



The Gage

Volume 12, Issue 2

Jan. 1, 2007

American Measuring Tool Manufacturers Association

Look at Some of the Ways AMTMA Can Help Your Business and You:

- Network Among Your Peers & Keep Abreast of Industry Trends
- AMTMA annual meetings
- Technical Services, Including Round Robin Programs and Educational Workshops.
- Business Surveys
- Regulatory Support
- Human Resources Support

Presidents Message - George Schuetz Mahr Federal Inc.



Thanks to the help of Jim Popovic, John Mead and Norm Leduc, we have virtually completed the transition away from the management company. We have the web site up and new ways to contact the organization. We have also been going through the records to verify contact information, and we hope that we have a good clean list of members to work with starting in 2007.

We expect that with the transition complete, we will be able to accurately maintain our records, communicate more often and provide important information related to our industry. That is where we will start with this newsletter. Important ASME updates and thoughts from Hill Cox about Calibrations services will get you going.

We are also finalizing plans for the Spring meeting and more details are available. Jim will be sending out registration information in January – so remember to mark your calendar.

The executive team of the AMTMA wishes you a safe and Joyous Holiday Season. All the best for 2007!

Plan now for the March 2007 Annual Meeting!

Contact Us

<http://www.AMTMA.com>

email: amtma@amtma.com

AMTMA

8562 East Ave.,

Mentor, Ohio 44060

Phone: 440-974-6829

Fax: 440-974-6828



Mark you calendar for March 15-16, 2007 for the next Annual General Membership meeting of the AMTMA at the Chaparral Suites in Scottsdale, AZ.

Topics are being planned to include Technical sessions, AMTMA Brand Awareness Survey, Voice of the Customer and Business improvement topics.

Watch for the registration forms in January

Support the AMTMA



**Spring Meeting
2007**
March 15-16, 2007
Chaparral Suites
Scottsdale, AZ

Contact Us

<http://www.AMTMA.com>
email: amtma@amtma.com

AMTMA
8562 East Ave.,
Mentor, Ohio 44060
Phone: 440-974-6829
Fax: 440-974-6828

ASME B1 Thread Committee Report

The ASME B1 thread standards meeting was held October 24 – 26, 2006 in Las Vegas, NV. Hill Cox was accepted as a new member and will serve on some of the thread committees.

The B1.2, B1.3 and B1.9 were reaffirmed at this time.

B1.1 60° product threads: new standard is available from ASME

The revised B1.2 is still in draft form at this time. Sections 1-3 have been reviewed and approved.

B1.5, acme threads: no new activity

B1.8, stub acme threads: will be revised soon

B1-9, buttress threads: some changes proposed for symbols and wording.

B1.20, pipe threads: David Katz reported that the b1.20.2 standard was submitted to the BST and to publishing.

Working group on thread gage calibration: There was a discussion on the features that should be measured on thread gages per table 13 of the B1.2. It was suggested that some of these features be removed from these tables because they are not reported on calibration reports anyway. There was also a discussion on having 3 levels of calibration for thread gages. These levels would vary on the features that would be reported on the calibration report. There was nothing finalized on these proposals at this time.

B47, gage blanks: A ballot was issued to correct several items in the taper-lock blanks and to consider the addition of solid ring blanks for thread ring masters.

B1.10 unified miniature screw threads: The b1.10-2004 unified miniature screw thread document is current and available from ASME.

NEW YEAR'S REVOLUTION By Hill Cox

No it's not a typo. It's about the problem of gages of suspect quality touted as being the same as those made to comply with all aspects of a given standard. Since many users lack the capability to calibrate these gages and will not have them properly calibrated, they are accepted without question. You would think that prices way below the industry average would be a clue that some short-cuts are being made but low purchase prices are all that matters to many users.

Spring Meeting 2007

March 15-16, 2007

Chaparral Suites

Scottsdale, AZ

Contact Us

<http://www.AMTMA.com>
email: amtma@amtma.com

AMTMA
8562 East Ave.,
Mentor, Ohio 44060
Phone: 440-974-6829
Fax: 440-974-6828

Moaning about the situation will accomplish nothing. Crying in your beer or other poison of your choice might get you a free one from a sympathetic colleague but won't change much. Driving your operations to match lower quality levels might help for a while, but ultimately quality wins out.

When the citizens of a country are in despair with respect to their government, they can leave the country - usually - to solve the problem or remain and start a revolution. The weapons of choice may include the pen, we are all told, and that is mightier than the sword. But it has been my observation that in a sword-fight, the pen is a losing proposition except, perhaps, for a laser pen.

The alternative is to use political action that employs words as weapons. They can be used in many ways. The most effective of which is to use them to establish the rules of combat. In our case, we can use them to set standards that become the norm that everyone wants in the products and the organizations supplying them.

Our revolution begins with us ensuring that the products we supply are probably more accurate. This means our measuring capabilities have to be very good so that when we say its right, we have the equipment and personnel to prove it is so. We have to know our metrological stuff in other words, and we have to know that measurement uncertainty applies to our measurements like anyone else's.

Folks who make gages to meet a price rather than a standard will resist to the very end anything that might increase their costs. This is especially so when it comes to measuring equipment and practices. The only way to 'prove' yours meets a recognized standard is third party accreditation, a step that few of our members have taken. The accrediting agency should have international recognition so your worth is recognized in the global market. Without accreditation, it is your word against the competitor with nothing to show you are different or better.

Our committee has been reviewing standardized calibration report content as a means of setting a standard for gage makers and independent calibration facilities. This should give our members an advantage over others who take a single reading and declare a gage meets a standard. It can also head off some standards writing folks who are trying to do the same thing but whose standard - if adopted - would increase calibration costs by 200 - 600%.

The other way to use words as a weapon in our revolution is in the form of education for the users of our products and services. Searching for Zero helps to do this and should be widely circulated by every member. Not only will it ensure higher standards for calibration, your customers will thank you for your thoughtfulness in providing them with such a handy reference. You gain both ways.

Another approach can be taken with words to educate product users in gage and instrument selection as some members now do to their and their customers' benefit.

So there it is. A revolution for change or you can keep going around in circles.