



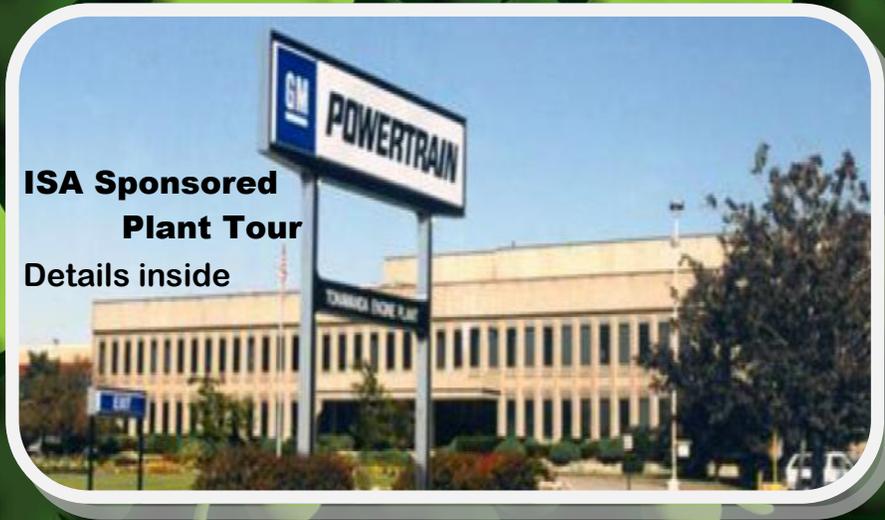
Niagara Frontier  
Section

Volume 63

Number 7

# TRANSMITTER

MARCH  
2015



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Details inside

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## 2014 - 2015 Section Calendar

### Section Board Meetings

2nd Monday of each month, 5:30 pm — 7:30 pm  
@ Hands On Technical Training  
435 Creekside Dr & John Glenn, Amherst NY 14228  
**All Members Welcome**

### Section Golf Outing

September 6, Monday

### Diamond Hawk Golf Course

### Additive Manufacturing Discussion & 3 D Printing Demo

October 27, Monday

### Niagara County Community College

5:30 pm — 8 pm

### Technical Discussion & Plant Tour

November 10, Monday

### Niagara Transformer Corp

6pm—8pm

Hardhats & Safety Glasses a must

### Holiday Social

December 11, Thursday

### Gordon Biersch

4:00pm—?

### Membership Night

January 12, 2015

### Buffalo Maritime Center

### "Automation 101" Seminar

February 23, Monday

### Northeast Controls

5:45pm—8pm

### Technical Discussion & Plant Tour

March 16, Monday

### GM Powertrain

6pm—8pm

### Tech EXPO 2015

April 21, Tuesday

### Marriott Inn

12noon—6pm

### Morning of Education:

April 21, Tuesday

### Marriott Inn

8:30 am—2:00 pm

**Seminar 1** 8:30-10:00 a.m.

**Seminar 2** 10:30-12noon

**Seminar 3** 12:30-2:00 p.m.

### Automation 201

### Steam Trap Operation and Inspection

### Utilizing Intrinsically Safe & Explosion proof in Hazardous Areas

### Technical Site Tour

May 18, Monday

### Yahoo

### Technical Site Tour

June 15, Monday

### Calspan

### Section Golf Outing 2015

September, 2015

### Diamond Hawk



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## Plant Tour GM Tonawanda Engine Plant

**Location: GM Tonawanda Engine Plant**

2995 River Rd.  
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**Parking:** If you have a GM, Ford, or Chrysler vehicle you may park on either side of horseshoe at 2995 River Rd.

Any other make must park along fence line in the lot south of the lobby next to Edgar St.

**Date:** Monday, Monday March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**Time:** 6:00 pm Registration & Networking  
6:00 pm — 6:30 pm Food & Drink  
6:30 pm — 7:30 pm Tour & Discussion

**Cost:** \$25.00 for Students, Veterans, and ISA members; \$35.00 for non-members  
\*\*\* \$5 discount if you pre-pay & register via website: [www.isa-niagara.org](http://www.isa-niagara.org) \*\*\*

**Reservations:** RESERVATION IS REQUIRED FOR SECURITY BY MARCH 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Register at [www.isa-niagara.org](http://www.isa-niagara.org)**

**Limited:** to 30 people only!

No open toe/heel shoes; No finger rings or neckties allowed; No cameras allowed; One PDH upon request

Come join the ISA – Niagara Frontier Section as we tour GM's Tonawanda Engine Plant.

