ASME International

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Engineering & Technology Management Group Newsletter

John Bozewicz, Editor *April 2001*

From the Chair of the Safety Engineering and Risk Analysis Division

David W. Pyatt

Integration of safety directly into the design of consumer products was one highlight of the "technological revolution" of the past few decades. This change has been highly effective but subtle and has not received the fanfare of the Internet, electronic chips, or cellular telephones. In fact, safety is generally recognized in a negative way—often only when serious accidents occur. A good example is the development of the radial tire and a corresponding database to identify and track causes of failures when they occur for various types of vehicles and other common mode contributors.

However, all the public is aware of recently is how a certain type of a certain brand of tire perhaps coupled to a certain vehicle is suspect, leading pundits to speculate openly of the bankruptcy of that tire manufacturer.

As a practicing "safety professional" for a number of years I know how difficult it is to improve safety methods. So

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From the Chair of the Management Division

Steven P. Nichols

Last summer, the Management Division, the Safety Engineering and Risk Analysis Division, and the Technology and Society Division initiated a new experiment in cooperation by publishing our first joint newsletter. (The newsletter that you now have in your hand is our third joint publication.) This has allowed us to leverage our efforts to reach a broader audience with an increased frequency. Member comments that I have received have been uniformly positive. Encouraged by the results and by your comments, the three divisions organized a joint Symposium at the 2000 International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition last November in Orlando, Florida (Successfully Managing the Risk and Development of Your Business and Technology). These 21 sessions were organized to offer practicing engineers, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and managers an opportunity to explore new engineering, management and technology concepts and their applications in a variety of business and industry sectors.

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From the Chair of the Technology & Society Division

Robert H. Burns

Greetings again. If you didn't get to attend, you missed a great time at the Congress this past year in Orlando, Florida, where yours truly shot a miraculous 88 on Disney's Marigold golf course.

The T&S Division helped organize one of the centerpiece events at the Congress Symposium on Successfully Managing the Risk and Development of Your Business and Technology in which over 20 sessions were presented. Of particular note were two programs moderated by T&S Past Division Chair, John Paul.

The panelists for the program "Current Trends for Protecting Intellectual Property" included several distinguished speakers, including Gerald Mossinghoff (former Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Commissioner of the United States Patent and Trademark Office), Michael Kruljac (Patent and Technology Counsel for the Coca-Cola Company) and Alexander Aero (Chief Financial Officer of the Patent and License Exchange, Inc.). Mr. Mossinghoff, in addition to regaling us with humorous quips about what it was like to

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From the Chair of the Safety Engineering and Risk Analysis Division

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much has been done that breakthroughs are rare. By almost everyone's measure, whether by injury, fatality or lost revenue, the safety record is improving, particularly on a unit (e.g. Time or mile traveled) basis. Some of the items I believe were major breakthroughs include:

- Development of safety codes and standards by practitioner peer groups,
- Development of data bases to track incidents and accidents by causes,
- Development of feedback and lessons learned programs, and
- Development of structured mathematical and engineering methods.

I believe that perhaps the most important ingredient in an integrated safety program is the continuous dialogue between safety folks, designers, developers of products, and users. It has become quite fashionable to have electronic "chat" sessions on the Internet. Something akin to this would be useful in the design process. I receive few requests for the published articles (and a textbook or two I've edited) or various notebooks so neatly stored in my office. But on the other hand I believe other engineers and scientists are interested in my knowledge, either to confirm what they currently believe or to redirect their design.

SERAD introduced "technical advisers" several years ago, and I highly encourage ASME members to take advantage of this free service. Our Web site is www.asme.org/divisions/serad.

David W. Pyatt, Chair

From the Chair of the Management Division

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These sessions (and related evening activities) were quite successful. The three divisions organized the Symposium around specific objectives, but I noticed four recurring themes that were not consciously designed into the Symposium:

Leadership
Creativity
Innovation
Integrity.

These four characteristics provided a dominant theme during the technical sessions and provided an opportunity for participants to expand their understanding and appreciation for the Enterprise of Engineering. Individual papers and discussions analyzed topics such as risk assessment, protection of intellectual property, developing a business plan, management of design and manufacturing processes, and professional responsibility, but the sessions (viewed as a group) seem to me to tell a larger story. I recommend that Management Division members take a look at the papers presented at the 2001 Congress and provide the three divisions with suggestions for topics that would be of benefit to our "customers". Volunteers from each of the divisions are planning another joint Symposium for the 2001 Congress in New York.

