

# SOCIETY of MANUFACTURING ENGINEERS

## TORONTO CHAPTER 26

### JUNE 2001

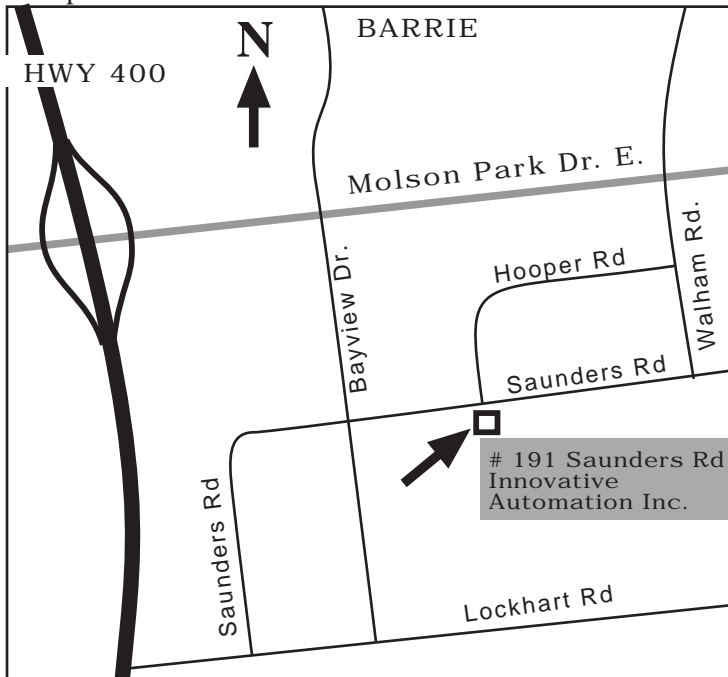


<http://www.sme-toronto-26.org>

*The Potential of Mechatronics:*  
**INNOVATIVE AUTOMATION INC. TOUR**  
*Wednesday June 6, 2001*

**TOUR LOCATION:** Innovative Automation Inc., 191 Saunders Road, Barrie, Ontario, L4N 9A3,  
 Phone: 705-733-0555, <http://www.InnovativeAutomation.com>  
*Light supper at 6:00 pm, talk at 7:00 pm*

Innovative Automation Inc., certified to ISO 9001, has a 28,000 sq ft facility in the Barrie area, for the fabrication, assembly and development of industrial automation systems, cells and production machines. Typical automation systems include robotic assembly, laser, MIG, resistance welding, automated test cells, vision inspection systems and electrical control systems. All electrical control systems are designed, built, programmed and developed in-house. Mechanical design and detailing is performed by in-house designers with over 30 years of experience.



**Directions from Toronto:**

Hwy 400 North. Exit east on Molson Park Drive East. Turn right on Bayview Drive and left on Saunders Road. 191 is directly across from Hooper Road, on the south side of Saunders.

<http://www.sme-toronto-26.org>

## September 2001 Your Ideas: Who Owns Them?

Rarely does an engineer have the opportunity to learn about intellectual property law from any other than the employer's perspective. Come to our September, 2001, meeting (either Sept. 19 or Sept. 26) to get the low down on these important issues:

From an employee's perspective the issues are:

- Starting a job (what am I signing?)
- Typical confidentiality
- Assignment of patent rights

On the job

- Ideas inside my work scope. Who owns them?
- Ideas outside my work scope. Who owns them?
- Discoveries or inventions made away from work. Who owns them?
- How to handle inventions before they're filed.
- How to talk to suppliers about ideas.
- How to talk to customers about ideas.

Before exiting a job

- Can I work for a competitor?
- Business papers at home. Trash or return?

Working for a competitor

- What knowledge do I own when I start work for a competitor?
- Is there a difference between quitting and being fired upon future work restrictions?
- Can I be restricted from working for a competitor?
- How long can any restriction last?

When is an idea patentable? Copyright? When should I keep it an industrial secret? How do you patent something?

## ATS Tour Review

(May 9, 2001) ATS is probably the worlds leading supplier of automation systems; and they are Canadian.

Our Mechatronics series we had already discussed several aspects of mechatronics such as examples, justification, motors, sensors, control systems, design systems, project panning, and soft skills.

What we were looking for was a Canadian example of putting it all together in order to make believers out of all participants. On this score they did an outstanding job.

