Written by Tom Madding, Publisher
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Global competition and skyrocketing energy costs are vastly changing the playing field for most industries. The future is now, and with it has come some harsh economic realities. For maintenance and reliability engineers, keeping up-to-date on reliability and asset management technologies is not an option. It's mandatory.

Maintenance Technology has some mandatory responsibilities, too. Key among them is serving the information needs of our readers. We do this in several ways.

One way is through the magazine itself. Each month, we focus on the type of pertinent information that will benefit you in your day-to-day activities and improve your company's uptime. Our goal is to help you and your associates identify and act "intelligently" on situations that impact your equipment reliability and your organization's ability to compete. Take this 2005 Reference Directory, for example. It's designed as a one-stop, year-round resource tool for helping you and your company achieve that competitive edge you're seeking.

We also strive to serve you via our Website, www.mt-online.com. There you can read articles from the monthly print version of the magazine, as well as explore an enormous archive of past articles. Available 24/7, this site features a user-friendly search engine that allows easy access to countless products and services based on company name or state. (A site redesign soon will make those searches even easier.)

Speaking of online offerings, our recently launched e-Newsletter alerts subscribers to what will appear in a given month's issue of the magazine and provides useful links to a range of information. In 2006, it will be delivering much more, including targeted messages on specific reliability topics. You can subscribe to this free service at www.mt-online.com.

MARTS, our annual Maintenance & Reliability Technology Summit is yet another way we keep you informed. MARTS 2005 attracted well over 500 attendees. They came to learn from and network with some of the most noted experts in the field of plant maintenance, equipment reliability, and asset management, including Terry Wireman, Charles Latino, John Mitchell, Mark Galley, Bob Williamson, Vee Narayan, Jack Nicholas, Ricky Smith, Ken Bannister, and Ray Thibault, among others. MARTS 2006 is slated for April 17-20, at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, in Rosemont, IL. Conference details and registration packets will be forthcoming.

Demands on you are growing by the hour. Now is the time to really put Maintenance Technology's powerful resources to work. Let us keep you abreast of technologies and best practices that not only help you do your job better, but also help position your company as a leader in its industry.