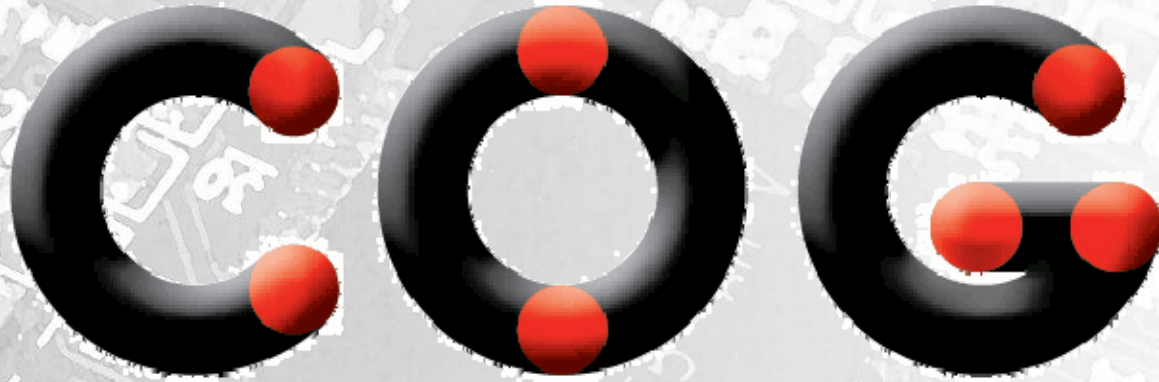


# Component Obsolescence Group



Component Obsolescence Group



# What is Obsolescence?

- Obsolescence is the unavailability of parts, or services that were previously available, they could have been withdrawn for many reasons- technical ,financial, legal and others
- Obsolescence Management is the need to understand why this has happened , to plan and mitigate the instances in future
- Obsolescence concerns materials, components, processes and software. It can occur in all parts of the life cycle of components: Development, Design, production and in service
- It affects components which are need to be maintained for long periods of time which can be 30 years or more



# Reasons for Obsolescence

- Technological progress -The innovation cycles, with which components come on the market, become ever shorter and even faster
- Component manufacturers re-assess their product offerings and trim down many “non-profitable” lines.
- Changes in the standardization -“Old” standards are no longer available and are no longer maintained
- Legislation changes e.g. concerning asbestos, cadmium and lead tin solder (RoHS)
- The Original Manufacturer is no longer in business
- The processes, tools and the KNOWLEDGE for maintenance, update or improvement of software are no longer available

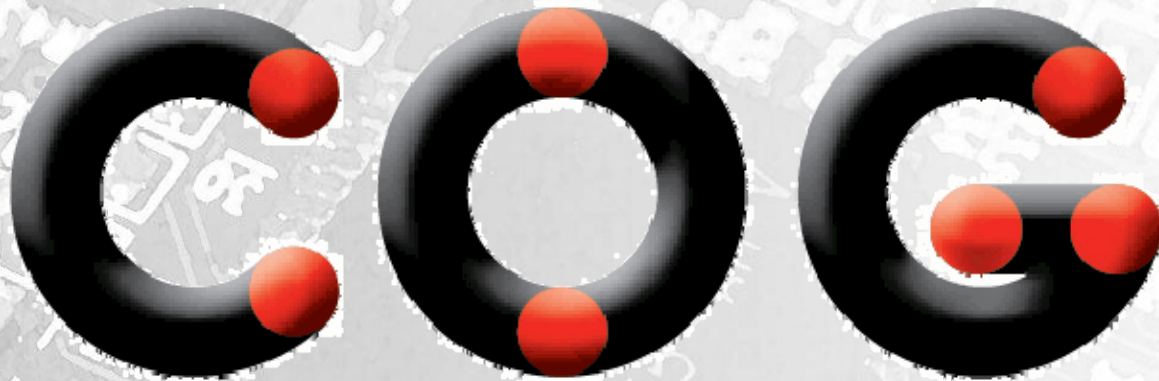


# Why is Obsolescence growing?

- Obsolescence is not new- it has always been a factor in design
- Old technology has also been replaced by new technology
- **But:** Today a technology changes in few months and the speed is determined by IT, telecomms, and the consumer electronics industry
  - The consumer market makes money by introducing new improved or fashionable products which create more obsolescence



# The Role of the Component Obsolescence Group



Component Obsolescence Group



# What is COG?

- COG is a non-profit making special interest group facilitating co-operation on obsolescence matters on a national and international basis
- For a small subscription members are able to expand their personal network to over 300 similar people with a wide range of national, technical and commercial experience
- COG does not sell components or component monitoring tools
- COG encourages supplier members and OEM members to network and that is the main strength of the association

Component Obsolescence Group



# Reactive/Pro-Active Management

- COG promotes Pro-Active management of obsolescence
- Companies tend to introduce Pro-active Obsolescence Management when a major problem occurs.
- There is a danger of unplanned costs for a product redesign before development is completed such as unplanned costs of purchase of components through brokers (who may charge you a premium for locating the parts)
- The aim is that obsolescence can be prevented or its effect reduced by a pro-active mitigation strategy tailored to the situation and the business.



