

NOVEMBER 2005



HOUSTON SECTION ELECTRO^Pnews

RSVP by Oct 31ST

For \$5 Discount

On the Houston Section website:
www.houstonisa.org
or call: 713-684-1414 x1104

Price: \$20 with RSVP
\$25 without RSVP



Time: 11:15 am – Social
11:45 am – Lunch/Meeting

Place: HESS Club
5430 Westheimer Way
Houston, TX 77056

Complimentary meal for new members

Bring a new or potential member to the next meeting and they will receive a free gift

Spouses & family members are welcome to the section meetings

Sign up for email notices of meetings & events at
http://www.houstonisa.org/network_online!.htm

General Meeting

Wednesday, November 2nd

Topic: SIL "X" Implementation for Novices

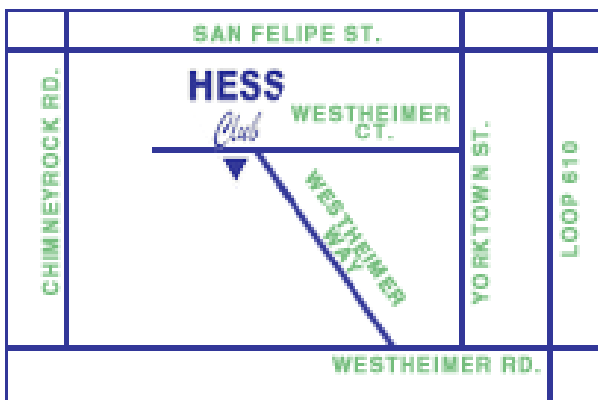
Once the Safety Requirements Specification (SRS) has been issued and SIL "X" has been assigned to various Safety Instrumented Functions (SIF's) on a pending project incorporating an SIS, the typical project engineer/manager is left with a sea of choices and terminology to wade through to implement the project. This presentation will delve into the practical aspects of executing the project in so far as...

- Exploring the various procedural and equipment options available on the market today to satisfy a given SIL "level"
- Selecting appropriate logic processors, field sensors/transmitters and end control elements to satisfy the SRS
- Identifying the mission-critical documentation that the system implementer must generate to satisfy the intent of ANSI/ISA 84.00.01-2004, IEC 61511, and IEC 61508
- Documenting the SIL "level" of the designed SIS via SIL verification/calculation tools

The presentation will be a very practical discussion of the issues, approaches and options available to the user/implementer of an SIS.

Presenters: Steve Moriarty, Ray Powell, Matt Hufford & Chuck Laughter of Wilson-Mohr

As an independent systems integrator, Wilson-Mohr has implemented numerous logic processor platforms to satisfy SIL 1, 2 and 3 requirements and has gained invaluable experience in the documentation that surround SIS's.



ISA provides its members with unparalleled access to technical information, professional development resources, and opportunities to network with other automation professionals. In addition to these unique benefits, membership supports a not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancement of the state-of-the-art and recognition of the automation profession.



President's Corner

John Campbell
President, ISA Houston Section

Whether you “hunkered down”, evacuated (or tried to) or took some other approach to the advent of Hurricane Rita, enough time has gone by that - for the immediate Houston area – everything should be (mostly) back to normal. Our neighbors in Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana did not fare as well, unfortunately. ISA has responded in a number of ways in the aftermath of Katrina and Rita as you can see on their website and the emails that I forwarded in early October. I am sure that there are still needs that can be filled through ISA.

The hurricanes and the earthquake in India and Pakistan serve as reminders that the need to respond to the disasters of Mother Nature is nearly continuous. International and national organizations such as the Red Cross look for immediate support in the aftermath of a disaster but also depend on regular donations and support to maintain their readiness. Local groups that are prepared to respond to national needs, like blood banks, have the same immediate and long term support requirements. In Houston, the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center is always looking for a few good donors. Groups that don't necessarily come to mind also serve a vital function. For example, the Houston SPCA has sheltered animals from the New Orleans area (including horses and mules) and provided pet search and rescue services in the Beaumont area.