This summer, I will step down from the position of Chair of the Division after a two year term as your chair. These two years have seen a significantly increased level of activity in the Division. I would like to take credit for the successful programs initiated by the Division, but we all know the credit clearly belongs elsewhere. The success of everything that we have done in the Management Division (and everything that we will do) depends upon the dedication of a growing number of ASME volunteers who have recognized an opportunity to contribute to the profession, and who have jumped in to make that contribution. I include this in this article not only to thank all of the volunteers for the Management Division (that would be reason enough), but also to encourage you to join your fellow ASME members in volunteering to improve the profession that we are all privileged to serve. We look forward to hearing from you.

Steven P. Nichols, P.E., Chair

From the Chair of the Technology & Society Division

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spend the night in the Lincoln bedroom at the White House, spoke on the various international patent treaties and how they have affected the protection of intellectual property and trade relationships among various countries, specifically talking about the general agreements on tariffs and trade (GATT) and trade-related intellectual property. Mr. Kruljac provided the perspective of a large American company, Coca-Cola, in licensing technology and other various concerns that arise in negotiating agreements. Mr. Aero focused on the future of the Internet as a technology transfer tool.

In the second noted program, entitled "Managing Technology Transfer Partnering," topics of discussion focused on the most recent issues in development concerning technology transfer and technology partnering including finance and technology development, choosing a technology partner, protecting a technology partner relationship, and defining goals and exit criteria for the partner relationship, as well as cutting edge on-line technology transfer tools. Panelists included Michael Kovac (Executive Director of High Technology Engineering, University of South Florida), Robert Mayberry (Executive Director of the International Organization for Chemical Sciences and Development), and Alexander Aero (Chief Financial Officer of the Patent and License Exchange, Inc.). Mr. Kovak provided the university perspective, along with sharing examples of successful technology transfer licensing programs at the University of South Florida, such as the development of an incentive package to attract a major semiconductor consortium SEMATECH in the state of Florida, which allowed Florida to receive $45 million dollars for research for its university. Mr. Mayberry, who also previously served as a Consultant for the Sciences and Technology Unit of the World Bank and the United Nations Educational/Scientific and Cultural Organization in Paris (UNESCO), and as Deputy Director of the UNESCO Regional Office for Science and Technology in Africa, provided the perspective of developing nations on technology transfer into those nations and the various cultural, economic, and political issues that arise. Mr. Aero addressed the brokering of high-technology and his company's development of an internet technology transfer system, which provides financial assessment and legal support for potential foreign licensees.

Special recognition was given to Technology & Society members Dr. Hiroshi Honda (who was an inspirational and moving force behind the entire Symposium), along with Ken Horne and Susie Tinker, among others, who as a group greatly assisted in making the Symposium the success that it was.

Next on our agenda is preparing for this Fall's 2001 Congress. We will be sending out more information about this in our future newsletters, or you can learn more by visiting our web site at http://www.asme.org/groups/etmg. Please contact me at robert.burns@ finnegan.com if you have any comments on this newsletter, or if you are interested in getting further involved with ASME and the Technology & Society Division.

Robert L. Burns, Chair

E&TM VP Message

Jeff Rode

The Engineering & Technology Management (E & TM) Group continues to grow as we move forward into the New Year. The E & TM Group recently presented a symposium at the ASME's 2000 International Congress & Exposition in Orlando, Florida. Our symposium generated a total attendance of approximately 550 people throughout the various symposium sessions (NOTE: This does not account for repeat attendees). During the 1999 Congress, our Group's sessions only generated an attendance of approximately 200 people. Therefore, using even the most conservative estimates, the E & TM Group experienced a significant overall attendance increase this year, even when factoring out the "Disney World" effect. Clearly, we are doing something right for our members!

I am proud to state that our E & TM Congress Team's efforts over the last 12 months were extremely successful. Congratulations to everyone who worked on making it such a success!

For all those who attended our sessions, we hope you received the information or gained the experience you sought. We are presently looking for more volunteers to take an active role on the Divisions' Executive Committees. Therefore, I encourage you to contact ASME Headquarters and offer your services to ensure that the E & TM Group will continue to offer the best for our members. Any suggestions you may have to further improve our sessions are also welcome.

Remember that it doesn't matter how large or small the amount of time you can volunteer; the E&TM Group has a place for you, so that you can contribute and make a difference!

