



Summer 2014 Newsletter

In this Issue

- 1 Outgoing President's Message
- 2 Incoming President's Message
- 2 Fall Member Meetings and Events
- 3 ISA Hamilton Golf Tournament Success!
- 3 ISA Hamilton Annual General Meeting Synopsis
- 3 Reminder: ISA Direct Member Elections in September
- 4 Workforce development: It's a team effort
- 5 Call for Technical Speakers & Articles
- 5 Hamilton Section Contacts

Save the Date

September, Date TBA	Behind the Scenes tour at Canada's Wonderland Joint event with ISA Toronto Section
Oct 28, 2014 @ 6pm	Guest Speaker: "Relentless Data" – Fraser Gorrie
Dec 31, 2014	Exhibitor Early-bird sign-up deadline for ISA Hamilton Expo – see www.isahamilton.com
Tues, March 24, 2015 Friday, May 22, 2015	ISA Hamilton Expo Tradeshow ISA Hamilton Golf Tournament

Section President
Graham Nasby

Newsletter Editor
Brent Killins

Outgoing President's Message



As the outgoing president of ISA Hamilton, it is my pleasure to hand over the reins to our incoming president Brent Killins. Brent has been an active member of our section executive for several years now and I am confident he will do an excellent job.

Looking back over the past 12 months, we have had a busy year in ISA Hamilton. In Fall 2013, we held two tours and hosted a guest speaker. In September and November we toured Sleeman's Breweries in Guelph and got an inside look at the Emerson Instrument & Valve Service Centre in Hamilton. For our guest speaker in October, Irene Deketele from Arcelor Mittal Dofasco gave a talk entitled "Tips for Getting Your Projects Approved and Moving Forward."

After the winter holidays in February 2014, we started off the new year with a joint event at McMaster University, with their ISA student section, where guest speaker Bob Loncar from the Region of Halton gave a talk about how to write standardized PLC/HMI code using software tools. In March we held our annual ISA Hamilton Expo, which was well attended with approximately 250 attendees and over 50 exhibitor tables. For our 2014 expo, we also featured a keynote talk on plant reliability as well as four other technical speakers.

For our April meeting I gave a talk on ISA standards, and for our Annual General Meeting in May long-time member Ashok Saha gave a talk on flow meter technology. Also taking place in May

was our Golf Tournament at Chippewa Creek Golf and Country Club in Mount Hope – where upwards of 130 golfers enjoyed a day on the links.

Another highlight of the past year was hosting the Eastern Canada District Leadership Conference. Each year one ISA sections in Eastern Canada hosts the DLC. In 2014 it was ISA Hamilton's turn, so we hosted the conference in the last week of April in Niagara Falls Ontario. With over 30 attendees from across Ontario and Quebec it was a good opportunity to learn more about the association and meet other fellow ISA Leaders. I look forward to attending the 2015 DLC which will be held in Montreal.

I would like to thank all of the hard-working members of the ISA Hamilton volunteer board for helping put on many events that took place in 2013-2014. It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as the section's president for the past year. I wish our incoming president Brent and the 2014-2015 executive all the best for the year ahead. I encourage all ISA members to get involved with their local section.

Warmest Regards,

Graham Nasby
2013-2014 President
ISA Hamilton Section
graham.nasby@eramosa.com

Incoming President's Message



I am pleased and honored to accept the role of ISA Hamilton Section President for the next two years. The show of support from both the other members of the executive board and the membership has been incredible.

I'd like to start by offering my thanks to Graham Nasby for his service as section president over the past year, for the groundwork he laid with the changes to our program, for the leadership and guidance he provided to others on the executive board and of course for all of his service to ISA Hamilton.

I'd also like to thank all of the members of the Executive Board and Committee Chairs that served us both last year and over the years prior to that. We had several new committee members last year and all of them approached their roles with positivity and a genuine effort to help the section progress and operate successfully. We have been very fortunate to have some board and committee members that have been with our section for many years and we are very appreciative of all of the time they have given the section and all of the knowledge and experience they bring to the table. We are bidding farewell to two of these long time board members this year, both Kenneth Hamilton and Wally Nickel have stepped down and we wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Thank you to those that have approached us over the past few months to get more involved in our section's activities and shown that the efforts of the board are appreciated and that the programs we have in place have been seen as worthwhile.

I would like to also extend my appreciation to all of our members. Without you, our annual events such as the ISA Hamilton Expo and our Golf Tournament could not be nearly as successful as they are. We appreciate your attendance at all of our member events such as plant tours, dinner meetings and technical presentations. Your feedback from these events and the number of attendees that come out is what drives us to put on these events.