When I was still in Ponca City, the church that I attended had a Sunday School group that called themselves FANAFI. I spent the longest time trying to come up with what that stood for and finally had to ask. I was told that the name was an acronym for *Find A Need And Fill It*. While I didn't join that group, I have considered that to be a philosophy worth following. Open your wallet. Roll up your sleeves and give a pint. Put on your work clothes for a few hours of volunteer time. Arguably, this time we “dodged the bullet”. Let's find a way to help those who weren't so lucky. Just pick something to give back to the community, the country, the world.

As I climb back down off of my soap box, I'd like to remind you that in just a couple of weeks we will be meeting for a few hours of fun, friendship, food and foamy beverages (I just love alliteration). November 17 is the date for the annual ISA Houston Section Chili Cook-Off at Saint Arnold Brewery. There may be room for a team if you've got a chili recipe you think is great and could win you a trophy. You can come down and taste the efforts of the teams and vote for your favorite. If you don't like to drink beer, I know that Saint Arnold brews a mean root beer. We want to see you there!





DON'T FORGET!!!

ISA Houston Section Annual Chili Cook-Off

**Thursday, November 17th, 2005
From 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm**

St. Arnold's Brewery

This year we will be featuring:

Opportunity to taste chili prepared by 20 Different chili cook-off teams

Awards for: 1st, 2nd, 3rd place and the People's Choice Award

Beverages from St. Arnold's Brewery!!!

Gifts for all non-members who join at the event

Tabletop Displays from all Chili Cook-off Teams

Ability to network and hang out with other people in your industry

Live Band

ISA Houston Section Chili Cook-Off Team Registration Form

Please complete this Entry Form and fax or e-mail it today!

Attn: Scott Stuart

scottstuart@rawsonlp.com

Fax: 713-684-1459

Company Name:		Contact:	
Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:	Fax:	E-mail:	
Chili Cook-Off Teams (each includes 10 VIP tickets)	Qty.	X \$300.00 ea	
Lot of 10 VIP tickets	Qty.	X \$75.00 ea	
Chili Cook-Off Registration Total			\$

Make checks payable to:

ISA – Houston Section

Mail Checks and Applications to:

**Rawson, P. O. Box 924288
Houston, TX 77292
Attn: Scott Stuart – ISA**

NEW! PAY-PAL is now available on our website www.houstonisa.org

To Pay by Credit Card (please print clearly):

Name (as it appears on the card)	
Credit Card Number	
Expiration Date	

Instructions: Your ISA Houston section will be providing the cups, bowls, paper napkins, soft drinks & water, beer, tables for the tabletop displays, a tent to cover the outdoor cooking area. The cook-off teams are encouraged to prepare as much of the chili ahead of time as needed, and then bring all items needed to heat the chili on site. You will be given a location outside to heat your chili, as well as a serving location indoors. Bring your own: cookers, propane supply, what ever you need to cook the chili, all meat, beef, condiments, cheese, crackers, and any ingredients needed to cook and present the chili besides the bowls, spoons, and napkins. Be prepared to cook about 5 gallons of chili, and the indoor serving container needs to be able to hold 1 to 2 gallons of chili in it. You will also need something to transfer the chili from outside to inside. There will be no source of power indoors, so we recommend bringing insulated ice chests to keep the chili hot indoors. ****Official rules will be distributed as soon as team sign ups are completed.****

Welcome New Members!



Scott Boone

Epoch Well Services
VP Technical Product Development

Farley Raquel

Rolls Royce
Sr. Field Technician

Jennifer Rutt

Boeing Company
Scientist-Engineer

Advertise where it counts!

If you would like to advertise in our newsletter, please contact Rick Williams at (713) 382-8006 or rwill74018@aol.com.

Below are the new advertising rates:

\$200.00 - Single Ad Space (10 Issues)

\$300.00 - Double Ad Space (10 Issues)

\$400.00 - Triple Ad Space (10 Issues)

\$400.00 /1 Month Insert - (8 ½ * 11 format Single Page)

\$700.00 /1 Month Insert - (8 ½ * 11 format 2-Page)





Cranial Gas

by Paul Gruhn, PE, CFSE

Beer Automation Part II

I'm traveling a great deal now that I'm employed full-time again, so much so that I finally decided to join one of the airline clubs. Hanging out in their airport lounges is a whole different ballgame than hanging around the terminals. In fact, I really don't mind having to wait at an airport anymore. I can actually get a lot of work done in there.

