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ISA Insights

Making the most of your ISA membership: 2012 ISA Technical Division Symposia

By Graham Nasby

Throughout the course of the year, ISA maintains a busy calendar. On top of the numerous activities that ISA's various local sections organize, ISA technical divisions host a wide variety of division symposia focused on specific industries and technical aspects of automation. These events are global in nature and draw attendees from around the world.

This article is meant to provide a brief overview of each of the ISA's division symposia. Each symposium is described in a few short paragraphs, followed by links to more information. These links include symposia website addresses and key symposium contacts. Symposia details such as program schedules, presentation formats, calls for abstracts/papers, submission timelines, optional short-courses, and registration details can be found on the individual symposia websites or by contacting the individuals listed.

The 2012 ISA technical division symposia calendar is as follows:

- 16-17 April – ISA Communications Division / ISA100 Wireless for Factory Automation Workshop
- 22-26 April – ISA Analysis Division Symposium (AD)
- 25-26 April – ISA Safety & Security Division Symposium (SAFETY)
- 14-16 May – ISA Leak Detection and Repair – Fugitive Emissions Symposium (LDAR)
- 3-8 June – ISA Power Industry Division Symposium (POWID)
- 4-8 June – ISA International Instrumentation Symposium (IIS)
- 5-7 June – ISA Communications Division Symposium (CommDiv)
- *9-12 June – ISA Spring Leaders Meeting / Standards Committee Meetings (SLM)**
- 7-9 August – ISA Water/Wastewater and Automatic Controls Symposium (WWAC)
- 15-17 August – ISA Marketing & Sales Summit (M&SS)
- *23-26 September – ISA Fall Leaders Meeting / Standards Committee Meetings (FLM)**
- *24-27 September – ISA Automation Week (AW)**

*Note: The Spring Leaders Meeting, Fall Leaders Meeting, and Automation Week are not division symposia; they are shown in the above calendar to only to provide context in terms of scheduling.

Each of the ISA's division symposia are unique and are focused on a specific technical area of interest. Some are focused on specific industries, like POWID and WWAC, while others are more technology or application specific such as IIS and SAFETY. The common thread between the symposia is they each welcome a wide cross-section of interested individuals that includes

end users, vendors, consultants, system integrators, and engineering firms. The common goal is the sharing of practical information so everyone can better solve today's automation challenges.

One of the key benefits of ISA membership is discounted registration fees for division symposia. ISA members also receive advance notification of when online registration for the symposia becomes available.

Communications Division / ISA100 Wireless for Factory Automation Workshop
16-17 April
Detroit, Michigan
www.isa.org/MSTemplate.cfm?MicrositeID=530

This event, hosted by the ISA Communications Division, provides the opportunity to meet with peers to share ideas and learn about the latest advances in the use of industrial wireless communications in a factory setting. In addition to the workshop, there will be standards committee meetings taking place. The standards meetings will provide attendees with the opportunity to meet with the authors, editors, and contributors of standards documents in development. The resulting conversations with these experts will significantly increase your understanding of wireless communications technology, thus better preparing you for this ground-breaking technology and how to effectively deploy it in your facility.

The call for papers is available on the symposium website. Abstracts were due on 31 January 31, but late submissions may still be considered. First draft papers are due on 28 February.

Online registration will be available shortly via the symposium website. A discount will be available for ISA members.

More information about the 2012 ISA Communications Division Spring Symposium can be found at http://www.isa.org/MSTemplate.cfm?MicrositeID=530 or by contacting the workshop chair Cliff Whitehead at +1 (440) 646-3779 or cjwhiteheadjr@ra.rockwell.com.

57th Analysis Division Symposium
22-26 April
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Anaheim, California
www.adsymposium.org

This event, hosted by the ISA Analysis Division, provides information on the latest innovations in instrumentation, automation, security, and business systems technology. Areas of interest include chromatography, spectroscopy, chemical analyzers, physical property measurements, process stream analysis, environmental monitoring, on-line analysis, at-line analysis, maintenance, laboratory analysis, sample handling, validation, system integration, standards, and emerging technologies. A full program will include expert-led training, technical presentations, social functions, and more at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

The symposium currently has a full program of speakers/papers for 2012. (Abstracts were due on 30 November 2011.) First draft papers, from those abstracts that were accepted, were due 20 January.

Online registration is now available via the symposium website, and there are two optional short-courses that Sunday. A registration discount is available for ISA members. The website also has a downloadable PDF registration form.