Sincerely,

Brent Killins
President
ISA Hamilton Section

Upcoming Member Meetings and Events

Member Meeting 1 – Special Tour

Automation in Action: A tour of Canada's Wonderland

When: Date to be announced shortly

Where: Canada's Wonderland
9580 Jane St
Vaughan, ON

What: ISA Hamilton Section is partnering with ISA Toronto Section to bring you an interesting look at automation in action at an event that will also serve as an exciting day for members and their families. The staff at Canada's Wonderland will be giving us a behind the scenes tour of the automation systems that control some of their most interesting attractions. Tickets for this event will be available at a reduced group rate.

Member Meeting 2 – Guest Speaker

Relentless Data – Fraser Gorrie

When: Tues. Oct. 28, 2014 @ 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Where: Endress + Hauser
1075 Sutton Dr.
Burlington, ON

What: A lot of effort, expertise, and expense goes into the setting up, monitoring, and collection of sensor-produced streams of data. Protocols are in place to ensure that these data are accurate, precise and timely so that business goals and safety are ensured. Monitoring and control systems (SCADA, BAS, etc.) assess these streams and trigger alarms and control devices, but is that all these data are good for?

An overview will be presented of how these streams of data can be analysed AFTER they leave the mission-critical monitoring and control system, with a view to learning more about your system as a whole. We'll look at: (i) how different streams (including external, unusual data streams) can be combined and post-processed to provide indices of performance, (ii) how to characterize a system's behaviour as a collection of different states or modes of operation using machine learning techniques, and (iii) how to use these self-generated modes of operation to predict system and component behaviour, all from outside the existing automation infrastructure.

Relentless data can camouflage many interesting, and sometimes important things. But it doesn't have to keep you up at night. Let's use these data to give you peace of mind instead.

ISA Hamilton Golf Tournament Success!

ISA Hamilton hosted our annual Golf Tournament on May 23, 2014 at the Chippewa Creek Golf Club at Mount Hope. The day started out a little cool & damp, but the weather held out for the 128 golfers who signed up. A special thanks to the staff at Chippewa for their courteous and friendly service, and to our 24 sponsors who help make this day a fun and great social event.

The winner this year is a new team. Team ControValve shot an impressive -9 to secure their names on the coveted ISA Hamilton Golf Tournament trophy. Congratulations to team members Guy Salt, Gord Snell, Andrew Thornhill and John Cousineau.

We also have 4 winners for longest drives and closest to the hole including:

- Daniel Dougherty – Longest drive on White # 6
- Tom Johnson – Longest drive on Gold # 8
- Marsela De Laat – Closest to the hole on White # 9
- Mark Thomas – Closest to the hole on Gold # 6

We have already started making plans for next year and have booked Friday, May 22, 2015 for next year's event. We hope to see you then.

Cheers,

Jerry Gelata
Golf Tournament Chair



Annual General Meeting Synopsis

ISA Hamilton Section held our annual general meeting (AGM) on May 27, 2014^h in the board room of Endress + Hauser in Burlington, Ontario. The annual general meeting is the meeting where the section elects the new slate of officers for the coming year, reviews the business conducted by the section for the year and discusses any other issues that need to be brought before the membership. The following is a list of section officers who were confirmed at this year's meeting:

President – Brent Killins
Vice-President – Maulik Shah
Secretary – Bob Loncar
Treasurer – Jerry Gelata

Graham Nasby presented a year in review synopsis that can be found on our website for your review, if you were unable to attend.

Following the business portion of our AGM, a technical presentation was made by Ashok Saha of Endress + Hauser on different flow metering technologies and which are best suited to different applications. We'd like to thank Ashok for his generosity in hosting our AGM this year.



REMINDER: ISA Direct Member Elections Coming in September

A brief reminder to all ISA members that after the society governance changes that were approved at last year's Council of Society Delegates (CSD), the election of the society officers will be done by electronic ballot and voted on by all of the members. This is the first election of the society to take place this way and everyone is encouraged to sign on, read the bio for those who are on the ballot and vote. All members will receive their invitation to vote by e-mail, so make sure that your information on <http://www.isa.org> is up to date.

Workforce development: It's a team effort

by Graham Nasby, ISA Hamilton Past-President

It was more than 25 years ago that American author Robert Fulghum penned his book *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*. In this short, but witty, book he talks about how the many skills that we use day to day in our jobs are based on foundational skills that we learn in our first year of school. Play nice, listen, share, put things back where you found them, clean up your own mess...you get the idea.

As we age, however, many of us seem to forget these important lessons. We forget that to learn new things requires effort, and you have to work with others to accomplish new things; thus, we end up with the boondoggle now known as workforce development.

