

- News: Gallaudet teaches Electronics
- Free: Tips and Freebies
- New Source: CNC/Robotics from D&M
- Win: Free Portable TV See inside for details

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TechTalk

NEWS AND REVIEWS FOR TECHNI-EDUCATORS

TechTalk

Premiere Issue

Volume One, Number One

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GALLAUDET CHOOSES LAB-VOLT

University for the hearing impaired begins Engineering Technologies Program

by Ron Baddock

Gallaudet University recently began a new Engineering Technologies program using Lab-Volt Training Equipment. Gallaudet, located in Washington D.C., is a unique institution in that it is the only university in the world exclusively devoted to the hearing impaired, according to Gerald Daly, head of the Physics Department.

Students at the school vary in terms of hearing level and means of communication. Some use lip reading while some use sign language and finger spelling. Some students use a combination of these methods. The faculty at the university must be able to present the information in such a way that the student can understand what is being presented by the instructor,

regardless of the preferred communication mode.

A simultaneous method of communication is used to present learning material. This method requires the instructor to sign, finger spell and speak all at the same time. This allows most students to use any or all of these means of understanding, in a way that works best for each individual.

Two separate programs in engineering technology are offered, both of which use the Lab-Volt Practical



Gerry Daly explains a principle of electronics to a student in the Gallaudet Electronics Lab

Electronics System (PES) as a core course prior to advanced studies. In the program called Electronics Engineering, the students continue their studies using Lab-Volt telecommunications training modules. In the second program, called Computer Engineering Technology, the students advance to Lab-Volt digital, microprocessor, robotics, and programmable logic controller training systems.

The school wanted a "good, clear cut, well established package to reduce a lot of the logistical problems associated with buying individual components, and we also wanted to be sure there was a complete set of coherent instructional materials, specifically designed for the equipment we were going to use. When we looked at Lab-Volt equipment, we realized that we could buy a strong initial package to begin with and really build on it for the advanced courses. We also liked the approach taken in the Lab-Volt course.

See GALLAUDET next page

New Resource for Techni-Educators

Ideas build successful programs — Tech-Talk aims to be a new, regular source of such ideas. This premier issue is only the first of three scheduled for this school year, the next to be in January.

Tech-Talk will highlight exciting new product ideas, reports on exemplary programs in our area (e.g. Gallaudet U. in this issue), news and happenings in Delmarva, our Reader's Service Card for info or help, and more...

We'll print your good ideas too! Just send them in along with any suggestions to improve Tech-Talk. Let us hear from you.

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Tech-Talk is published quarterly for the customers and associates of Amtek Company

WHAT'S NEW

Products and Freebies

Electronics — LabVolt unveils F.A.C.E.T. (Fault Assisted Circuits for Electronics Training), a complete training system utilizing a problem solving approach. Minimizes time-consuming breadboarding. Large circuit boards plug into base unit. 17 boards, each with separate manual, cover basic to advanced topics — choose only what you need. Circuit mods and faults inserted by switches. Next year, if you like, plug it into an IBM Compatible for computer managed instruction. Circle #1

CAD/CAM — Looking for a full size, full featured CNC Mill? Cardinal Engineering offers a Bridgeport look-alike fully outfitted for CAD/CAM with an -XT or -AT style controller/workstation and their unique ICAM software. It operates from within AutoCAD, thereby utilizing all its power, and interfaces with all major micro-CAD programs. Easy to learn and use, yet hefty enough to do real production work. And priced from \$18,000.00 complete and installed. Easy on your budget! Circle #2

Freebie — LabVolt has published several full color wall charts of symbols and technical data to dress up your lab. You can have them FREE — but only one per customer. (HINT — if you want more than one, request another from our next issue.) Available are:
 Ohm's Law Circle #3
 Digital Logic Chart Circle #4
 Instrum'n & Process Control Symbology Circle #5
 Fluid Power Symbology Circle #6

Computer Maintenance Trainer — Amtek has produced 3 models based on the Marcraft Turbo PC and starting from \$1495.00. A real, operating, high quality IBM compatible with Hercules style display. All internal IC's are socket mounted for easy fault insertion. A detailed Reference Text and a Lab Manual in two volumes are included. Available with up to 640K RAM, 2 floppies and/or Hard Disk..... Circle #7

News from our Suppliers

D&M Computing Inc. — As we go to press, we await the October 16 airing of the new ABC TV show "Incredible Sunday" hosted by John Davidson. Featured will be the touching story of how Dave Ortner, D&M's President, nursed his comatose son Roger back to health. Even his doctors had given up hope — but not Dave! Hope you saw this one — it's a heart warming story!

Lenco Inc. — The U.S. Army Ordnance School in Aberdeen, MD has installed six LT-3000 Weld Trainers. John Taylor of Amtek provided in-service orientation for their instructors, and subsequent reports from the School indicate real success in speeding training and in cutting costs of consumables and power. Circle #8

Tech-Talk is published three times a year for the customers and friends of Amtek Company, Arnold, MD, all rights reserved. It's intent is to advise of new products and program ideas in our field, of happenings in our area, and to entertain. Our editors welcome your submissions, but cannot promise to print or return your manuscripts. Additional subscribers are also welcomed.

