Driving Automotive Innovation Conference

A survey of the state of the art in fuel-efficiency technologies and designs for passenger cars.

Speaker and Moderator Bios

(in order of appearance)

Drew Kodjak:
Prior to joining the ICCT in 2005, Mr. Kodjak served as Program Director for the DC-based National Commission on Energy Policy (NCEP), a bipartisan 16-member commission of energy experts that released a highly influential report, Ending the Energy Stalemate, in December 2004. Before the NCEP, Mr. Kodjak spent several years as an Attorney-Advisor to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of Transportation and Air Quality in Ann Arbor, MI. During his tenure with the EPA, Mr. Kodjak was awarded the EPA Gold Metal for his work on the heavy-duty diesel rule. Mr. Kodjak is a member of the bar associations of Minnesota, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. For more than two decades, Mr. Kodjak has worked to develop effective policies to control air pollution and improve energy efficiency of motor vehicles.

David Friedman:
Before being named Acting Assistant Secretary for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), David served as the organization's Principal Deputy, overseeing day-to-day operations and a broad energy portfolio. He also served as both Deputy and Acting Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Prior to this David worked 12 years at the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) in several different capacities, including senior engineer, research director, and deputy director of their clean vehicles program. David has been an influential sustainable transportation and clean energy technologies expert for more than two decades.

Timothy V. Johnson:
Tim Johnson tracks emerging mobile emissions regulations and technologies, and helps develop strategic positioning for new products. He has been Director, Emerging Technologies and Regulations, Corning Incorporated for 19 years, and with Corning Incorporated for 30 years. He is a three-time recipient of the Lloyd L Withrow Distinguished Speaker Awards from SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers), and in 2008 was named SAE Fellow. He has also received California’s 2009 Haagen-Smit Clean Air Award and was appointed to the National Research Council review committee on the US Department of Energy 21st Century Truck Partnership program. Dr. Johnson is active in various advisory committees with government agencies, universities, and private organizations. He is on the editorial board of three leading engine journals.
Jim McCarthy:
Jim McCarthy is the Engineering Manager for Eaton’s Advanced Valvetrain Actuation focused on North American and Asian markets and located in Marshall, Michigan. His previous role at Eaton focused on development of Exhaust Aftertreatment Solutions. Prior to joining Eaton, Jim worked on diesel engine technologies at Detroit Diesel. Jim has focused his engineering career on product innovation and growth to develop and integrate serial production solutions for engine technologies while optimizing power generation to conserve fossil fuels and reduce emissions. McCarthy received his Ph.D., Masters of Science and Bachelors of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Purdue University.

Dean Tomazic:
Dr. Tomazic is Executive Vice President and Chief Technical Officer (CTO) at FEV North America Inc. in Auburn Hills, Michigan. His responsibilities entail base engine design and controls, simulation, calibration, combustion, and aftertreatment system development for light- and heavy-duty diesel and gasoline engines as well as transmissions and vehicle driveline systems. He has been with FEV for 22 years and holds a Masters degree from the Technical University in Aachen, Germany, where he also received his Ph.D. in 2001. Dr. Tomazic has authored and co-authored over 170 publications, holds five patents, and has served as chairman during various technical conferences.

Admiral Dennis C. Blair:
Dennis Cutler Blair is the former United States Director of National Intelligence and is a retired United States Navy admiral who was the commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific region. Blair was a career officer in the U.S. Navy and served in the White House during the presidencies of both President Jimmy Carter and President Ronald Reagan. Blair retired from the Navy in 2002 as an Admiral. In 2009, Blair was selected as President Barack Obama’s first Director of National Intelligence. He currently serves as Chairman of the Board & CEO of Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA, is a member of the Energy Security Leadership Council of Securing America's Future Energy, and is on the boards of Freedom House, the National Bureau of Asian Research, and the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations. He also serves as co-chair of the annual Pacific Energy Summit.

Ben Shade:
Ben Shade is the Chief Emissions Research Scientist for AVL North America. He is responsible for extending AVL’s technical leadership in emissions technology through focused research efforts, improving the performance of AVL’s current emissions products, and developing new testing methods in response to customer and market needs. Ben’s career has revolved around the calibration and control of internal combustion engines and their aftertreatment systems along with research efforts focused on exhaust emissions measurement and quantification. He began his career in the heavy-duty diesel industry before returning to West Virginia University to complete his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering, which he completed in 2006.
Geoff Duff: Geoff Duff is Honeywell Transportation Systems Director of Applications Engineering for North America. In this role, he is responsible for engineering development, validation, and production launch with North American customers in both commercial vehicle and passenger vehicle segments. In his prior role Geoff led the North American gasoline engineering efforts in a segment that has seen rapid growth as a result of increasing demand for more fuel efficient products. Geoff joined Honeywell in 2003 and has held various positions with increasing responsibility within Applications Engineering successfully launching numerous turbocharging solutions for customer gasoline and diesel engines. Geoff started his career at Detroit Diesel Corp working on air system and base engine product development. He earned a Bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from Purdue University and a Master’s degree in Business Administration from Oakland University. He is a certified six sigma green belt.

