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QUALITY MAGNET WIRE SPECIALISTS

Know your industry

A monthly look at the associations that shape your business world

The Society for Maintenance and Reliability Professionals

Founded: 1992

Headquarters: Atlanta, Ga.

Members: 4,000+ skilled maintenance and reliability technicians, managers, and industry representatives. Annual conference attracts over 1,000 attendees—a mixture of primarily end-users, small technicians, vendors, and service workers

Web site: www.smrp.org

Annual membership: \$25 (Student, 1-year); \$155 (Individual, 1-year); longer term and executive packages also available.

With a mission “to develop and promote excellence in maintenance, reliability, and physical asset management,” the Society for Maintenance and Reliability Professionals works to foster the growth of skilled specialists in the fields of maintenance and sustainability. The organization’s core offerings include physical asset management resources, certifications, and training programs.

Members of SMRP include employees from utility companies, manufacturers and suppliers, engineers, research institutes, maintenance solutions providers, and energy companies; as well as representatives from the airline, pharmaceutical, food service, and auto industries.

Considering that preventative maintenance, test instrumentation, vibration analysis, and similar tools and procedures have become increasingly important to motor shop business plans, the SMRP would seem to be a good fit for electromechanical professionals.

“I’ve been surprised at how few motor repair companies have been involved in SMRP,” the organization’s treasurer, Howard Penrose, told EA. He sees SMRP as fertile territory for networking and business development: “Reliability engineering has become the decision maker for what happens with electric machines. That’s where the customers are, from a business standpoint. And from the end user’s standpoint, SMRP promotes metrics and other certifications and standards that support reliability of equipment, and that includes electric motors, through everything that they drive.”

Penrose, who originally trained in the Navy as a motor repair journeyman, is CMRP (Certified Maintenance & Reliability Professional)-certified and is the founder of MotorDoc LLC in Lombard, Ill. He defines reliability as a data-driven process including over 138 metrics that “maximizes the return of investment on physical assets.” Beyond the data details, the organization works with universities and bodies to train and recruit young people for the industry. Promoting more emphasis on trade schools through interaction with government has been another goal. With the incoming generation of Millennials, says Penrose, “the push is always to go into business, work behind a desk . . . rather than turn a wrench.” It is a priority of SMRP’s to alter that course by stimulating engagement in the industry from younger ages, and to ensure that those who are already interested are properly prepared.

SMRP’s members include Baldor Electric Motors, ALL-TEST Pro, Dupont, Ludeca, and SKF, and repair organizations Shermco, Horner Electric, and Dreisilker. Industry partners include Allied and Siemens, Emerson, and Agrium.

Upcoming Event: SMRP 2016 Annual Conference, Jacksonville, Fla., Oct. 17-19, 2016.—Charlie Barks

EA



SMRP Conference attendees.

—SMRP photo