

**DISCUSSION GROUP T15  
ON  
TURBOMACHINERY BEARINGS AND ANNULAR SEALS**

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**Thomas R. (Tom) Davidson**, Coordinator, is Chief Mechanical Engineer, Global Operations Reliability Support for Linde, Inc., in Pasadena, Texas. His primary responsibility is developing and implementing equipment reliability improvement programs for both rotating and fixed equipment. He has more than 30 years of experience in the petrochemical and process gas industry, in the field of equipment reliability, maintenance management, and turnaround planning and scheduling.

Mr. Davidson received a B.S. degree (Mechanical Engineering, 1978) from the University of Houston. He is a member of ASME, NSPE, the Vibration Institute, and he serves on the Turbomachinery Symposium Advisory Committee. Mr. Davidson is also a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Texas.

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**John Whalen**, Coordinator, is Engineering Manager and President of TCE/Turbo Components and Engineering, Inc., in Houston, Texas. He spent seven years at Turbodyne Steam Turbines (Dresser-Rand) as a Product Engineer in the Large Turbine Engineering Department and as an Analytical Engineer in the Rotordynamics Group of the Advanced Engineering and Development Department. In 1988, Mr. Whalen accepted a position with Centritech, as the Assistant Chief Engineer, and in 1989, he was promoted to Manager of Engineering. In 1991, he left Centritech to help start TCE.

Mr. Whalen received his B.S. degree (Mechanical Engineering, 1981) from the Rochester Institute of Technology. He is a member of ASME, STLE, and the Vibration Institute, and is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Texas.

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**Malcolm Leader** is the owner of Applied Machinery Dynamics Company. After working for Monsanto Company in Texas City for 9 years, Mr. Leader has run his own turbomachinery consulting business for 24 years. With a focus on providing practical solutions, he specializes in lateral rotordynamics including bearing and seal optimizations as well as steady state and transient torsional analyses. He has analyzed and improved the stability and reliability of over 176 rotating equipment trains. He also offers field diagnostics of machinery problems and advanced vibration testing and analysis. Specialized training courses are also offered.

Mr. Leader received his BSME in 1977 and his MSME in 1978 from the University of Virginia.

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**Michelle Guedry** is a Senior Maintenance Specialist with The Dow Chemical Company in Plaquemine, Louisiana. She has spent her career in the Maintenance Technical Services Department supporting rotating equipment issues for various businesses within Dow and its subsidiaries. She is involved in machinery specification, selection, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting.

She has a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from Louisiana State University (1997).

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