



Component Obsolescence Group

5th COG International Conference

A landmark event, the 5th COG International Conference not only celebrates COG's growing presence worldwide, but also the 10th Anniversary of the founding of COG.

Day One: 10th July

Workshop: Comparison of Component Monitoring Tools

Presentations in the morning are followed by product demonstrations in the afternoon.

A free evening **reception** welcomes delegates and their partners to COG International 2007.

Day Two: 11th July

Keynote speech

Boeing's Lloyd Contra presents his views on COTS electronics in Aerospace: Managing a supply chain we don't control.

Management Perspectives (Part 1)

Radstone Technology's Martin Holmes chairs this first session in which speakers share their global management perspectives on obsolescence mitigation based on their experiences within the following companies: BP (UK), the F-15 System Program Office (USA), Selex S & AS (UK), Hella (Germany), Honeywell Aerospace (USA) and Tait Radio Communications (New Zealand) as well as the Department of Informatics at the University of Oslo (Norway).

Counterfeit Components

Chaired by Peter Marston from Rochester Electronics (UK) this session features speakers from IGG Component Technology (UK), Oxygen Electronics (USA) and Semelab (UK).

Legislation and Standardisation

Chairman Ian Blackman of Selex S & AS (UK) leads this session with talks from AQEC (USA), Thales Avionics (UK), and IECQ (USA).

Gala Dinner



Held in the 16th century College Hall of St John's College, Cambridge, this highlight event celebrates the 10th Anniversary of the founding of COG.

Day Three: 12th July

New Developments in Component Monitoring Techniques

Alan Baker of Winslow Adaptics (UK) chairs presentations by speakers from MTI (USA), PCNAAlert (USA), ILS (USA) and BAE Systems (UK).

Management Perspectives (Part 2)

Continuing the theme from Day Two, this meeting is chaired by Detlef Blum of Bombardier Transportation (Germany) and has speakers from DSCC-VSD (USA), Bombardier Transportation (Germany), Selex S & AS (UK), BT Laboratories (UK) and Raytheon Systems (UK).

Alternative Obsolescence Mitigation Solutions

Chaired by Semelab's Charles Battersby, this meeting features speakers from DSCC-VSD (USA), Lockheed Martin (USA), Innovasic Semiconductor (USA), Minco Technology Labs (USA), NAMSA (Luxembourg) and TS2 Micro (UK).

Full details of the agenda for COG International 2007, and registration forms, are available on the COG website: www.cog.org.uk

COG at Nepcon

Join COG members on Nepcon stand number **M41 on 15-17 May at the NEC, Birmingham**. COG members, IGG Component Technology, Avon Magnetics and Partminer will be exhibiting their products and services on their own stands.

May 07

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THE VIEW FROM HERE: COG Chairman, David Young



David Young, COG Chairman.

In this, my last introduction to the COG newsletter in my role as Chairman, I would like to consider the progress that COG has made in the past twelve months and to share with you some of my personal highlights during my tenure as Chairman.

So what kind of year has it been? Well COG Germany is going from strength to strength and there have also been preliminary discussions with other

countries. A meeting with North America's Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) should soon result in information-sharing with COG which is a significant step towards taking the COG community onto a global stage.

The workshops have continued to be well-attended and the quarterly meetings have, if the feedback sheets are to be believed, been a great success. I would particularly like to comment on the Abbey Wood quarterly meeting where we ran a trade exhibition in parallel to the Quarterly Meeting; this event was so successful that the main complaint was that there was not enough time to do everything.

After months of preparation, the COG International Conference 2007 is now planned. This looks as though it will be bigger and better than ever before and takes place in the prestigious surroundings of St John's College Cambridge. Eight major tool providers have registered for the first-day workshop on the comparison of software tools and we anticipate a healthy number of delegates. The programme for the two-day conference, which follows the workshop,

has the potential to be the best we have seen with international representation and a wide range of topics. I encourage everyone to attend.

