

# Maintec 2012



With this year's Maintec show just a few short weeks away, Brian Tingham takes a look at what engineers, technicians and managers can expect to find

The maintenance and asset management show Maintec returns to Birmingham's NEC from 28 February to 1 March, with organiser easyFairs stating that plant engineers will be able to catch up on everything from equipment and technology to best practices, taking advantage of Maintec's so-called LearnShops.

The seminars, which run on all three days, cover subjects from maximising plant efficiency and cutting breakdowns, to practical applications of ATEX, all aimed at bridging the skills gap. Beyond these, delegates can dip into FMEA (failure mode and effect analysis) and methods for energy saving/recovery.

Supporters range from BCAS (British Compressed Air Society) to the British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing, Institution of Diagnostic Engineers, Institute of Asset Management, Facilities Management Association, UK Thermography Association and the IET.

BCAS will be playing host to a compressed air advice clinic and the leak detection challenge. The trade association says it will take any questions on compressed air legislation, standards, energy and environmental efficiency. As for leak detection, BCAS makes the point that air utilities consume more than 10% of electrical energy, so the challenge is to find out about the new assessment standard (ISO 11011, Compressed air – Energy efficiency – Assessment), being developed with help from BCAS.

## Energy saving

On the air energy theme, Gardner Denver CompAir will be offering free compressor audits – analysing air usage against parameters, including pressure requirements, power consumption and flow rates. The company says it will then identify ways to improve performance, such as changing the size and mix of fixed and regulated-speed compressors or investing in new, more energy-efficient, machines.

Meanwhile, new to Maintec 2012 is a specialist hazardous area event called HAZEX, covering latest products, legislation and techniques for plant engineers. RRC's stand, for example, will feature a hazard spotting game, with £500 worth of training vouchers for winners. Visitors can also take advantage of 'Dr T's Safety Clinic', where RRC director Dr David Towlson will take questions.

Moving on to products, several stand out. Ro-Dor, for instance, says it will show industrial doors, including the Dynaco Rapid Roll door, said to cut energy wastage and maintenance costs.

Elsewhere, SRO Solutions is to major on its asset management system, based around IBM's Maximo software. Its goal is to automate the processes surrounding routine and one-off maintenance tasks, helping to ensure maximum uptime and profitability.

In a similar vein, Siveco UK says it will be exhibiting its mid-market CMMSs (computerised maintenance management systems), which, according to the company, can handle all plant or project sizes, requiring anything from desktop units to corporate systems. Check out its latest mobile technology, which works with smart phones, iPads and 3G mobile devices.

For thermal imaging, Testo will be introducing its



SuperResolution technology, said to double the resolution of its cameras. The company claims that technicians can expect to see greater detail, making it easier to spot even the smallest of faults in difficult-to-access places or dangerous zones on-plant.

Similarly, Flir is due to launch several new products for electrical and mechanical condition monitoring, fault analysis, energy management and plant inspection. Watch out for the E-Series, described as offering the best value in thermal imaging and digital camera resolution ever.

Space is limited, so, if you see nothing else, take a look at SCHAD, Infor and Thermal Energy International. SCADA software company SCHAD is making its Maintec debut, with Extend7000 mobile SCADA. Infor will be demonstrating its expanded asset management software for Infor10 EAM. And Thermal Energy International will be exhibiting its range of energy efficiency products, including GEM venturi orifice steam traps and its flue gas condensing heat recovery economisers. **PE**

**Testo's higher resolution infrared equipment: routes to new condition monitoring on plant**