ATS combines some of their products for motion with controllers and sensors to make a variety of production equipment for themselves and for customers. Really neat stuff. Go to their web site <http://www.atsautomation.com/>

I was intrigued by their project to identify the best leadership practices. I suspect this will be a journey. I suspect they will identify the traditional behaviors quickly and measure and document them quickly. But then, much like an anthropologist studying a lost tribe, they will become aware of subtler behavior. For example one leader may get more out of quiet individuals than others. Some may be better at identifying and capitalizing on new ideas but initially can't figure out how they do it. They will give this a name and learn how to encourage it. If they ever publish something for public consumption describing how this effort had an impact on customer satisfaction, lead time, quality, revenue, and profit I would like to read it.

ATS was an outstanding tour.

*George Heintzman*  
*gheintzman@sympatico.ca*

*For information on books and links related to Mechatronics please see our Web site <http://www.sme-toronto-26.org/>*

## Canadian environmental.com to Launch First Canadian On- line Resource Centre for Environmental Professionals.

<http://www.CanadianEnvironmental.com> is an on-line Resource Centre for environmental professionals who handle environmental issues related to industry, whether it be in Government, industrial operations, or the environmental industry itself (employees of environmental service and product companies).

Features of the site include access to environmental information & legislation, an environmental product and service directory, job listings, a monthly environmental newsletter, a discussion forum, and more.

"We are very excited to be the first company to launch this type of service for the Canadian environmental industry," said Laura Griffin, co-founder and President of Canadian Environmental.com. "It is important to ensure that all professionals responsible for environmental management have the resources they need to stay informed...."

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## NEXT SEASON Topics & Schedule

1. Wednesday, September 19 or 26. Talk and Dinner is being planned. Details in the September Bulletin. The talk will center around ownership of intellectual property - what YOU need to know!!
2. and subsequent: are in the planning stages. We are planning to offer a varied program of talks and tours. More later.

*Some material from previous sessions is on the Chapter website at <http://www.sme-toronto-26.org>*

## Executive Meetings

**NEXT MEETING:** at 6:30 pm

June 19, 28 Kildeer Cresc

For additional information on next meeting phone 416-467-8298 or e-mail: [gheintzman@sympatico.ca](mailto:gheintzman@sympatico.ca) or [Ken-Dante@msn.com](mailto:Ken-Dante@msn.com).

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

Will be posted on the Web site, [www.sme-toronto.org](http://www.sme-toronto.org), and in the September Bulletin.

**NOTE: Bulletin copy deadlines:**  
September Issue: August 8, 2001

## Check Your Record at HQ

We all know how important it is to keep a database current - and we know it is not easy!! Please check your member record on the HQ database. Log on to [www.sme.org](http://www.sme.org), click on the "Membership Renewal" link (you'll need to log on to the Member Renewal area first), and look at your data. If anything needs changing, just print out a copy, indicate any changes, and mail or fax it back to SME HQ.

Fax: 313-271-2861

Address: Membership Department, PO Box 930

One SME Drive  
Dearborn, MI, 48121-0930  
U.S.A.

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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<http://www.sme-toronto-26.org>

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Our continuing thanks to Professor Mark Fox, U of T, for hosting the Chapter's web site on his server at <http://www.novator.cm>

### Chapter 26 Education Fund

#### *An Open Letter to All Senior and Life Members of SME.*

Chapter 26 is alive and well, due primarily to the faithful few. That's okay. It was ever thus. From time to time, however, we have to stop long enough to assess the value we get from SME as well as the value we give to SME.

SME has, over the years, been a tremendous platform of information and learning, no matter what level or capacity we hold within our place of employment

In 1898 the head of the U.S. Patent Office reported that the Patent Office should be closed, as there was nothing left to invent. Every day we read of new devices, technology and procedures. At our March Mechatronics meeting we were introduced to developments at IBM that continue to make our heads spin. Chapter 26 continues to present programs that keep us up to date. We also send members on seminars in order to have knowledgeable executive members to carry on our programs.

We need your support in two areas at this time:

1. As a Sponsor of Chapter 26
2. As a Supporter of the Monthly Meetings

In the past three years, Chapter 26 has delivered extensive programs in Rapid Prototyping and Mechatronics. We have also worked closely with the various Robotics Programs carried out in most colleges and Universities.

We need your close support for the Education Programs, Scholarship Programs and Sponsorship Committees. Please call or e-mail George Heintzman, Ken Kogej, Joe Benedetto or Bruce Keeling - or any executive member (phone numbers and email addresses above.)

