



MECHANICAL ENGINEERING NEWS

March 10, 2004

A newsletter for the UML Mechanical Engineering community (also available online at <http://mechanical.uml.edu>)

Any items you would like to see included in the newsletter or any suggestions/comments?

Please email them to: peter_avitabile@uml.edu or leave them with Jackie Paradise in the Mech Eng office.

Mechanical Engineering Seminar Series - Speakers for Spring 2004

Mar 5 – Brock Birdsong – ARMY Redstone

Mar 10 – Al Gaskill – Softec, Inc

Mar 24 - open

Mar 31 – Bob Hyers – UMASS Amherst

Apr 7 – James Sherwood – UMASS Lowell

Apr 14 – Majid Charmchi - UMASS Lowell

Apr 21 – Jonna Gerken – Pratt & Whitney

Apr 28 – Dave Kazmer - UMASS Lowell

Some Events of Interest

April 6 Professional Advice Day
(Sponsored by Career Services)

Spotlight on COMPANIES



SofTech

SofTech
Tewksbury, MA
<http://www.softech.com/>

Al Gaskill of Softec, Inc gave a talk on “What is Product Lifecycle Management (PLM)” on Wednesday March 10th for the ME Seminar Series. Al’s talk focused on Product Lifecycle Management as one of the hottest topics in the Engineering and Manufacturing community today. Al stated that because of hype and different types of companies trying to get a piece of the market, it’s also one of the most confusing. Al’s presentation focused on why PLM is such a hot issue for companies today and his company’s approach to PLM and what it has been able to do for their customers.

Spotlight on COMPANIES



AMCOM
Huntsville, AL
<https://www3.redstone.army.mil>

The Army Aviation and Missile Command at the Army Redstone Arsenal is involved in many different aspects of missile flight and performance for a variety of different launch packages available.



Brock Birdsong gave a talk on the Launch Transient Modeling and Simulation: Technologies and Solutions on March 5th for the ME Seminar Series. Brock discussed various aspects of missile launch systems and current modeling methodologies employed to study this phenomena. Missile launch analysis involves rigid body dynamics to determine trajectory of a missile. These models are generated using simulation software such as DADS. However, the local flexibility of the supporting structure is an important contributor to the overall missile trajectory computation. Incorporation of these local flexibilities in a simulation model can be performed in a variety of ways. Some of the current and proposed methods for inclusion of these flexibilities were addressed.



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Order of the Engineer

On February 25th, the Order of the Engineer Ceremony took place. The Order of the Engineer is a solemn obligation to oneself “to uphold devotion to the standards and the dignity of the engineering profession”. It is an obligation to turn to “practical use, the principles of science and the means of technology ... to serve humanity by making the best of the earth’s precious wealth”.

A number of Mechanical Engineering student’s participated in the ceremony and are listed:

Julius Atkins	Linda Barrington
Derek Butland	Winger Danier
Mike Denommee	Susanne Diotte
Carissa Ducharme	Brad Forsythe
Lisa Gamache	Erik Gath
Nattalie Grant	Darcy Hornberger
Ryan Howe	William Maffeo
Jennifer Mangano	Mike Marshall
Gary Martin	Nick McGuire
Jeff Murzycki	Jarrold Robertson
Joy Sanders	Tracy Van Zandt
Joel Verrecchia	Nelly Vladimirsky
Justin Zubricki	



For more information on the Order of the Engineer visit the official webpage at:

<http://www.order-of-the-engineer.org/>

Obligation of an Engineer

The official oath taken at the Order of the Engineer Ceremony

I am an Engineer, in my profession I take deep pride. To it I owe solemn obligations.

Since the Stone Age, human progress has been spurred by the engineering genius. Engineers have made usable Nature’s vast resources of material and energy for Humanity’s [Mankind’s] benefit. Engineers have vitalized and turned to practical use the principles of science and the means of technology. Were it not for this heritage of accumulated experience, my efforts would be feeble.

As an Engineer, I pledge to practice integrity and fair dealing, tolerance and respect, and to uphold devotion to the standards and the dignity of my profession, conscious always that my skill carries with it the obligation to serve humanity by making the best use of Earth’s precious wealth.

As an Engineer[, in humility and with the need for Divine guidance,] I shall participate in none but honest enterprises. When needed, my skill and knowledge shall be given without reservation for the public good. In the performance of duty and in fidelity to my profession, I shall give the utmost.



DEPARTMENT OF
MECHANICAL
ENGINEERING

University of Massachusetts at Lowell