

7. ISA District 13 (Eastern Canada): District Leadership Conference Report

Each spring, the volunteer executives from the five local ISA sections in Eastern Canada (District 13) get together for a weekend District Leadership Conference. Referred to as the DLC, this event is chance for the executives from across our district to get to know each other, collaborate for event planning, attend leadership development workshops, and conduct the district's annual business meeting.

This year the District 13 DLC was hosted by the ISA Toronto Section and took place in Vaughn, Ontario on April 30 to May 1, 2011. The event was well attended and included good representation from each of our district's five sections. Total attendance was 28 individuals, with a section by section breakdown as follows: 9 from Toronto, 9 from Hamilton, 5 from Montreal, 3 from Sarnia, and 1 from Saguenay Lac St. Jean. Special thanks to our colleagues from the Montreal and Saguenay Lac St. Jean sections for making the long journey to Ontario. We were also fortunate that one of our friends from the Edmonton section was in the area and was able to join us as well.

One of the unique features of the ISA as an organization is that it actively promotes leadership development among its members. When a volunteer steps forward to help out with their local section, there are support structures and programs in place so that they will have a smooth and enjoyable time in their role. Having DLCs is just one of the many things that the ISA does to promote leadership development for both its new and seasoned members.

In District 13, a lot of time and planning goes into the development of the DLC. The event typically starts with a get together on the Friday night followed by two full days of seminars and meetings. The Saturday consists of workshops run by individual section members on a variety of topics – this is the leadership development day. The Sunday is used for the business meetings such as coordinating section programming, reviewing the success of Section Expos, and the district's annual general meeting.

The workshops that were presented as part of the Saturday program at this year's DLC included:

- ISA Leadership – Learn, Develop and Share
Andre Michel, ISA Montreal Section
- ISA Social Media, Marketing and Collaboration Tools
Ryan Kershaw, ISA Toronto Section

- Membership, Recruitment and Best Practice Marketing
Kalpen Vachharajani, ISA Sarnia Section
- FIRST Lego League Canada, Introduction & ISA Collaborations
Blair MacKenzie, FIRST Lego League Canada
(more info: www.fllcanada.org)
- ISA Today and Tomorrow
Ian Verhappen, ISA Executive Board Member & ISA Edmonton Section member
- Governance Restructure Task Force Update & District 13 Feedback Session
Ian Verhappen, ISA Department Board Chair & ISA Edmonton Section member
- Effective Executive Board & Planning Meetings
Bob Popek, ISA Hamilton Section
- ISA Insights Workshop: Developing a District 13 "ISA Insights Spotlight Q&A" article
Graham Nasby, ISA Hamilton Section
- Test your ISA IQ
Michael Bovenkamp, ISA District 13 Vice-President & ISA Hamilton Section member

The Sunday was also a busy day with a packed agenda for the District 13 Council Meeting. Topics discussed included items such as annual reports from each of the district's sections, the annual review of the district's business plan, membership statistics and trends, the selection of nominators/delegates for the upcoming SLM/FLM meetings, and welcoming our new District Vice President Elect Antonio Alves from the ISA Montreal Section. Special thanks to all Section presidents for their PowerPoint presentations highlighting the events and accomplishments of their individual sections.



ISA District 13 (Eastern Canada) District Leadership Conference group photo – May 1, 2011

A big thank you goes to Mike Bovenkamp, Ron Poirier, Ryan Kershaw and the rest of the ISA Toronto Section, as well as our speakers, for organizing yet another successful District 13 DLC. The upcoming 2012 DLC is scheduled to be hosted by the ISA Sarnia Section in May 2012.

8. ISA Automation Week – Oct 17-20, 2011

Our friends at ISA headquarters are pleased to announce that they have released the Advance Program for ISA Automation Week: Technology and Solutions Event. Special thanks to Greg McMillan and the other members of the program committee for coordinating this year's technical program.

This annual, international conference will take place 17-20 October 2011 at the Arthur R. Outlaw Convention Center in Mobile, Alabama, USA. The Advance Program provides the technical conference overview, as well as:

- Information on keynote speeches by control systems legends Charlie Cutler and Béla Lipták, and a general session featuring a panel of experts who will speak on the future of automation
- Previews of the eight conference tracks: Advanced Process Control Techniques; Analyzers; Automation and Control System Design; Energy; Human Asset Optimization; Installation, Operations and Maintenance; Safety and Security; and Wireless Technology and Applications
- Information on poster sessions and Technology Solutions Theaters
- A listing of participating suppliers
- A preview of Technician Day
- The ISA Fall Training Institute schedule
- Registration options and more

View and download the ISA Automation Week Advance Program at www.isaautomationweek.com. The Advance Program is also in the May/June 2011 issue of InTech.

ISA Automation Week is a technical conference that features three full days of technical sessions; poster sessions; a dedicated Technician Day; an expansive Supplier Showcase; Technology Solutions Theaters on the Supplier Showcase floor offering standards briefings, author briefings and supplier presentations; and networking and social events.

ISA Automation Week Partners include ARC Advisory Group, ExperTune, Georg Fischer Piping Systems, Kepware Technologies, Mitsubishi Electric Automation, and Schneider Electric. ISA Strategic Partner, Test and Measurement is Fluke Corporation. GE Energy, Honeywell Process Solutions and OSIsoft, LLC are ISA Corporate Partners. For more information about the ISA Corporate Partnerships Program, visit www.isa.org/partners/

For more information about ISA Automation Week or to register, visit <http://www.isaautomationweek.org> or call +1 919-549-8411.