More information about the 2012 ISA Analysis Division Symposium can be found at www.adsympsium.org or by contacting the symposium program chair Mike Chaney at Michael.Chaney@lyondellbasell.com.

2012 Safety and Security Symposium
25-26 April
Crown Plaza Hotel, Anaheim, California
www.isa.org/safety/

This event covers current safety and security technologies and procedures associated with identifying and mitigating safety hazards in industrial environments. Technical content is focused around safety instrumented systems (SIS), safety-related topics, cybersecurity, and the associated challenges in designing and implementing industrial automation solutions.

The call for papers is available on the symposium website. Abstracts were due on 15 December 2011, but late submissions may still be considered. Suggested topics for the safety track include SIS, alarm management, safety lifecycles, safety standards, and safety system implementation case studies. The security track includes topics such as cybersecurity, security standards, control systems security, industrial security threats/risks, and case studies. First draft papers are due on 24 February, and presentations are due on 6 April.

Online registration will be available shortly via the symposium website. A discount will be available for ISA members.

More information about the 2012 ISA Safety and Security Division Symposium can be found at www.isa.org/safety/ or by contacting the security track program chair Jim Gilsinn at james.gilsinn@nist.gov or the safety track program chair Jim Palomar at palomar@chevron.com.

12th LDAR (Leak Detection And Repair)-Fugitive Emission Symposium
14-16 May
Astor Crowne Plaza Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana
www.isa.org/ldar/

This event is a platform where representatives from regulatory agencies will announce the latest compliance requirements and share findings from recent enforcement actions. Best practices for leak detection and repair, directed inspection, and ongoing maintenance programs will also be topics for discussion among experts and attendees.

ISA is currently looking for industry experts and speakers for the 12th ISA LDAR-Fugitive Emissions Symposium. Additional information can be found on the symposium website.

Online registration will be available shortly via the symposium website. A discount will be available for ISA members.

More information about the 2012 ISA LDAR-Fugitive Emissions Symposium can be found at www.isa.org/ldar/ or by contacting program chair Greg Walton at gregwalton@sbc.net.

58th International Instrumentation Symposium
4-8 June
Hyatt Regency La Jolla Hotel, San Diego, California
www.isa.org/iis/

This event offers technical information and training in the traditional areas of measurements/sensors, instrumentation systems, data and advanced system/sensor technology, and other state-of-the-art areas. Attendees will gain insight into critical technical topics including: electronic instrumentation, wireless technology, cybersecurity, aerospace systems, process measurement and control, and more. In addition to the speaking tracks, IIS also features volunteer-led tutorials, exhibits, networking and social functions, as well as a student paper competition.

The call for papers is available on the symposium website. Abstracts were due on 20 January, but late submissions may still be considered. Suggested topics include: Instrumentation, data systems, communications, turbine engine testing, platform testing, test facilities metrology, and new sensor technologies. First draft papers are due on 23 March.

Online registration will be available shortly via the symposium website. A discount will be available for ISA members.

More information about the 2012 ISA IIS can be found at www.isa.org/iis/ or by contacting the program chair Bryan Hayes at bryan.hayes@arnold.af.mil or the general symposium chair Edward Naranjo at edwardn@generalmonitors.com.

2012 Communications Division Spring Symposium
5-7 June
Hyatt Regency La Jolla Hotel, San Diego, California
http://www.isa.org/MSTemplate.cfm?MicrositeID=530

This event, hosted by the ISA Communications Division, provides a venue for peers to share ideas and learn about the latest advances in all forms of industrial communications from telemetry, fieldbus, Ethernet, and wireless technologies. We will be building on the success of the 2011 Passive Wireless Sensor Tag workshop by offering this full workshop as one track in the symposia. Paper sessions, short courses, workshops, and tutorials will all be included. Papers will be considered for publication in the ISA technical journal, *ISA Transactions*. Written papers

will be refereed while PowerPoint submittals will be reviewed for compliance with ISA guidelines. It is our intention to publish all documents via the division website.

The call for papers is available on the symposium website. Abstracts were due on 16 January, but late submissions may still be considered. First draft papers are due on 18 March.

Online registration will be available shortly via the symposium website. A discount will be available for ISA members.

More information about the 2012 ISA Communications Division Spring Symposium can be found at http://www.isa.org/MSTemplate.cfm?MicrositeID=530 or by contacting the program chair Pete Fuhr at peter.fuhr@rfviz.com or the general symposium chair George Studor at george.f.stuor@nasa.gov.