Put simply, workforce development is about making sure that our workers, whether they be young or old, have the skills to support our many industries. Decades ago, industry usually addressed this need: plants would hire young people, often right out of high school, and then spend years training them how to do their jobs. For many years this system worked well, but modern economic realities make this approach less feasible. Many industries simply cannot afford to retain the steady numbers of staff that they used to, so the question is what can we do instead?

Many in our sector like the appeal of simple solutions: Make the employers do this, as they are the ones profiting from the workers; colleges/universities should be providing employment-ready grads; the government should be picking up the slack and providing training programs; or all should fall to the employees, as they are really the ones who should be looking after their own destinies. The problem with each of these approaches is that, just like our industry is saying, the task is simply too large for any one group to do it alone.

So, instead, we need to work together, with each of us taking on a role. That is not to say that this proposed cooperation will not take effort. If we all take on part of the responsibility for workforce development and share the load, the task is not as insurmountable as it seems.

Let's take a look at some of the things we can do together:

In our high schools, we need to ensure that courses in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) are readily available for all students, and that students are encouraged to take them. We also need to make sure students learn to read and write properly, so they can effectively communicate when they enter the workforce.

In our colleges/universities, we need to ensure both theoretical and hands-on programs are readily available, at an affordable cost, to give students the background they need to start their careers. We also need to make sure that programs are available not just for young people, but also for those upgrading their skills or pursuing second careers due to job loss or because of a new interest. It is also critical that employers take an active role

by providing feedback on the skills that they most need from program graduates, to keep education relevant to modern business needs.

Employers need to spend the time and effort to continue to develop their employees. This does not mean just training courses, but also a combination of on-the-job training, mentoring employees, and ensuring employees are given the opportunities to grow their skills over time with new challenges. Employers should also not be afraid of hiring someone who they can train into a job, rather than always looking for ready-made skill sets. Studies have shown that empowered long-term employees are generally more productive.

Governments, through good policy, can put in place favorable programs to encourage employers to cultivate employees. Well-applied tax incentives and grants can foster healthy companies, which can then afford to develop their workforces. Cities and towns can also create favorable business conditions to encourage businesses to stay in their locale and maintain stable workforces.

Technical associations, like ISA, also have an important role to play by providing technical resources, such as publications, conferences, and training courses, as well as networking communities, to support the development of workers over the course of their careers.

The above are just a few examples of how we can work together to solve the workforce development challenge. As Fulghum put it, "when you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands, and stick together." Together we can take the issue of workforce development and turn it into one of our largest competitive advantages.

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2014 Process Control & Safety Symposium

October 6th to 9th, 2014
Houston Marriott West
Houston, TX USA

To Register Please Visit:

<http://www.isa.org>



Call for Speakers and Articles

As a service to its members, the ISA Hamilton section holds regular membership meetings. The meetings consist of dinner and a speaker/technical seminar. The meetings generally start at 6:00 pm, with the 45 minute guest speaker or tour beginning at 6:30 pm.

As well as our membership meetings, the ISA Hamilton section publishes a quarterly newsletter (which you are currently reading) as well.

We are currently seeking individuals who would like to make a technical presentation at one of our member meetings or who would like to submit any technical articles for distribution in the newsletter.

For information regarding speaking at one of our meetings, please contact our Program Chair, Michael Bovenkamp. For information regarding submission of technical articles for the newsletter, please contact our Newsletter Editor, Brent Killins.

SAVE THE DATE

ISA Hamilton EXPO 2015

Instrumentation & Process Technology
Exhibition & Conference

Tuesday, March 24, 2015

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
FREE ADMISSION

Walk-ins Welcome. No Registration Required.
Trade Show, Seminars, and Exhibits

Royal Botanical Gardens

RBG Centre – Main Auditorium
680 Plains Road West.
Burlington, Ontario

www.isahamilton.com/expo/

About the ISA Hamilton Section Inc.

The ISA Hamilton Section is the local section of the International Society of Automation for the Hamilton, Burlington, Guelph and Golden-Horseshoe areas of Southern Ontario, Canada. ISA Hamilton Section holds regular meetings, sponsors a variety of educational endeavors, produces an annual exhibition, encourages an open exchange of career opportunities, and promotes the goals & objectives of ISA. More information at www.isahamilton.com

ISA Hamilton Section Contacts

For more information about ISA membership, the ISA Hamilton section or the upcoming section events, please do not hesitate to contact any one of us. (Email addresses are @isahamilton.com)

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Graham Nasby

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To be announced shortly

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