member to pay for co-pays out of their dollar bank in the future. We will just need to gain some experience of the dollar bank before we can make that decision.

John G Raines

Executive Secretary-Treasurer
North Central States
Regional Council of
Carpenters

Axis Mechanical brings on Janice Gilbert

HOUSTON - Janice Gilbert has joined Axis Mechanical Group, Inc. as Corporate Account Development Manager of National Business Growth and Marketing. She successfully brings over 17 years of Petrochemical aggressive cold calling & account growth experience to this new role. Janice's background is in I&E



sales, design and corporate branding sales, & project controls account

management and growth.

Janice Gilbert

Corporate Account Development Manager

713-540-9688

Janice@axismechgrp.com

Contact Janice for a quote today!



AXIS MECHANICAL GROUP

"I feel very fortunate to be a part of Axis's successful team and growth."

Janice Gilbert

New Accounting Email Addresses

S.T. Cotter Turbine Services has established new email addresses for our accounts payable, accounts receivable and purchase orders. To ensure your email is received by the appropriate person and/or multiple people, contact AP, AR, or PO's by using the email addresses below:



Accounts.payable@stcotterturbine.com - for your Invoicing or questions.

Accounts.receivable@stcotterturbine.com - to remit Funds or with questions.

Purchase.orders@stcotterturbine.com - for Purchase Orders or with PO questions.

Axis Mechanical Group

Originally developed by the government as part of the “Star Wars” initiative, laser tracking technology was developed to track and shoot down incoming weapons in space. Today, Axis Mechanical Group (AMG), based in Houston, uses the same technology — with the 3D FARO Laser Tracker — to take large-scale, highly accurate, consistent and reportable measurements of virtually any piece of machinery. AMG’s 3D FARO Laser Tracker is also used for the



internal alignment of turbomachinery with the ability to hold close tolerances, improving efficiency and reducing downtime. “The FARO Laser Tracker Vantage System is the

world’s most comprehensive laser tracking solution,” said AMG President John Hanks. “This tool provides exact alignment for any piece of rotating or reciprocating equipment

(within 0.0006 inches). Large-scale, 3D metrology is now faster and easier than ever before. We can complete jobs faster and reduce downtime, which our customers love.”

Recently, AMG also added the FARO Track ScanArm, which combines the capabilities of a ScanArm and a laser tracker into one long-range, high-accuracy 3D measurement system. “We are thrilled to have this system, because it is *Cont’d on page 4*

Steam Turbine and Generator Users Group Conference 2017

- **August 1st – 3rd**
Best Western Ramkota, Bismarck, ND
- **August 1st**
Golf at Bully Pulpit
- **August 2nd**
Reception on the Louis and Clark Riverboat after the day’s sessions end

For more information contact:
Missy at missy.pemberton@stcorterturbine.com
Nichole at Nichole.cotter@stcorterturbine.com

2017 Steam Turbine and Generator Users Group



The Steering Committee for the Steam Turbine and Generator Users Group Conference met in January to select presenters for the 2017 Conference. A great line-up of presenters and session topics (listed below) has been chosen for this year’s conference.

Last year, Union representation and additional presenters joined our conference. This year, there are a few new presenters and local utility owners have joined the Steering Committee and will present at the conference. With this successful conference growing each year, it’s proving to be an exciting year for the STG Users Group Conference. Details and contact information are listed in the box to the left .

We hope you can join us!



One of the best User Groups I’ve Been to.
Ottertail Power



Presenters:

- Applied Technical Services
- The Progress Group, Inc.
- Illinois Electric Works
- Minnkota
- Full Spectrum Diagnostics, PLLC
- Ottertail and Minnkota
- S.T. Cotter Turbine Services, Inc.
- Brush GMS
- Faro

Topics:

- NDE Discussions
- Turbine Components
- HIT Skid
- Flux Probe
- Case Histories
- Case History Comparison
- Project Review
- Excitation and Generator Maintenance
- Alignment Technology

It’s a great opportunity to connect with likeminded Business Professionals in a relaxed setting. “

An Attendee

“Very Good sessions – Keep it up!”

An Attendee

On Time and Under Budget!

S.T. Cotter Turbine Services completed yet another on time and under budget project in North Dakota. This was the first inspection of a Siemens upgrade which encompassed not only the technical direction, labor and tooling but NDE, Boresonic, repairs and start up support. This outage was scheduled for 5 weeks and not only was the scope of work completed on time, but without a safety incident or accident.

Timing and scheduling are paramount to complete a project like this; Paul Kodem (Minnkota Power Cooperative) and Ken Hager



(S.T. Cotter Turbine TD) were the conductors of this orchestra; managing on and off site work, as well as alignment and repair issues. While the main turbine inspection was being completed on schedule, the boiler feed pump turbine

inspection was being completed down stairs; this too was completely cleaned and inspected with minor repairs.