The US based airline clubs I've been in so far all have bartenders. It's a nice touch and I certainly don't mind giving them a tip when the drink is free. There was a different twist to this at one of the lounges overseas though. One of the airline clubs at the Tokyo airport didn't have a bartender. They did have a bar — it just wasn't staffed by anyone. What really got my attention however was an automated beer dispenser. This was something only a home brewing geek engineer like myself could appreciate. Simply put your pint size glass in the dispenser and press a button. It automatically: tips the glass to about a 45 degree angle, dispenses about half a pint of beer, alters the angle of the glass to about 20 degrees, almost tops the glass off, alters the angle of the glass to vertical, and then proceeds to top off the glass with a perfect 1 inch head. I stared at the machine in amazement. It could even handle two glasses simultaneously. I naturally first wondered "how'd it *do* that?!" I paid a bit more attention the next time. I noticed a small red light on the top of the head at the end of the second pour. The machine apparently used a laser to measure the height of the liquid and head. (After all, not all kegged beer is going to be so consistent that a simple timer would do.)

Any engineer would have remarked, "Cool! Hey Joe, come here and look at this!" I couldn't help but wonder what some social Luddite might have to say. "This machine put some bartender out of business!" Uh, yeah, but how many people actually *want* to be bartenders? This is practically the same as what's happening in the automation industry in general. We've become so good at automating every process out there that we've put a lot of people out of work. Is this a good thing or a bad thing? Don't be too quick to answer. Remember that the majority of our population used to be involved in agriculture. Now we only need less than 3% of our populace to generate a surplus of food. We naturally put a lot of farmers out of business. Was that a bad thing? I don't think so.

I neglected to mention earlier that I'm paying out of my own pocket to belong to the airline club. I assumed my employer would laugh if I were to include such an item on my expense report. However, considering how much I travel, I would have to be an idiot *not* to join the club. It's very much like our ISA membership dues. If your employer won't pay, you've practically got to be an idiot not to see \$85 worth of benefit in paying for your own membership. That's the equivalent of a dinner out with the family, right? Haven't you learned a thing or two reading InTech or attending a meeting that saved you the equivalent of \$85 in time? That's about 1 hour of billable time for many folks. I've certainly learned enough to make it all worthwhile. If the only way your company trains people is by asking vendors to fund "lunch and learns", you better get some more information and training on your own! Considering today's change of pace of technology, once you stop learning, you're through. Just because your employer may be shortsighted doesn't mean you have to be!

Disclaimer: The rantings expressed here do not represent the opinions of ISA, its local board, or any sane person – living or dead – that we know of.



Standards & Practices

Public review is currently underway to reaffirm the following:

- *ISA-77.42.01-1999, Fossil Fuel Power Plant Feedwater Control System – Drum Type.
- *ISA-RP77.60.02-2000, Fossil Fuel Power Plant Human-Machine Interface Alarms.

The above documents (ZIP) and comment sheets are available for download and review from the ISA web site at <http://www.isa.org/standards/isareview>

Please return any comments on or before NOVEMBER 7, 2005. You may send comments via e-mail, postal mail, or fax your comments back to the address below:

Loanna Overcash
Standards Administrator
Tel: 919-990-9234
LOvercash@isa.org
ISA-The Instrumentation, Systems, and Automation Society
67 Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Fax: 919-549-8288

Please feel free to forward the file to others who might have an interest.

Please contact Mike Cannon of the Houston Section at 713-928-3181 with any questions or write to: mcannon@indeco-tx.com



Houston Section 2005/2006 Scholarship Program

The Board of Directors of the ISA Houston Section has approved a scholarship program to be awarded for the 2005/2006 school year. Please inform and encourage everyone who is eligible to participate. The requirements are as follows:

- Scholarships are awarded to successful applicants who will attend an accredited technical school, college or university in the Fall 2005 and Spring 2006 semesters as a full time student pursuing a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester.
- Applicant must be nominated by someone who has attended a minimum of three(3) ISA Houston Section monthly meetings and or activities during the 2004/2005 ISA Houston Section fiscal year September 1, 2004 through August 3, 2005.
- The applicant must compose and submit an essay of no less than 500 words (typed) describing their future goals and the contribution that a scholarship would have in achieving those goals.
- The applicant must be a high school senior or a college undergraduate student.
- The applicant must NOT be the previous recipient of any other ISA scholarships in the current or the previous fiscal year. The ISA Houston Section scholarship will not be awarded to the same person in consecutive years.
- The applicant must submit a copy of their recent high school or college transcript.
- The applicant and/or nominating party is encouraged to attend the *February 1, 2006* meeting of the ISA Houston Section at the Houston Engineering and Scientific Society (HESS) located at 5430 Westheimer Way, Houston.
- All scholarships will be submitted directly to the college or university whom the scholarship recipient is enrolled to pay for normal tuition, enrollment fees and textbooks for the specified school year.