Jeffrey R. Rode, VP E&TM Group

Life Long Learning and Continuous Improvement

Can you afford to neglect your career development?

A highly successful session on "Life Long Learning for Engineers & Managers" was presented by the E&TM group at the 2000 International Mechanical Engineering Congress & Exposition (IMECE) in Orlando. Life long learning and continuous improvement is a very pertinent issue in today's technology-driven world.

We all want to be valued, respected and feel indispensable in our professional area, but it comes with a price that few are willing to pay. As with all things, there is a cost to job security and respect — it is Life Long Learning and Continuous Improvement.

We've heard many physicians and nutritional experts advise that regular exercise is essential for a health body. However, we tend to forget that just like our body — our mind requires steady challenges to grow stronger. It's estimated that our latest technical knowledge becomes obsolete in 5–7 years and even sooner in the electronics field.

We discard our old computers as they become slower, but we expect our employers to continue to support our presence when our contributions to their profitability decline. Do you see something wrong with this picture?

Many of us are growing apprehensive about a slowing economy with a resultant decline in the job market, but I hold the view - not so for those who have invested only in their past - for a better future. We need to take a more pragmatic view of things around and ahead of us. One's planning and efforts are critical factors in their stable future.

The field of Life Long Learning is so critical to the viability of technical leadership of individuals and our nation that a new industry has come into play. Many new companies and organizations have grown to meet the challenge. Training to enhance our technical and soft skills are available from various agencies like universities, professional organizations such as ASME, national labs, professional trainers, employers, online websites etc. The range of choices is wide and prices are relatively low. The cost of neglect is high and steadily increasing.

The investment in Continuous Improvement and Life Long Learning is the surest

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From left: Robert Murray, President of American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers, Dr. Hiroshi Honda and Ed Harvego at the 2000 Congress. Mr. Murray was speaking about "Coal and Engineering" at an E&TM Symposium.

2000 E&TM Symposium Generates High Attendance, Confirms Value of new Group Direction

The E&TM Group sponsored its first-ever joint symposium in November 2000 at the IMECE. The symposium, Successfully Managing the Risk and Development of Your Business and Technology, included 22 technical sessions sponsored by all three of our Group's member divisions. The Group's 2000 Program Coordinator, Kenneth Horne, reports that Symposium attendance was estimated at 550, a substantial 150% increase over 1999 attendance for sessions sponsored by the same Divisions. Sessions covered a variety of related topics, from Intellectual Property to Safety Engineering; all sessions however were related by their common focus on new and evolving management and engineering practices-cutting edge content for engineers, managers and entrepreneurs. Based on the overwhelming response from the E&TM membership, it appears that the Group's new direction toward Division collaboration and increased focus on emerging issues is something that's equal to the valuable time and cost to attend. The 2001 Symposium, Partnering to Succeed: Keys to Managing Technology Development, Risk and Globalization, will build on this cross-disciplinary and emerging issues focus with an expanded 30 session program. Plan to attend!

IMECE 2001 Symposium "Partnering to Succeed: Keys to Managing Technology Development, Risk and Globalization"

The following sessions are planned, and prospective speakers are requested to submit abstracts of their presentations and/or papers to organizers and/or the program representative for our consideration by March 31, 2001.

Keynote Lectures: Keys to Managing Technology Development, Risks and Globalization (Invitation Only)

Organizer: Hiroshi Honda (Hondah9876@aol.com) Honda International, Ltd., 7-2-710, Yatsu 6-Chome, Narashino, Chiba 275-0026, Japan

This session will discuss the symposium theme "Partnering to Succeed: Keys to Managing Technology Development, Risk and Globalization" and set the scene for the entire discussion to be carried out during the symposium. Distinguished speaker(s), who could cover interesting aspects of the theme, are invited from government, academia, consulting and industry sectors.

Track 1: Knowledge Learning, Protection and Transfer (*Program Representative:* Susie Tinker)

Session T-15: Modern History of Mechanical Engineering Education and Its Interaction with Society and Industries

Organizer: Hiroshi Honda (Hondah9876@aol.com) Honda International, Ltd., 7-2-710, Yatsu 6-Chome, Narashino, Chiba 275-0026, Japan

University administrators, engineering deans, mechanical engineering department heads and/or their designees are invited to submit abstracts of their presentations to discuss the modern history of mechanical engineering education and its interaction with society and industry.

