

2023 PERA News

April 2023

Vol. 36 Issue 2



**Join us in 2023 in Houston, TX
September 20-22
Omni Hotel & Resort Galleria**



The Four-Diamond Omni Houston Hotel is welcoming guests after undergoing a \$30 million renovation that elevates the guest experience. Located in prestigious Uptown, near the Houston Galleria Mall, and situated in a park-like setting, this luxurious hotel offers all the comforts and amenities of a resort with the convenience of an urban setting. You will find it hard to believe that you are in the heart of the city of Houston.

www.omnihotels.com/hotels/houston

Room Reservation Link:

<https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/houston/meetings/pera-2023-09182023>



Convention Teaser

The Program Planning Committee has just about wrapped up its work for the 2023 convention in Houston and it will be another great program. All but one topic is from the surveys of past conventions. Again, the committee is delivering what you're asking for.

HR has been a hot topic for a good number of years so we have two HR presentations. Adam Skaggs of AER Manufacturing will talk about their use of temp agencies and some of the out-of-the-box sources they've used to recruit shop floor employees. Liz Whalen of Whalen Search Group will address recruiting and retaining professionals such as engineers and sales and marketing pros.

Roy Berndt of LKQ Remanufacturing—MO and President Skip Hartley of Impaco will do the deep dive into the LS/LT series engines. Word is that you're starting to see a lot of LT engines today so this is very timely.

There will be a 4-part discussion on valve seats including powdered metal—Dura-Bond, cast seats—LS Jones, machining—Rotter Manufacturing and with Chuck Lynch, Director of Technical Services for AERA tying it all together from the remanufacturers side.

Cleaning is another hot topic from the surveys so the committee has recruited Jack Daul of Allen Woods & Associates to discuss the advances in aqueous cleaning technologies, Madison Chemical to talk about the cleaning solutions and Jeff Paduano of ESCA Blast to talk about automating your blasting operation.

Cass Choate of Choate Engineering Performance has been so popular he's been asked to do a return performance but on the Cummins diesel.

Ajax Tocco Magnethermic will talk about the many uses of induction heating in your shop and will include real life examples and fixturing from REVIVA.

Not to be left out, LKQ will talk about remanaging lifters and Casey Calouette of Cal Grinding will discuss how they've implemented a new ERP system which he says should be completed before convention. We're working on recruiting another member who has undergone such an upgrade in the recent past to talk about their experience and some things you might want to avoid.

Golf will be at the Pearland Golf Club in Pearland, TX.

The Friday tour will be at LKQ Best Automotive, LKQ's consolidated core processing facility. We've scheduled it for Friday to be sure all those who are golfing and want to see this fantastic facility will be able to do so.

We're still working on the Thursday afternoon tour but I'm sure it will be another really good one.

Mark your calendars now to reserve September 20-22, arriving on Tuesday, September 19th.

Webinars & Member News

April 2023

Vol. 36 Issue 2

2023 Webinars & Sponsorship

10 Webinars for 2023

- January 18: Cass Choate, Choate Engineering Performance, The Daunting Dilemmas of the DuraMax Engine
- February 15: Doug Anderson, Dissecting The 3.6L Pentastar Engine
- March 15: Lake Speed, Jr., Total Seal. Surface Finish Matters to Engine Performance
- April 19: Cancelled
- May 17: Race Winning Brands, Selecting The Right Piston For Your Application?
- June 21: Race Winning Brands, Selecting The Right Valve Is Critical To The Success Of Your Engine Build
- July 19: Dan Begle, MAHLE Aftermarket, Shake, Rattle & Roll of Cranks and Bearings (Assist by Randy Neal of CWT Industries)
- August 16: Ajax Tocco Magnethermic; How Can Induction Heating Improve Your Processes?
- September: None—convention month
- October 18: Brian Messenger & Kipp Karris, MAHLE Aftermarket, What Does Swapping Parts In Your Build Do To Drivability?
- November 15: Randy Neal, CWT Industries TBD
- December ?: Open

2023 Sponsors:

All eight fantastic sponsors have returned for the 2023 webinar series! A big thank you goes to:

Corteco
CWT Industries
The ERI Group
King Engine Bearings
Mahle Aftermarket, Inc.
QualCast, LLC
Rottler Manufacturing
S.B. International

For further information, contact:

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2023 Membership Directory

You should have received your copies of the 2023 membership directory. Two copies were mailed on March 27th to the dues contact in your company. If you're not sure who that is, contact me and I'll let you know. I do have a few extra copies if you need one.

2023 Membership Directory Updates

Please add to your **Hastings Manufacturing** listing:

Geoff Perrot
Sales Manager, Production Engine Rebuilders, Commercial Segments
gperrot@hastingsmfg.com
Mobile: 231.250.3774

ACL Distribution, Inc.

New address:
357 36th Street SE
Wyoming, MI 49548
Change Chris Roberts to Chris Brooks (title and email are correct)



Elgin Adds Performance Valve Springs

Elgin Industries has launched a new line of Elgin PRO-STOCK performance valve springs engineered specifically for General Motors LS based engines. The new valve springs are optimized for use with Elgin PRO-STOCK performance camshafts, including the company's Sloppy Stage 2 hydraulic roller lift cam.

The new PRO-STOCK valve springs include an array of advanced features designed to ensure superior durability and valvetrain performance, including:

- Micro-engineered surface finish for maximum durability
- Multilayer fatigue enhancement, eliminating potential surface defects and prolonging spring life
- Proprietary heat-treat process for added strength and optimized residual stress
- Beehive and conical spring geometries, reducing dynamic surges for exceptional valvetrain harmonics

"Elgin PRO-STOCK has become performance engine builders' go-to source for leading-edge valvetrain technologies for LS engines," said Rick Simko, Elgin Industries national sales and marketing manager. "This new line was developed in response to overwhelming demand for top-quality, street- and strip-proven performance springs manufactured by a trusted, US-based supplier."