GALLAUDET from Page 1

advanced courses. We also liked the approach taken in the Lab-Volt courseware," Mr Daly said.

Mr Daly continued, "We are trying to do something unique in the world, and that is often the case at Gallaudet. There are other programs that offer technical training to hearing impaired people, but you won't find one where the faculty are expected to be proficient in the communication mode of the students. Just as we are unique, so Lab-Volt is also unique because it is the only equipment in the world that is being used in such a special, technical program. Going with the Lab-Volt system allows us to jump right in and worry more about what the students learn than about whether or not things will work. With this equipment, we can depend upon the fact that the experiment, as presented in the book, is going to work."

"...with the Lab-Volt system... the experiment, as presented in the book, is going to work."

Gallaudet offered a few electronics courses in the past. This is the first time an entire technology program has been presented with a specific degree available upon completion of the program.

Either of the programs can be completed in two years leading to an AA degree. The student who wants to continue on for four years will receive a bachelor degree of science in engineering technology.

D&M Computing Appoints AMTEK

Dave Ortner, President of D&M Computing, Inc. recently announced the appointment of Amtek Company as their exclusive sales/service rep for D.C., Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

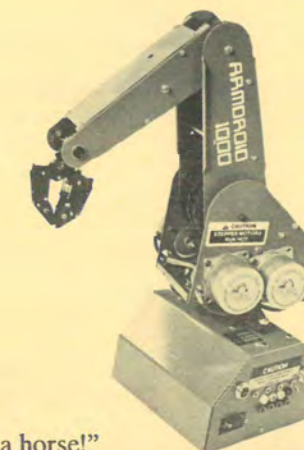
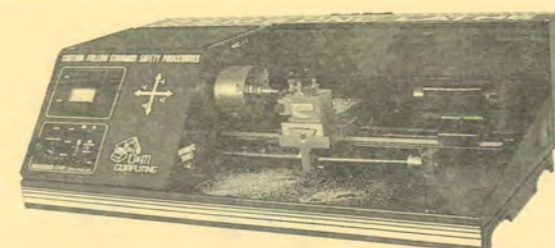
"We are pleased with this relationship," said John Taylor, Amtek's President, "because D&M is unique in several ways. It makes both CNC machines as well as Robotic work cells — and at very affordable prices. It can therefore supply integrated FMS packages and take complete systems responsibility. What's more, the equipment is American made so parts and support are readily available, including unlimited free plant training for as long as you own the equipment."

D&M started in the CNC business many years ago by distributing the Colne line in America. "We learned the hard way about the vagaries of off-shore sourcing," observed Ortner, "so we bought (then greatly improved) their designs and went into production

right here in the Mid-West. Now that we have control, we are able to provide the highest quality equipment and service as is required by the American market. In fact we can even update the old Colne machines to use our new CNC software — a real boon to our old customers."

D&M's product line is also much expanded. They now offer three size ranges in CNC Lathes, CNC Mills and Robots as well as workcell components (conveyors, rotary tables, etc.).

"Together these products cover the gamut of Benchtop CNC Machines," Ortner said, "from those I can carry myself to others that require two strong



men and a horse!"
 "As good as our hardware is (and it is superb), the software is even better!" declared Ortner. "The introduction of our Level 3 software now provides advanced features normally only found in advanced, industrial programs costing four times the price. These include full graphic simulation and CAD/CAM link to automatically write CNC code. And Off-Line design is supported, freeing the machines for production."

Our readers may obtain more information by using the Reader Service Card below:

- LATHES Circle #9
- MILLS Circle #10
- ROBOTICS Circle #11

WIN A PORTABLE TV SET

FREE It's easy. Just fill out and return the Reader Service Card, making sure that at least the top section is complete. We will draw the winning card from these returns on June 9, 1989 so the lucky winner can enjoy the TV Set on summer outings! Contestants are limited to technical, vocational and engineering educators only. Entries must be on the original Service Card. No purchases necessary.
 The odds are good _____ Send in your entry NOW!

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 Added Expanded or Revised Funded? (Yes No).
 Type of equipment needed _____ When? _____
 I'm a user of: _____ (product) made by _____ (mfr)
 Please have representative call.

SEND MORE INFO on the following circled items:

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AMTEK LINE CARD

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- Electricity/Electronics/Digital
- Computer Maintenance
- Hydraulics/Pneumatics/Power
- Electrical Machines & Controls
- CAD/CAM and Automated Manufacturing
- Robotics and CIM
- Instrumentation & Process Control
- Welding Trainers

SUPPLIERS

- Lab-Volt (Buck Engineering)
- TSI Division of Lab-Volt
- Quintech Div. of Lab-Volt
- Hitachi
- Robo Systems Inc.
- D&M Computing Inc.
- Lenco Inc.
- Parent Metal Co.
- Shain Shop-Bilt
- TechniLab Co.
- OTHERS