Finally, I would like to give my thanks to everyone who has worked behind the scenes to make COG a success. Obviously, my thanks go to Mike Trenchard, who always pulls the rabbit out of the hat to make the Quarterly Meetings stimulating and thought-provoking. In addition, I would like to thank him for his work managing the different facets of the organisations. My thanks also go to the COG board members, and the members of the steering committee and other working groups. Without these volunteers, and their enthusiasm and commitment, COG could not have achieved the level of recognition and respect that we enjoy today.

As I prepare to hand over to my successor, after the COG International Conference 2007, I would especially like to thank the COG membership for a challenging, but always fulfilling, year as your Chairman.

FAKING IT: The cost of counterfeit components

Counterfeit components are already in the supply chain and the financial implications of inadvertently using a counterfeit component are huge.

Every single company within the electronics industry is at risk: the manufacturers risk their reputations by having their products replicated; distributors risk financial penalties if the components they sell do not match the genuine datasheets; and OEMs and CEMs risk high after-sale costs, and even compensation claims, if counterfeit components cause their products to fail.

Understanding the magnitude of the problem of counterfeit components



Spotting the difference.

provides the foundation for successful avoidance and experience has given the industry a number of techniques which can help to minimise the risk. Prevention methods include detection, verification and test techniques for identifying fake components, as well as best-practice procurement controls, traceability and certification procedures. Awareness is essential though,

particularly as counterfeiters can not only fake the components, but also the certificates of conformity which are intended to prevent their counterfeit activities. The recent RoHS and WEEE legislation has also given rise to a new crop of fakes, masquerading as compliant products.

Managing obsolescence inherently means managing counterfeiting too. Fortunately, both problems share a common solution; COG has already demonstrated that sharing knowledge and experience can be effective in improving the quality of obsolescence management, and it is also through shared knowledge that the industry can take a stand against counterfeiters.

May COG Quarterly Meeting



With attendance at the COG Quarterly Meetings growing, early booking is recommended for the next meeting which will be hosted by Plexus Corp. Ltd and held on 22-23 May 2007 at the Lighthouse Arts Centre, Glasgow, Scotland. More details and registration forms are available on www.cog.org.uk.

22 May: Software Obsolescence (10.30 am)

This morning session invites delegates to an informal discussion on the topics of **Regulatory bodies, long-term**

media storage as well as the possible **BS Standard for best-practice in software management**.

22 May: Mechanical Obsolescence (2.00 pm)

The afternoon's mechanical session includes presentations on the **Design of a Heal & Usage Monitoring Microsystem (HUMMS)** by Prof. Marc Desmulliez of Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, as well as **3D scanning to create drawings** by Blair Jamieson of Babcock.

Tim Harris of the International Chemicals Unit of the Health and Safety Executive presents information on the **REACH (Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals) directive** and Tom Perrett of Tin Technology takes a global view of **RoHS Compliance: from Glasgow to Guandong**.

22 May: Dinner (8.00 pm)

The evening presents the usual opportunity to meet and discuss obsolescence issues over dinner at Jury's Hotel at 8.00 pm.

23 May: Electronics Obsolescence (9.00 am)

Beginning with a presentation on **Prime contractor process, management and governance systems for obsolescence** by Steve George of Rolls Royce, the morning session of the electronics day also includes presentations on **Modern COTS components and EMC, simulation and testing** by Jorge Berkonvitch of the ALTER Group, the **Contract Equipment Manufacturer (CEM)** by Stewart Taylor of Plexus, as well as **Electronics Knowledge Transfer Network (EKTN)** by Ashley Evans, CEO of EKTN and **Microelectronics and Sub-Sea Operations** by Dave Johnson of QP Semi.

In the afternoon, Neil McTavish of Nallatech presents **Mitigating obsolescence using reconfigurable computing**, before there is a Discussion Group led by Roger Vance of Senlac Services on **Investigating ways forward in the use of microcircuits in Hi-Rel applications**.