# Component Obsolescence Group

- COG was founded in 1997 and is a non-profit making trade association that holds meetings throughout the UK.
- Membership has grown to over 200 companies worldwide
  - *Component manufacturers and distributors*
  - *After market suppliers*
  - *Obsolescence management tool providers*
  - *Government and industry organisations*
  - *OEMs from military, aerospace, telecomms, nuclear power, medical, railways, & oil exploration*
  - *Membership in UK, USA, Germany, Ireland, Denmark, France, Switzerland, the Netherlands, India, Australia, Italy & Israel*
- COG Deutschland holds independent meetings in Germany
- Further developments to establish COG groups in Italy and France are in advanced stages

Component Obsolescence Group



# Terms of Reference

- Provide education and awareness of the factors which affect obsolescence
- Identify and develop processes for addressing or mitigating the effects of obsolescence
- Communicate and co-operate with other national and international organisations with similar goals
- To stimulate discussion and action between members for the members benefit and to communicate this on to the wider world



# COG Working Groups

- COG has set up several expert working groups that meet regularly to focus on specific elements of the organisation such as its structure, web site or publications.
- These are formed from volunteer members interested in that area.
- Membership of the steering group is by election.



# COG Steering Group

- Responsible for policy and for the content of Quarterly Meetings in the UK.
- The Steering Group is elected by rotation and the group appoints the COG Chairman and Vice Chairman
- Each respective Chairman will have their own objectives the two biggest current initiatives are membership retention and growth, and marketing the COG brand
- The Chairman works alongside the Secretariat helping COG run in the best way possible reflecting the member's needs and concerns along with bringing in knowledge and concerns from the outside world. We then establish actions to address those needs.



# COG Publications and Standardisation Group

- Responsible for input to national and international standardisation
- A major initiative is to write and edit best practice guidance booklets that COG publishes to educate members and non-members on various Obsolescence issues, avoidance of Obsolescence, avoidance of fraud and other topical issues.



# COG Workshop Group

- The workshop group manage the workshop content, venues and after event feedback
- Workshops are focused one day training events looking at a single aspect of obsolescence management
- They:
  - Investigate suitable topics
  - Research subject experts within and outside the group
  - Source Speakers
  - Chair and facilitate workshops
  - Write the team exercises
  - Review the feedback



# COG Web Site Group

- We have a very informative and valuable source of references within our web site and receive more than 2000 hits a month.
- The group:
  - Oversees the operation and development of the UK COG web site [www.cog.org.uk](http://www.cog.org.uk)
  - Entering and maintaining data
  - Provides new content and services
  - Seeks sponsorship opportunities



# COG Conference Group

- Determines the theme of the International COG conference (ICC)
- Oversees the ICC choice of venue, organisation, Workshop and exhibition
- Manages the technical panel for ICC presentations
- Supports establishing sponsors for the ICC

Component Obsolescence Group



# COG Customer Solutions Group

- Provides advice and information on potential solutions and solution providers
- Provides a look up capability for OEM/CEM members to identify those members able to provide a specific service or product
- To consider ways in which solution providers can contribute to other COG initiatives



# COG Guidance Booklets

These are given free to members and sold through the COG shop to non members

- The Obsolescence Minefield
- The Date Coding Minefield
- The Supply Chain Minefield
- The Long Term Storage Minefield
- The Pb-Free Minefield
- The Redundant Stock Minefield
- The Obsolescence Minefield- A guide for Senior Executives
- The Software Obsolescence Minefield
- The Hardware design minefield
- Emulation & Substitution minefield
- Counterfeit Electronic Components Minefield
- The Obsolescence Tools Minefield



# COG International Conference

- The sixth COG International Conference will be held at St John's College Cambridge on 29<sup>th</sup> June to 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009.
- The title of the conference is “Obsolescence & Maintainability challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
- There will be a workshop on the first day and two days of quality presentations from international speakers.
- There is also a gala dinner and other social events.



# COG Workshops 2009

- We usually hold four workshops in a calendar year
- The next ones scheduled are:
- Managing Legacy Equipment 29<sup>th</sup> June 2009 in Cambridge
- Long Term Storage 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009 in St Albans
- Real Cost of Obsolescence January 2010 in St Albans
- Developing an Obsolescence Strategy March 2010 probably to be held in Yorkshire



# Quarterly Meetings



- These meetings are held around the UK over a split one day period with a half day session on the afternoon of the first day, with a networking dinner in the evening ,followed by a morning session on the second day.
- The meetings provide presentations on a wide range of issues and give excellent opportunities for networking
- A typical meeting will involve around a hundred people



# COG Web Site

- Presentations given at meetings since 2000-a valuable source of reference
- Who are they now? –database of company name changes
- Semiconductor and Passive Manufacturer Links
- Obsolescence Links to other sources of data
- E-mail listserver subscription and history of postings
- Complete list of members and contacts
- Information on joining COG
- Events Calendar
- COG shop



# Representing the members

- COG represents its membership in Government and Industry initiatives such as:
- The Electronics Knowledge Transfer Network
- The United Kingdom Electronics Alliance
- The Electronics Leadership Council
- This enables us to network with BERR (formerly the DTI) officials and those of other trade associations such as AFDEC, Gambica and Intellect



# Benefits of joining COG

- You can attend a Quarterly Meeting free of charge as a guest with a view to joining
- Take part in the Workshops and Conference
- You CAN join a network of over 300 obsolescence specialists that will quickly get you up to speed in obsolescence management
- This network can help you make more informed decisions
- Take the excellent opportunities for networking and find solutions to your problems. Other COG members may have the same problems as you
- Access to the COG web site and the presentations, databases and links it contains
- **Become a COG Member**
- Contact the Secretariat



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