Track 5: Industry Trends: International Standards, Collaboration and Technology Development (*Program Representative*: Hiroshi Honda)

Session M-51: Periscope on International Standards: Understanding the Seascape

M-51 (1): Possible Approaches to Address the Effects and Evolution of International Standards: U. S. Perspective

Organizer: Robert Hebner, Director, CEM, the University of Texas (r.hebner@mail.utexas.edu)

This session would consist of five speakers. Each speaker from the following organizations would be asked to prepare a position paper in advance and to summarize the paper in 10 minutes. That would leave about 30 minutes for a panel discussion. The proposed topics are:

Organization: National Institute of Standards and Technology
Topic: The roles national governments have played and are playing to shape the international voluntary standards system.

Organization: National Electrical Manufacturers Association
Topic: Difficulties faced by small domestic manufacturers as standards become global.

Organization: ASME
Topic: The expected changes in standards programs run by technical societies due to efforts by multinational companies and governments to reduce the number of different standards

Organization: American National Standards Institute
Topic: The ANSI vision as to how the U.S. standards system is to evolve to remain competitive in the global market.

Organization: The University of Texas at Austin
Likely Speaker: Robert Hebner, Director, CEM
Topic: Technological, business, and political factors that are driving changes in the structure of national and international standards systems.

M-51 (2): Possible Approaches to Address the Effects and Evolution of International Standards: Non-U. S. Perspective

Whereas Session M-51 (1) focused on a largely U.S. view of the global situation, Session M-51 (2) would have a non-U.S. view. Specifically, we would try to recruit a speaker from the EU, Japan., an emerging economy, and the ISO or IEC.

Session T-53: Advancement of Energy and Engineering Technology and Its Implication and Impact on Future Society and Energy Industry

Organizer: Hiroshi Honda (Hondah9876@aol.com) Honda International, Ltd., 7-2-710, Yatsu 6-Chome, Narashino, Chiba 275-0026, Japan

Advancement of energy and engineering technologies and its impact on future society and energy industry shall be discussed from the perspectives of energy conversion, energy resources, and environmental protection.

Session T-54: Advancement of Space Utilization and Its Implication and Impact on Future Society and Aerospace Industry

Organizer: Hiroshi Honda (Hondah9876@aol.com) Honda International, Ltd., 7-2-710, Yatsu 6-Chome, Narashino, Chiba 275-0026, Japan

International space station projects are in progress, and people around the world watch its progress from the perspective of how its R&D outcome will impact on industrial development and the global society. The presenters will discuss this subject from the perspective of their own expertise.

Session T-55: Collaborative Engineering

Organizer: Shuichi Fukuda, Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Technology (ShuFukuda@aol.com)

We will discuss the issues and where we are going, especially when we have to collaborate across national boundaries, as supply chain management, B to B and B to C networking require collaboration over the network.

Businesspersons and engineers in New York City and its vicinity, engineers in networking industries and network users will be interested in this session.

Sessions T-56 and T-57: Modern History of Technology and Its impact and Interaction with Society and Industries

Organizer: Hiroshi Honda (Hondah9876@aol.com) Honda International, Ltd., 7-2-710, Yatsu 6-Chome, Narashino, Chiba 275-0026, Japan

Chairs: Art Bergles, ASME President (1990-1991) and Hiroshi Honda

Distinguished ASME members such as Presidents and Division Chairs have made significant technological achievements and some of them actually have made history in their own technological fields.

Daniel Koenig, ASME President (1995-1996) will make a presentation, relating to the changing nature of work engineers in industry must contend with. This would be an analysis of the effect on work caused by the changing nature of competition as exploited by expansion of computer technology applied to manufacturing. In addition, this has created a change in engineering education requirements for the practitioner. Lastly the expansion of computer technology has caused a merging of engineering disciplines and other work disciplines thus blurring roles between engineers, and between engineers and other functions within a company.

Interested ASME Past Presidents and Division Chairs are invited to speak at these sessions.

Symposium on "Advancement of Materials Technology and Its Impact and Implications For Future Society and Industries" (Jointly sponsored by Materials Division and Technology & Society Division)

Organizers: Hiroshi Honda (Hondah9876@aol.com) Honda International, Ltd., 7-2-710, Yatsu 6-Chome, Narashino, Chiba 275-0026, Japan, and Daniel C. Davis (Davis_DC@TSU.EDU) Texas Southern University

Materials development is one of the key areas in creating, developing and expanding numerous industry frontiers, such as those in electronics, transports, structures, machinery, offshore development, energy, home appliances, sporting goods, medical, and space utilization and development, as can be seen in their numerous applications to various products, systems, and services. The needs, demands and expectations for materials technology, however, vary significantly between developed and developing economies and also among different industry sectors, depending on the progress and state of their social, cultural and industrial conditions.