COG UK DIARY DATES 2007

COG Stand at NEPCON	15-17 May	NEC, Birmingham
COG UK Quarterly meeting	22-23 May	Lighthouse Arts Centre, Glasgow <i>(hosted by Plexus Corp. UK Ltd)</i>
5th COG International Conference	10-12 July	St. John's College, Cambridge University
COG Quarterly Meeting	25-26 Sept	Westinghouse Rail, Chippenham, Wilts
COG UK Workshops 2007:		
Comparison of Component Monitoring Tools	10 July	COG International, St. John's College, Cambridge
Developing an Obsolescence Strategy	17 Oct	Lansdowne Place Hotel, Hove

COG Quarterly Meeting: February



Held at the Rolls Royce Learning and Development Centre, Derby, the February quarterly meeting covered topics related to software, mechanical and electronics obsolescence.

The software session, chaired by Paul Barwell of the British Nuclear Group

provided the opportunity for an exchange of views on the recruitment of staff with legacy language skills, hardware and software obsolescence, CASE tools and storage problems.

In the mechanical session, presentations featured adhesives obsolescence and issues of environmental legislation such as RoHS and EuP, as well as the replacement of cadmium and chromium. The topics covered in the electronics day included the Long Term Use of Electronics (LOTUS) research project and an explanation of a prime contractor's perspective on obsolescence.

Between the two days of meetings and presentations, members relaxed with an evening visit to Marstons Ales brewery, which was organised by Rolls Royce and sponsored by Diagnostics.

COG Council Meeting: March

The Holiday Inn at Neu-Isenburg, near Frankfurt, Germany was the venue for the COG Council meeting in March. The first of two Council meetings planned for this year, the meeting was attended by David Young (COG UK Chairman), Detlef Blum (COG Germany Chairman) and Ludger Penkhues (COG Germany Vice Chairman). The meeting was chaired by Mike Trenchard (COG CEO) who provided an update on activities in the UK and Germany as well as further details of the COG International Conference 2007.

The meeting learned that there are now 180 member companies worldwide, of which 40 companies are in Germany. A discussion on the possibility of launching new COG Groups in additional countries resulted in agreement that there should be an exploratory meeting in Italy later in the year.

Members' NEWS

Oxley transfers Silver Mica business to Charcroft

Oxley Developments Ltd have transferred their axial and radial Silver Mica capacitor business to Charcroft Electronics who will supply the 454, CS and MS series as well as the mil-style DM and CME series parts.



Edmund Coady with a Charcroft silver mica capacitor

The transfer secures the continued availability of Oxley silver mica capacitors which will be supplied under Charcroft's CEL brand using the original Oxley part numbers. They are used extensively in applications where high-reliability and stability are required.

New Premises for Force Technologies

Force Technologies has moved into a purpose-built facility which features conferencing facilities and a new test laboratory. The £500,000 investment underpins Force's objective of offering customers a faster turnaround of its Authenticare Program. New inspection equipment at the site includes curve tracers, digital testers, transistor testers and heat chambers. The laboratory will also be used for final electrical testing of Force Technologies' own-brand product assembled offshore.

Managing director, Karen Salmon, explained, "An increase in counterfeit components has caused a sharp increase in demand for our manufactured products and we are optimistic about the future. We can now complete our Authenticare Program in less than 10-days, giving customers peace of mind when buying components using escrow."

IGG, Hirex, Tecnológica and Top-Rel merge to form Alter Technology Group



Pictured (left to right): Peter Higgs, Operations Director; Andrew Ferguson, Chief Financial Officer; Fernando Franco, Chief Executive Officer; Luis Gomez, Business Development Director.

Four European providers of high-reliability electronic component engineering, testing and procurement services for the space, defence, aeronautics and medical industries have merged under a newly created holding company, the Alter Technology Group. The Group comprises IGG Component Technology Ltd of Great Britain, Hirex Engineering of France, Tecnológica Ingeniería Calidad y Ensayos SA of Spain and Top-Rel SRL of Italy.

Over the past 20 years, the companies have co-operated on a number of major European programmes and they will now follow a common, long-term strategy to position the Alter Technology Group as a strategic partner for their customers.

Contribute to the COG Newsletter

The next COG newsletter is planned for October/November 2007. If you have news or comments that you would like to share with other COG members via the newsletter, please email admin@cog.org.uk with NEWSLETTER as the subject before Friday 3rd October 2007.

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