Made up of 3.1 million square feet on 190 acres, the plant employs over 1800 people. Since it's opening in 1938, over 71 million engines have been produced in Tonawanda.

Tonawanda currently produces the Ecotec 2.5L/2.0L Turbo 4 Cylinder Engines, and the GEN5 Small Block V8 Engines. These engines have been used in numerous Chevrolet, Buick, GMC, and Cadillac models, including the 2014 Corvette, which is the most powerful, quickest, and most fuel efficient standard Corvette ever made.





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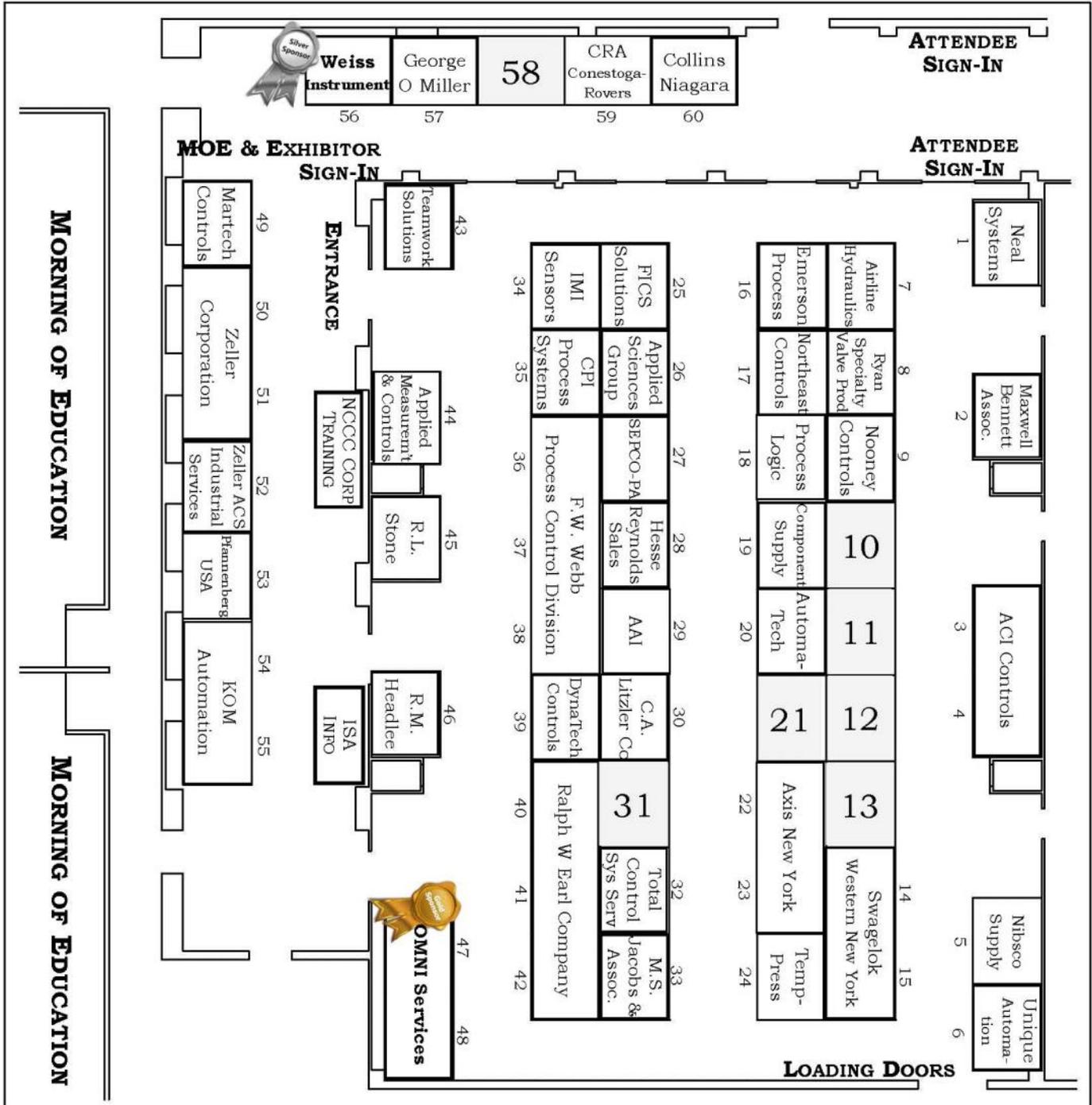
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## EXHIBITOR LOCATION MAP



## TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2015

REGISTRATION REQUIRED [WWW.ISA-NIAGARA.ORG/expo-2015-exhibitor-page/](http://WWW.ISA-NIAGARA.ORG/expo-2015-exhibitor-page/)

### MORNING OF EDUCATION (8:00am sign-in)

- Seminar 1: 8:30am - 10:00am
- Seminar 2: 10:30am - 12:00pm
- Seminar 3: 12:30pm - 2:00pm

### EXHIBITION 2015

- 12:00noon - 6:00pm
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**Leveraging Big Data in Real Time**

*by Jim Petrusich,*

*Excerpt from the March/April 2014 InTech magazine*

Most manufacturing plants hold weekly or monthly production meetings where they review productivity and waste. Obviously, the reports do not let them change what has happened in the past, yet in most cases, they also provide little insight into how to change the future. Many are stuck in a paradigm of “inspect and reject.”

This article focuses on companies that have switched their paradigm from “inspect and reject” to “predict and prevent” using a holistic approach to real-time analytics.

“A database is not a vault; it is a garden,” says Rena Marie Pacella of *Popular Science*.

Too often, databases are treated like vaults. We store information in them and draw it out when needed. But databases can be more like gardens, where, if cultivated correctly, they can produce valuable, actionable information when needed and on their own. This approach has tremendous benefits,

but, historically, real-time monitoring tools lacked the intelligence to leverage the potential of the data.



Companies have been using real-time dashboards to monitor their plants for years, but in most cases, they use simple trend charts, and only alarm on fixed limits. If information is monitored by analytics at all, it is usually from a single silo of information in an individual database. This is one of the big obstacles for manufacturers, who frequently have many individual databases, which end up more like a series of vaults, rather than just one.

Manufacturing intelligence software is designed to address this. Successful implementations are only partially about the technology, however. Great gardens do not create themselves; we also have to work through our organizations to set up effective implementations. So this article will also focus on three keys to developing effective real-time analytic solutions.

**Real-time alarms**

Many plant operators are flooded with alarms on production line consoles or control room displays. Frequently these signals are just ignored. According to Yiqun Ying, senior staff process control engineer at Husky’s Prince George refinery, “Some alarms don’t mean anything, and the operator doesn’t have time to respond. They just hit the keyboard and acknowledge it, and sometimes hit repress.” Other companies tell similar stories. Before DuPont began to overhaul its alarm management system, it sometimes had 150,000 alarms going off per week.

*(Continued on page 8)*

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(Continued from page 7)

If databases are like gardens, then these gardens are full of weeds. Showing excessive alarms to operators can be detrimental for two reasons. Operators may see something and take action when there is nothing wrong. People are amazingly good at finding meaning in data where no meaning really exists. With the new world of “big data,” we are filling our plants with more and more sensors and capturing much more data. We should expect to find more and more false positives.

## Big data and manufacturing intelligence

Manufacturing plants are used to working with many specialized databases: manufacturing execution systems/manufacturing operations management, distributed control systems, enterprise resource planning (ERP), quality systems, lab information management systems, historians to capture process data, and more. Manufacturing intelligence software allows companies to analyze their most important parameters, no matter where the data is located. The traditional method for doing this was to copy data from each of the individual databases into one of the other databases. Frequently people chose the ERP system or historian.

This method has several challenges. For one, replicated data tends to deviate over time, as corrections and adjustments end up creating two versions of the data. Additionally, these are not trivial projects and usually take years to implement. By the time the data is ready to be analyzed, the data analysts may have already retired . . . and not just for the day. Finally, these databases store information in very different formats. Whether a company has five, 50, or 500 plants, no two seem to be at the same level of automation, measure the same variables, or even make the same products. So the projects frequently become colossal.

Technology today now allows companies to analyze the data in real time without copying the data into yet another database. The software polls the appropriate data, runs calculations, and produces real-time analytic alarming. Using this

technology, companies have achieved meaningful results very quickly.

Dow Chemical has been rolling out these types of analytics systems and achieving impressive payback. Lloyd Colegrove, who directs the Analytical Technology group at Dow, stated, “This is very cost effective, because we are already generating the data. We are already spending the money on the infrastructure for the data. Why would we spend all that money and not look at the data in a new and better way?”

Creating successful projects also requires thoughtful planning and implementation.

## About the Author

Jim Petrusich is a vice president at NWA Software and a frequent contributor to the global discussion of real-time analytic monitoring systems. He has worked on implementing real-time systems in manufacturing, transportation, energy, and defense projects in more than 40 countries.