This symposium is intended to discuss state of the art materials R&D and its implications and impact on future society and industry; roles of analytical technologies in R&D, design and manufacturing of materials and products; the interaction of materials technology with demand of society; managing materials manufacturing and R&D in the coming decades and century. The discussion includes an overview and future assessment, case studies, considerations and studies based on theory, experiments and history concerning the aforementioned areas. This symposium shall be composed of the following five sessions:

1. Advancement of Electronic Materials Technology and Its Implications and Impact on Future Society and Information Technology (IT) Industry,
2. Advancement of Materials Technology and Its Implications and Impact on Future Society and Energy & Engineering Industry,
3. Advancement of Materials Technology and Its Implications and Impact on Space Utilization and Development, and Aerospace Industry,
4. Advancement of Materials Technology and Its Implications and Impact on Future Society, Sporting Goods and Welfare Industry,
5. Expectations for Materials Technology and Products, Specific to the Benefits of Developing Economies

Materials areas to be included: Metals, ceramics, composites, electronic materials, polymers, textiles, papers, materials processing, constitutive equations
Organizations to be involved: ASME E&TM Group and Materials and Structures Group (Technology & Society Division and Materials Division) are the main sponsoring divisions.

Descriptions of the tracks for the ASME IMECE-2001 / SERAD sessions

1. The New Frontier of Product Safety at the End of Product Life

There is increasing demand for environmentally friendly and safe disposal of products after their economic life. This means that the concern for the safety of products not only exists during a product's lifetime but goes beyond into the period of taking products back with storage of disposed products and their dismantling. For new products, this leads to additional demands put on the safe design and construction of a product. This in turn rise to new challenges early in a product's life cycle and long before its end of life. For older or existing products, the challenge occurs at the end of life. This session will discuss the motivation, issues, problems, and solutions of product safety after the end of life of a product.

2. Beneficial Approaches and Examples of Hardware Maintainability for Safer Use

The increasing demand for the reduction of waste also leads to the desire to have manufacturing equipment, process vessels, or products last longer. This means that inspection, maintenance, and repairs have to be performed on hardware or products and parts of hardware and products that previously were disposed of much earlier. This not only holds for consumer products such as household appliances but also for airplanes, chemical plant equipment, and even nuclear power plants. When products are already in use, the design cannot be altered and construction changes that are part of maintenance present new challenges to ascertain continued safe use. This session will discuss current and evolving approaches to maintainability for equipment or products and their safe use.

3. Business Success with Reliability and Maintainability

Reliability and maintainability not only contribute to safety but also have considerable economic advantages. These advantages include longer production runs for a process, greater life span for a product and lower disposal costs. In most cases, the benefits outweigh the disadvantages incurred due to the decrease of sales of new products, greater upfront cost of more reliable equipment, and the continued use of older technology. This session will discuss the metrics for success for aging as well as new hardware or systems, how systems are monitored for reliable performance, and the approaches that can be taken for a successful outcome using reliable and maintainable systems.

4. Safety in Our New or Expanding Transportation Infrastructure

The rapid increase in the demand for the transport of people and often dangerous goods puts additional strain on existing infrastructure, which often was designed for much less intensive use. Also new means of transportation when needed (such as underground transport systems,) pose completely new challenges with respect to the safety of the passengers and of the existing infrastructure in case of accidents. This session will review and compare hazards, events, and risk associated with air, land, or water based transport safety. Accidental events as well as events that are "maliciously willful" in nature will be discussed.

5. Conflict Resolution between Siting of Facilities and the Public

The volume of production of dangerous goods and the associated transport or shipment of these goods increases in the industrial world to accommodate expanding and changing economies. The mode of transport also changes from traditional means to transport by container, pipeline and new underground structures. On the other hand, the concentrations of population increase in both size and intensity leading to increasing conflicts between the demand for space for the production and transport facilities and the demand for safe distances between these facilities and the population. Several ways of solving these conflicts are tried in the world and this session will discuss the metrics, approaches, and issues to solving these complex societal risk problems.