Notes to applicants: **To be considered, the application and associated documents must be postmarked no later than *November 16, 2005*.** The scholarships will be awarded to applicants based upon the quality of the essay, high school or college grades, accomplishments and the recommendation given by their nominator. If there are any questions, contact Chan Miller at 281-249-2632 or any Board of Director listed in the newsletter.

Mail to:
Chan Miller
Technip USA Corporation
1990 Post Oak Blvd., Ste. 200
Houston, TX 77056

Fax applications to: 281-249-2330
or email: cmiller@technip.com

Note: Transcripts must be mailed.



Houston Section 2005/2006 Scholarship Application

Applicant Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, & Zip Code: _____

Applicant SSN: _____ Day Time Phone: _____

Current School: _____ Expected Graduation Date: _____

Plan to/or Attend
College/University: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____

Nominating Party: _____ Day Time Phone: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

Check dates of ISA Houston Section meetings/functions attended by nominator:

- ___ September 1, 2004
- ___ November 4, 2004
- ___ December 1, 2004
- ___ February 2, 2005
- ___ March 2, 2005
- ___ April 6, 2005
- ___ May 11, 2005
- ___ June 1, 2005
- ___ August 3, 2005

Signature of Applicant: _____

Please print or type and complete the entire application form. **Mail, with postmark no later than November 16, 2005**, completed application form with letter of recommendation, essay and transcripts to: cmiller@technip.com

ISA Houston Section
Attn: Chan Miller
Technip USA Corporation
1990 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 200
Houston, Texas 77056-3846
(mail transcripts please)



Kimberly A. Dejmek of Baker Engineering and Risk Consultants, Inc. presenting "Quantitative Risk Analysis And The Facilitation Of SIL Target Assignment" at our October meeting



Calendar of Events

Houston Section

General Membership Meetings & Events

At the HESS Club – 5430 Westheimer Way – unless noted

November 17, 2005	5:00 pm	Chili Cook-Off @ St. Arnolds
December 7, 2005	11:30 am	General Meeting
February 1, 2006	5:30 pm	General Meeting / Bosses' Night
March 1, 2006	11:30 am	General Meeting
April 5, 2006	11:30 am	General Meeting
May 10, 2006	11:30 am	General Meeting
June 7, 2006	11:30 am	General Meeting

Analysis Subsection Meetings & Events

At Ramada Inn, Hwy. 225 @ Richey, Pasadena

Contact Daniel Podkulski at (281) 834-2833 or Dan.E.Podkulski@exxonmobil.com

ICCS Monthly Meetings

At the HESS Club – 5430 Westheimer Way – unless noted

For Information Contact Greg Smallwood at 713-860-5268 or greg.smallwood@tagsite.com

November 8, 2005	5:30 pm	General Meeting
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Pipeline Subsection

For Information contact Mike Marzak at 713-215-2789 or michael.l.marczak@williams.com

National & International

Analysis Division Spring Symposium Meeting Schedule

2006	April 02-06	51st Annual, New Orleans, LA
2007	April 15-18	52nd Annual, Houston, TX

ISA International Fall Conference & Exhibit Schedule

2006	October 17-19	Houston, TX
2007	September 25-27	Chicago, IL

ISA Houston Section 2005-2006 Officers

ELECTED POSITIONS

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Editor's Note

Looking for Work? Wanting to Hire?

Email the information to me and we will include your message in the next newsletter.

m.carmichael@krohne-oilandgas.com

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Please feel free to call or email the officers listed above with any questions you may have, or for any assistance you need, or wish to offer. You can also send us an email through our website: www.houstonisa.org. Bookmark us in your browser and check our site monthly for the latest updates and announcements!