

Patti Engineering to Share Expertise at Symposium

Patti Engineering will be exhibiting at the Manufacturing in America Symposium March 19-20 at Ford Field.

Each year, the event, hosted by Electro-Matic and Siemens, includes dozens of educational seminars and exhibitors, said Patti spokesperson Georgia Whalen.

On Day One of the event, Siemens will present its annual Automotive Manufacturing Summit to foster community collaboration and innovation, Whalen said.

Top automotive and relevant industry executives will present a variety of sessions focusing on the state of automated assembly and control, as well as the challenges facing the automotive manufacturing industry today.

Both days will feature the Electro-Matic Technology Tip-Off, with nearly 100 seminars covering topics from control engineering and design to plant and facilities management.

More than 40 vendors will be participating with exhibits and industry experts on hand to demonstrate products, share insights on key industry challenges and discuss key technology innovations driving the resurgence of American manufacturing.

Patti Engineering, a CSIA certified control system integrator out of Auburn Hills, is the only Siemens automation solution partner in the state of Michigan, Whalen said.

Engineers on staff, she said, are highly trained on Siemens automation products. Many of its engineers have completed the rigorous Siemens Global Technical Certification in the Simatic technology areas of S7 PLCs, Simatic HMIs and Simatic Networking.

Electro-Matic Products, Inc., is a leading supplier of Siemens automation products and a complementary group of high technology components. Patti Engineering often teams up with Electro-Matic and Siemens to offer customers the complete package of products and services for seamless project execution.

Whalen said Patti Engineering engineer Dave Calme will be leading one of the seminars.

“As a certified Siemens Solution Partner, the Patti Engineering team often acts as a pioneer in converting manufacturing machines and integrating new technology into older systems,” Whalen said.

“Just recently, we were involved in a project where we provided engineering services to a global leader in automotive clamping and connection solutions. This involved converting machines with existing obsolete Siemens S5 PLCs to the latest Siemens S7 control platform.

“Siemens S5 is an automation system based on programmable

logic controllers (PLCs) that was first introduced in 1979, which has long since been replaced by Siemens with its newer S7 family of PLCs.

“Many factories across the globe still deploy the older S5 technology, which is becoming increasingly problematic, as it is not easy to support nor is it a simple task to convert.”

Whalen said the S5 product series was discontinued more than five years ago, and recently the factory technical support and replacement parts support has been discontinued.

Maintenance of these control systems becomes more difficult and expensive on a daily basis, said Whalen, resulting in costly and possibly prolonged production downtime.

She said it’s a wise decision to migrate from Siemens S5 controllers to Siemens S7 because the S7 comes with increased automation system functionality, availability and efficiency.

“In this particular project, we brought the necessary expertise and preparation required for the labor-intensive project where we provided Siemens program conversion services using the latest version,” Whalen said.

“The program conversion – based on the standard statement list format to conform to the customer’s standard machinery – will be used as the template for future conversions of the same equipment for the customer. Patti Engineering is also updating the electrical documentation.”

Patti Engineering’s Executive Vice President Sam Hoff said, “This event fosters networking and communication between the top manufacturing executives in the U.S., technology experts and engineers.

“Every year, we look forward to participating in this event. It provides a great venue to explore how technology advancements can help manufacturers become more competitive through improved efficiency, productivity and quality control.”

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