6. The Global Application of Risk-informed or Performance-based Standards

The development of standards with an increasingly larger, multinational coverage is the consequence of the globalization of markets. These standards therefore are more and more used outside the immediate area of influence of the organization(s) where the standards were developed or implemented. This means that the risk of misinterpretation, the lack of data, or deficiencies in the implementation of the standards have to be identified and managed with increasing care. This session will provide an update to risk-related global standards and the problems and their solutions to their uniform application within a global company or across national boundaries.

The deadline for the abstracts is March 28, 2001.

Please send abstracts of approximately 400 words to: ben.ale@rivm.nl

Further information on the 2001 IMECE can be found on www.asme.org/conf/congress01/cfp/e_tm.htm

Ben Ale
Program Representative for SERAD

Management Division Sessions at IMECE-2001

The Management Division will continue to support the E&TM Symposium planned for IMECE 2001 by sponsoring, organizing, and marketing seven complementary technical sessions. These sessions cover topics that were included in the previous one or two Congresses, and that support the themes of both the Symposium and Congress in New York City.

Continuing Management Division-sponsored sessions will include:

- Life-Long Learning as the Engineer's Responsibility to Self
- Ethics World: Corporate, Professional, Individual
- New Engineering Business: Planning for Growth
- Entrepreneurship: The Engineer as a Profit Center
- Product Sustainability through Design, Management, and Public Policy—Can We Afford It?
- Factory 2005: Strategies, Practices, and Tools for Agile Manufacturing

These sessions will continue to present up-to-date data and perspectives and will invite discussion in an open forum format. Co-sponsorship and participation will come from the Boards on Engineering Education, Government Relations, Professional Development, and Professional Practice and Ethics; and the Design, Manufacturing, Environmental Engineering, and Solid Waste Processing Divisions.

In addition, the Management Division is introducing a new session topic in 2001. The session "Periscope on International Standards: Understanding the Seascape" will feature experts from industry and Government who will discuss the rapid changes underway in global standards as a result of rapid technology development, emerging markets, and market alliances. This session, co-sponsored by the Council on Codes and Standards, will be an Industry Forum and is certain to foster an energetic exchange of opinions. The Council on Codes and Standards will co-sponsor this new session.

All Management Division sessions will foster networking and data exchange among the Symposium attendees. A special emphasis will be placed on obtaining papers from "early career" engineers-those within a year or two (before or after) of their first engineering degree. Abstracts are being reviewed now.

We hope to meet a lot of you in the Big Apple!

Ted A. Aanstoos, P. E.
Program Coordinator 2nd Vice Chair
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Exciting Journal Seeks Subscribers, Contributors

The Engineering Management Journal has case studies, management tool articles, and research pieces of interest to members of the Management, T&S, and SERAD divisions. It is practitioner oriented and is published quarterly. ASME members can subscribe to EMJ for $40 per year by calling 1-800-THE-ASME.

EMJ is published by the American Society for Engineering Management and has a cooperating editorial relationship with ASME. Calls for special focused issues will provide "one stop shopping" on topics of special interest to ASME members.

Papers for EMJ are also needed. Please sent submittals or queries to:

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Life Long Learning and Continuous Improvement

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way for success in the global market. The world will not wait for us. We have to reach the position of excellence first and strive to remain its leader. It is an excellent investment and success is precious. The alternatives are not pleasant.

Many have heard the now familiar excuse for lack of effort on skills enhancement: "I don't have time".

Really?

Neither did Thomas Edison, but he kept trying and in new fields, until he learned the ways to excel. Unquestionably, Thomas Edison is among the most intelligent scientists known to us. He was a prolific inventor with many patents to his credit. His achievements have helped humanity and benefited him financially. He invested in his skills even during the toughest of times. He is an excellent role model for not only those in technical fields but in all fields of endeavor.

Our investment in our continued improvement of skills and keeping abreast with the latest technology is important. It is essential that we enhance our contributions to humanity. It is the best gift we can give to our self and our family. Life Long Learning is the best skill for now or the future. No matter how tough the going gets — the Life Long Learners keep on going.....

A follow-up session entitled: "Life Long Learning as the Engineer's Responsibility to Self" will be among the sessions organized by the E&TM group for the 2001 IMECE to be held in New York City in November.

Please contact the author at ahmedf@asme.org if you would like to participate in the session or just have an interest in this increasingly important aspect of an engineer's career.

Feroz Ahmed, Chair
Professional Development Committee