*Bruce Keeling*  
*bandi@sympatico.ca*

<http://www.sme-toronto-26.org>

### A Heartwarming Note...

#### *Published with permission.*

From: Ron P Harrelson, Past President, SME  
To: Paul Ellis, Secretary, SME Chapter 26 Toronto  
Subject: Re: Feedback to Toronto #26  
Date: 02 Apr 2001

Paul.....please share this message with fellow members of Chapter 26. I am always proud to receive your meeting announcements and minutes. It enables me to keep current with what our chapters are doing and Toronto is certainly an important part of SME. Typically, I forward my copy on to Nancy Maier with comments to assure our Headquarters staff knows and understands what the grassroots members are concerned about and are doing to deal with it.

The intensity of programs produced for our members and other manufacturing professionals is only overshadowed by the hospitality and warmth of Chapter 26 members. My visit to Toronto remains one of the brightest memories in my year as President of SME. The care and dedication shown me from the moment I arrived at the airport, thru the exceptional tour of Magna; a spirited turnout of members and guests at the Chapter meeting; educational tour of the church and conversation with the artist doing the wall coverings; gracious handling of the guests; good music; ...and most of all, the wonderful conversation with SME members on George's back porch over blueberry pancakes.

You, the SME members of this chapter and all the guests and visitors I met will live on in my heart and memory as the true spirit of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers and the profession we represent. Thanks for all you do for SME.

*Ron Harrelson*  
*SME President, 2000*  
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# Many Thanks to our BULLETIN PUBLICATION and WEB SITE SPONSORS:



Information and links at: <http://www.sme-toronto-26.org/>



## *Renew Your Membership On-line at [www.sme.org](http://www.sme.org)*

Looking for an easier way to renew your SME membership? Now there is! SME has launched an on-line renewal service available to all members through the SME homepage. The new on-line renewal procedure gives you complete and confidential access to your member renewal information. On-line renewal only takes minutes and your dues payment can be made with a credit card on-line. SME uses the most secure e-commerce encryption to guarantee that your transaction is secure.

On-line renewal also provides an easy mechanism to modify your membership and keep it current so that you are receiving materials and information from SME that match your interests. So if you move, change jobs, or want to upgrade your membership and add a technical association or update your technical area of interest, you can do so whenever it is convenient for you!

To use the on-line renewal, just log on [www.sme.org](http://www.sme.org) and click on the "Membership Renewal" link. You'll need to log on to the Member Renewal area first. Then your member record will automatically appear on screen so you can update your membership information and submit your dues payment. Or if it's not time to renew, but you want to submit a change, just print a copy of your on-line membership information, indicate any changes to your record, and mail or fax it back to SME.

Fax: 313-271-2861

Address: Membership Department, PO Box 930  
One SME Drive  
Dearborn, MI, 48121-0930  
U.S.A.

## *Mechatronics Information:*

The information from this year's Mechatronics Series will remain on our web site at [www.sme-toronto-26.org](http://www.sme-toronto-26.org) for at least the coming year.

If you come across any interesting resources that relate to this topic, please forward them to Jenny Ono Suttaby at [jono@jentekcompany.com](mailto:jono@jentekcompany.com), the web site editor. She will add them to the resources page for everyone's information.

## *SME Member-Only Scholarships for High School Seniors*

The SME Education Foundation provides one scholarship valued up to \$20,000 annually for a child or grandchild of an SME member. This scholarship is renewable up to three times for a total four-year award based on continuing excellent academic performance. Scholarship awards of \$5,000 are also provided for second and third place candidates.

It is awarded to one high school senior annually who has demonstrated academic excellence and an interest in manufacturing engineering or related technology.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

In order to be eligible, applicants must have at least one parent or grandparent who has been an SME member in good standing for the last four years – this may include step-parents also. The applicant must be a graduating high school senior, pursuing a degree in manufacturing engineering, manufacturing engineering technology, or closely related engineering field of study at an accredited college or university in North America; be enrolled full-time at the college or university of his/her choice; have a minimum GPA of 3.0/4.0; have a minimum SAT score of 1000; and, reside within one of the 14 SME regions.

### **Selection Criteria**

Scholarship winners are selected based on overall academic excellence; communication skills; interpersonal skills, such as leadership and teamwork; demonstrated interest and aptitude for potential future success in manufacturing engineering or manufacturing engineering technology related field; and extracurricular activities.

For more information on the Family Scholarship and other student programs and direction, contact the SME Education Foundation at (313) 271-1500, ext. 1708 or browse [www.sme.org/foundation](http://www.sme.org/foundation).