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The International Society of Automation—Niagara Frontier Section is going through unprecedented change and growth. As the Section continues to promote education in the areas of instrumentation, controls and automation, it has broadened its interests to include the next generation of engineering technicians and professionals. We need members who are willing to participate and make a difference. We hope you will consider running for office or submit nominations of those you believe are well qualified to be candidates for next year's elected and selected positions.



**The elected positions include:**

- President and Vice President of the Niagara Frontier Section
- Executive Secretary
- Executive Treasurer
- Section Delegate

**The open selected positions include:**

- Two Publicity positions
- Two Technical Programs positions
- Three Membership positions
- Two Newsletter Writers
- Section Newsletter Editor

Any ISA member may submit recommendations to the ISA-Niagara Frontier Section for elected or selected positions in care of the ISA-NSF Nomination Committee Office **on or before March 31, 2015.**

All information or questions can be sent by email to braun@aicce.com or mailed to ISA-Niagara Frontier Section office at 435 Creekside Drive, Amherst, NY 14228.



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**Report:**

**High Chemical Levels Found In Fracking Runoff**

Wed, 02/18/2015 - 10:09am

Andy Szal, Real Time Digital Reporter  
Manufacturing.net

Water discharged from fracking sites in California contained levels of benzene and chromium-6 well in excess of federal standards, according to a recent report by an Arizona environmental group.

Fracking operations use a highly pressurized solution to crack shale rock and access oil or natural gas, and the resulting wastewater is often sent to injection wells or open pits.

The Center for Biological Diversity analyzed hundreds of chemical tests of that flowback fluid conducted by the California Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources since April of 2014, finding 320 tests showed benzene levels above the federal threshold for drinking water and 118 tests revealed chromium-6.



Testing also showed benzene levels at more than 1,500 times the federal limit and chromium-6 levels at more than 2,700 times the level recommended by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. Both chemicals, the group said, can cause cancer.

The group also said levels of toluene, which it said can affect the nervous system, exceeded federal limits in 118 tests, while data from 100 flowback tests were missing from the state reporting website.

Regulators had recently announced changes to regulations of those wells following a report showing more than 2,500 wells had been improperly created in aquifers that could be used for drinking water or irrigation.

"Cancer-causing chemicals are surfacing in fracking flowback fluid just as we learn that the California oil industry is disposing of wastewater in hundreds of illegal disposal wells and open pits," said CBD attorney Hollin Kretzmann, calling on Gov. Jerry Brown to immediately halt production at those wells.



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- ✓ Increase your technical knowledge in the field of automation and control
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- ✓ Share experiences, successes, and lessons learned
- ✓ Build lasting friendships and professional connections

By becoming an ISA member, you'll benefit in technical knowledge, career and skills development, shared experiences and successes, and lasting friendship and belonging from an association that has represented the needs and interests of automation and control professionals since its inception in 1945.

### Expert-Driven Technical Content, Training, and Resources

Providing high-quality, high-value technical content to our members and customers is fundamental to the mission of the International Society of Automation (ISA). Our unrivaled knowledge and expertise in automation contribute directly to our renowned standards development efforts; comprise the basis of our training initiatives, publishing offerings, conferences, and division symposia; and ensure core value to our members. ISA's 160 geographical sections, located throughout the world, connect members with technology, expert advice, and world-class technical programming at the local level.

### Types of Membership

#### ✓ Full Membership

Members are entitled to outstanding ISA benefits and privileges, are assigned to local sections, and are encouraged to become active volunteers through the many resources ISA offers. ISA offers many grades of membership to suit the varying needs of automation professionals.

Member dues: \$110 US for one year, \$205 US for two years, or \$290 for three years.

#### ✓ Senior Member

Do you have **ten years** of active work experience in the instrumentation, systems, and automation field? Your education and experience may qualify you to be an ISA Senior Member. An ISA member or applicant who has graduated from a baccalaureate engineering or science curriculum, with at least six years of active work experience or if not a graduate, 10 years of active work experience in the instrumentation, systems, and automation field (two of which have been in a position of responsible charge). may apply for this membership grade.

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#### ✓ Life Member

Have you been an ISA member for at least **25 years**? You may be eligible for the prestigious Life Member grade! Any member, Senior Member, or Fellow who has been a member of ISA in good standing for a total of at least 25 years and whose combined age and years of ISA membership equals or exceeds the sum of 90 is eligible to apply for Life Member grade. Life Members are exempt from paying dues, yet receive all benefits and privileges of membership. For more information and to apply, visit the [ISA Life Member](#) web page.

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