55th Annual ISA POWID (Power Industry) Symposium
3-8 June
Renaissance Austin Hotel, Austin, Texas
www.isa.org/powersymp/

This symposium, hosted by ISA's Power Industry Division, provides information on the latest innovations in controls, instrumentation, cybersecurity, smart grid, regulatory issues, and variable energy technologies, which impact power generation/delivery systems. In addition to speaking tracks, the symposium also includes an opening night reception, keynote messages from industry leaders, ISA and industry training sessions, ISA I&C Standards working group meetings, an honors & awards banquet, and vendor exhibits.

The call for papers is available on the symposium website. Abstracts are due 15 February, but late submissions may be considered. Papers should focus on some aspect of the theme, "Power Generation–Automation Today and Tomorrow," and should be relevant to the power industry. Suggested paper topics include: cybersecurity issues and solutions; nuclear plant innovations and enhancements; smart grid; renewable energy; nuclear power, new and existing fleet; fossil power, conventional steam, and combined cycle plants; and other topics of interest. First draft papers are due 5 March.

PDF registration forms are available on the symposium website. Online registration will be available shortly via the symposium website. A discount is available for ISA members.

More information about the 2012 ISA POWID Symposium can be found at www.isa.org/powersymp/ or by contacting the Fossil & non-Nuclear co-program chair Jim Batug at jbatug@pplweb.com, the Nuclear co-program chair Phil Knobel at philknobel@invensis.com, or the general symposium chair Gary Cohee at garyacohee@aol.com.

2012 ISA Water/Wastewater and Automatic Controls Symposium
7-9 August
Holiday Inn Castle Resort, Orlando, Florida
www.isawwsymposium.com

This three-day symposium, sponsored by the ISA Water/Wastewater Industries Division, is focused on the water and wastewater sector. It features two full days of presentations, a tour of a local water/wastewater facility, a general reception, networking events, a poster session, and a supplier showcase. The first day starts with symposium registration, a plant tour, and an optional full-day short course of automation & SCADA system security. The second day kicks off with a keynote speaker, followed by presentations on general water/wastewater topics such as instrumentation, system integration, automation, plant case studies, new technologies, and process optimization/automation. The third day is focused on leveraging automation technology with topics including SCADA, HMI, human factors, and alarm management. A Tuesday-Thursday timeslot has been picked so families can easily take their kids to Walt Disney Word, during and before/after the symposium.

The Call for Abstracts is be available on the symposium website. Abstracts will be due on 7 March. Authors will have the option of presenting their work as a 35-minute power point presentation (no paper), a 6-12 page paper accompanied by a 35-minute power point presentation, or a 3'x4'large format poster. Student papers and presentations are also accepted. First draft submissions will be due on 25 April.

Online registration is available via the symposium website. ISA members will receive a discounted rate of $100 off the regular symposium price. There is an early-bird discounted rate for ISA members and non-members available until 15 June.

For more information about the 2012 ISA WWAC Symposium can be found at www.isawwsymposium.com or by contacting the general symposium chair Graham Nasby at graham.nasby@eramosa.com or the program committee chair Joe Provenzano at provenzano2@comcast.net.

7th ISA Marketing & Sales Summit
15-17 August
Austin, Texas
www.marketingsalessummit.com

This event, sponsored by the ISA Management Division, helps marketing and sales executives in the automation markets meet the strategic and tactical challenges of the 21st century. This unique event is designed exclusively for senior sales and marketing professionals in the automation sector.

ISA is currently looking for industry experts and speakers for the 7th Annual Marketing & Sales Summit. A call for abstracts will be issued shortly. Additional information can be found on the symposium website.

Online registration will be available shortly via the symposium website. A discount will be available for ISA members.

More information about the 2012 ISA Marketing & Sales Summit can be found at www.marketingsalessummit.com or by contacting program co-chairs Juliann Grant at julianng@telesian.com or Shari Worthington at sharilee@telesian.com.

More information: For more information on ISA technical divisions and their annual symposia, visit the ISA website at www.isa.org/divisions/.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Graham Nasby, P.E., PMP (graham.nasby@eramosa.com**)** is a licensed professional engineer who has worked in various industries, ranging from IT and software development to pharmaceuticals and semiconductor manufacturing. He currently designs automated control and monitoring systems for the municipal water/wastewater sector at Eramosa Engineering Inc. Nasby is the VP and president-elect for the Hamilton Section and a contributing member of the ISA18 Alarm Management standards committee. He is also the newsletter editor and director-elect for the ISA Water/Wastewater Industries Division, as well as the general symposium chair for the upcoming 2012 ISA Water/Wastewater and Automatic Controls Symposium.