Rasto Brezny: Dr. Rasto Brezny is the Executive Director of the Manufacturers of Emission Controls Association. He has worked in the area of emissions controls for over 30 years. He has been with MECA since 2006 serving as Deputy Director and was appointed MECA’s Executive Director in 2016. Prior to joining MECA, Dr. Brezny was the Global Marketing and Technology Manager for automotive materials products at W.R. Grace. In this position he had world-wide responsibility for automotive catalyst product development and marketing. Prior to his commercial role, Dr. Brezny spent 11 years at Grace’s Washington Research Center developing automotive catalyst substrates and materials. Dr. Brezny holds 16 patents and has authored over 30 scientific papers.

Paul Nahra: Paul R. Nahra joined BorgWarner’s Advanced Engineering Group in May 2013. He is currently Director of Advanced Engine Engineering as well as the Director of Trends and Innovation for BorgWarner. Prior to joining BorgWarner, Paul held several management positions at General Motors, including Gasoline Engine Controls Manager, and Enterprise Resource and Planning Manager. During his five years at GM, he also led the development of several combustion systems. Earlier in his career, Paul spent nine years at DaimlerChrysler working in combustion engineering, systems engineering, advanced engine engineering and advanced powertrain engineering. Paul received an Outstanding Industry Achievement Award from the Wayne State University College of Engineering in 2012. He holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in mechanical engineering from Wayne State University as well as an MBA from the University of Michigan Ross School of Business.

Greg Garr: Greg Garr is Director, Market Creation/Technical Center for Umicore Autocat USA, headquartered in Auburn Hills, Michigan. In addition, he represents Umicore in trade and lobby associations with the emphasis on expanding and developing new automotive catalyst markets
in North America. Mr. Garr assumed his current position in October 2009, following successful five-year tenure as Director of Applied Technology in Auburn Hills. He joined Umicore (at the time, Degussa) in New Jersey in June 1984. He held several senior technical positions in support of Umicore technical operations in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and North America. He also took on technical assignments in Germany and Canada. Prior to joining Umicore, Mr. Garr worked at Exxon Mobil on a variety of catalyst-related projects for petroleum and chemical processes.

**Dave Cetola:**
Dave Cetola is Director of Regulatory Affairs for Johnson Matthey Inc. where he leads the company’s U.S. regulatory activities with responsibility to oversee policy strategy for JM’s sustainable technology businesses. He leads JM’s engagement with legislators, officials, policymakers, NGOs and industry stakeholders impacting energy, climate and environmental policy. Prior to joining JM in 2013, Dave served as Director of Regulatory Affairs for Hess Corporation’s Energy Marketing business and Assistant Attorney General in the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office, Energy Division. Dave earned his B.S. in Environmental Science from the University of Delaware (2001) and J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law (2004).

**Heiko Weller:**
Heiko Weller is the Vice President for Systems Engineering at Bosch Gasoline Systems in North America. He has a degree in Mechanical Engineering and has held many positions within Bosch since his start in 1996. He has broad experience in engine systems engineering and development, serving as Project Manager for Engine Management Systems in both the United States and Germany. Heiko was responsible for E-Mobility at Bosch Corporate Research when he transferred into the Bosch Engineering group. After formerly being in charge of engineering for Bosch in the United Kingdom, Heiko moved into system development for Gasoline Systems in North America.

**John German:**
John German’s focus is on technology innovation and U.S. policy development. Mr. German has been involved with advanced technology and efficiency since joining Chrysler in 1976, where he spent 8 years in Powertrain Engineering working on fuel economy issues. He then spent 13 years doing research and writing regulations for EPA’s Office of Mobile Sources’ laboratory in Ann Arbor, MI, followed by 11 years as Manager of Environmental and Energy Analyses for American Honda Motor Company. Mr. German is the author of a variety of technical papers and a book on hybrid gasoline-electric vehicles published by SAE. He was the first recipient of the Barry D. McNutt award, presented annually by SAE for Excellence in Automotive Policy Analysis. He has a bachelor’s degree in Physics from the University of Michigan and got over half way through an MBA before he came to his senses.