This is another prime example of taking the time to plan your outage properly and it will pay you off in safety and schedule!

Shawn Cotter,
VP of Operations
612-424-5614
shawn.cotter@stcotterturbine.com



The first recorded example of a steam turbine was **Hero's Aeolipile**, a reaction

turbine dating from about 60 A.D. The Steam Turbine's modern predecessor was invented by Sir Charles Parsons

Axis Cont'd

capable of quickly and easily reaching hidden points without any required tooling or the need to establish reference points," Hanks said.

Here's how the combined system works:

- A laser target mounts on the ScanArm to synchronize the system into the laser tracker's coordinate system — on a single seat of software.
- The laser tracker expands the ScanArm's working volume up to 80 meters, so it can be quickly repositioned with greater accuracy.
- The ScanArm eliminates the laser tracker's line-of-sight restrictions, allowing for measurements around corners and inside cavities.
- The ScanArm provides fast, high-resolution 3D

scanning with blue laser technology.

"The FARO laser trackers we have are extremely accurate, portable coordinate-measuring machines that enable us to build products, optimize processes and deliver solutions by measuring quickly, simply and precisely," Hanks said. "These laser trackers optimize workflow productivity management for large-scale metrology applications, including assembly alignment, part and assembly inspection, machine installation and alignment, and reverse engineering."

According to Hanks, the FARO laser trackers also carry a Remote Controls™ workflow (patent pending), which streamlines their operations, allowing a single user to control func-

tions such as live video feed and laser tracker movements from a mobile phone or tablet. A single operator is able to easily control the laser tracker from anywhere in the measurement area.

Other benefits of the FARO laser trackers include:

- Industry-leading portability with an integrated master control unit (MCU). These laser trackers are easily transported between jobsites or locations in a single carrying case.
- Hot-swappable batteries that eliminate the need for alternating current (AC) power and cabling.
- Industrial grade Wi-Fi for reliable, wireless communications.
- Easy integration with FARO's patented Super 6DoF (Degrees of Free-

dom) Track ScanArm solution to completely eliminate line-of-sight challenges.



New location for AMG

AMG is also very excited to be moving into its new 12,000-square-foot facility, which will allow the company to increase its capabilities and benefit new and existing customers. AMG's new facility is located at 5916 East Sam Houston Parkway South in Houston.

For more information, visit www.axismechgrp.com or call (832) 449-6485.

**We're on the
web!**

www.stcotterturbine.com

and

Facebook

[https://
www.facebook.com/
pages/ST-Cotter-Turbine-
-Services-
Inc/34768126859153](https://www.facebook.com/pages/ST-Cotter-Turbine-Services-Inc/34768126859153)

S.T. Cotter Turbine Services, Inc.

A complete turnkey services provider with a focus on steam turbine, gas turbines and precision rotating equipment in refineries, power plants paper mills ethanol plants and other heavy industrial facilities. We provide service for planned maintenance, emergent outages and balance of plant work.

Our field technicians staff with 75 years of project management. Our Workforce has over 200 years of combined experience in the field.

Our Current EMR is .69

**With us, Safety and Quality are
Number 1!**

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Your complete turnkey
service provider.



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vices, Inc.**

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turnkey solutions.



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Axis Mechanical Group, Inc.

A union millwright company that provides turnkey solutions for installation, maintenance, repair, overhaul, and upgrade of industrial rotating and reciprocating equipment for the petrochemical industry.

AMG's combination of experienced professionals and the latest technology ensures the safest and highest quality work, making us the reliable choice.

At AMG, we know one key factor to a seamless execution of any petrochemical project turnaround starts with planning. Our experienced technical field supervisors will work with you and become an integral part of your facilities TA and BOP planning process. In addition to planning, AMG has the tooling and equipment needed to handle any size job.

**Check us out on
the web!**

www.axismechgrp.com

and

Facebook

[https://
www.facebook.com/
Axis-Mechanical-Group
-1603857769890345/](https://www.facebook.com/Axis-Mechanical-Group-1603857769890345/)

A note from the Shawn's desk

As we start a new year, under a new administration, we all hope for positive change in our industry and in our country. Although it may seem that our conductor is sometimes singing to his own music off key, he is still our leader. To protest



his decisions and choices is not only patriotic, it is our duty as Americans to create the noise and voice the opinions or options that make our country so great.

This can be said the same in our industry, if the owner were only to hear the OEM's sales pitches and their prices, they would pay higher prices and never know the advantage to using a non-OEM. The owner's costs would be considerably higher and improve-

ments would happen at a much, much slower rate.

To question the OEM's (or the President) is correct and American, and also doing the owners a solid service.

Shawn Cotter,

VP of Operations

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