Check out all the applications and details at: <https://www.elginind.com/performance/>.

Member News

April 2023

Vol. 36 Issue 2

MAHLE

MAHLE Renews Partnership with RTR Motorsports

MAHLE Aftermarket is pleased to renew its sponsorship with RTR Motorsports [<https://www.rtrvehicles.com/pages/team-rtr>] for the 2023 season, marking six years of collaboration, including serving as a sponsor on the organization's numerous racecar entries in the Formula Drift and Ultra4 racing series. The RTR Motorsports team is also a valuable member of the Team MAHLE engine parts test team.

"Since 2018, the MAHLE and RTR Motorsports partnership has brought great success to both parties and has helped bring awareness of the MAHLE brand to key racing and enthusiast audiences," says Jim Kahut, Head of Marketing at MAHLE Aftermarket North America. "We are proud to work with such an incredible team of fearless drivers and we look forward to building upon our collaborative relationship for many years to come."

RTR Motorsports is comprised of an elite team of drivers, including:
Vaughn Gittin Jr., World Champion Drifter, Ultra4 Champion and Professional Fun-Haver
Chelsea DeNofa, Drifter, Road Racer and Stunt Driver
Adam LZ, Drifter and YouTuber
Loren Healy, 5x Ultra4 Champion, Two-time Winner of King of the Hammers
James Deane, new 3x Formula Drift Champion

MAHLE is proud to celebrate more than 100 years of delivering superior quality products around the world. For more information about MAHLE Aftermarket and its brands, visit www.mahle-aftermarket.com, or contact your local sales representative.



photo: Mustang RTR that drifter Chelsea DeNofa drives.; Bottom photo: Loren Healy, five-time Ultra4 Champion (left) and Vaughn Gittin Jr., World Champion Drifter and Ultra4 Champion at 2023 Progressive King of the Hammers.

HITACHI

Tim Clark New CEO and President

Hitachi Astemo Americas Inc. has named Tim Clark their CEO and President after previously serving as a senior vice president and executive officer of Hitachi Astemo Ltd. He had also been president of Hitachi Astemo Europe, based in Munich, Germany. He succeeds Paul Carroll, who recently was named global account manager for Hitachi America Ltd.



Clark also had served as vice president of sales and marketing for Hitachi Automotive Systems in Farmington Hills, Michigan, and previously was general manager in charge of international sales for Hitachi Automotive Systems based in Tokyo.

Prior to joining Hitachi in 2003, he was general manager of Unisia North America and also held executive positions at Nissan North America and Mazda in Japan. Fluent in Japanese, he holds a bachelor's degree in Japanese Studies from Brigham Young University.

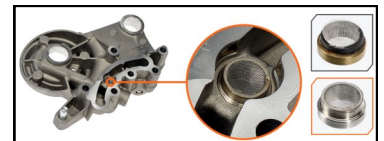
DORMAN®

Dorman continues to release new OE equivalent and upgraded parts at a furious pace with over 650 new parts in March and April. Among the newest releases are a ceramic coated exhaust manifold kit #674-559XD for Ford and Lincoln 5.4L vehicles.



Also released is an engine coolant water outlet # 902-1109 for Ford F-150. A corrosion resistant aluminum replaces the OE plastic part that was subject to cracking allowing loss of coolant.

Another upgraded part is the camshaft bridge cover #635-050 for Audi 2018-07 and Volkswagen 2019-06 2.0L.



For a complete list of all new parts visit [Dorman Products - Home Page](#) and click the "What's New" tab.

Member News

April 2023

Vol. 36 Issue 2



Elgin Industries Recognized by GM

Elgin Industries, for the fourth consecutive year, has achieved the General Motors Platinum Level Supplier status, recognizing flawless order-fill and shipping performance. Elgin manufactures a variety of engine components that are installed as original equipment and/or distributed through GM's network of dealers and other partners in more than 100 countries.

"This award belongs to every member of our team, who embrace our vision to be the best business partner to customers, large and small, worldwide," said Elgin President and CEO Bill Skok. "We value our long relationship with General Motors and work each day to provide superior product quality, performance and value to their Customer Care and Aftersales distribution network."

Elgin Industries is a Tier One supplier of original equipment engine and chassis components to organizations such as Fiat Chrysler, Deere & Company, Ford, General Motors, Harley-Davidson, Mack, and Navistar. Elgin has earned dozens of quality awards and received certificates of registration to the IATF16949:2016 Quality Management System and ISO 14001:2015 and ISO 9001:2015. It also has achieved Ford Q1 Quality Certification. To learn more about Elgin please call 1-800-323-6764, email sales@elginind.com and visit www.elginind.com.



In other Elgin news:

Chris Anderson Appointed Executive Vice President of Elgin Industries

Elgin has announced the appointment of Chris Anderson as executive vice president. Anderson, who joined Elgin in 2000, most recently was executive vice president of the Elgin World Trade operating unit. He reports to Elgin President and CEO Bill Skok.

In his new role, Anderson will assume additional operating responsibility for the company's domestic and overseas businesses. Elgin serves original equipment (OE) and aftermarket customers in nearly 60 nations from its engineering, manufacturing and distribution complex in Elgin, Illinois.

The company's brand and product portfolio includes Elgin® engine and chassis components; Elgin PRO-STOCK® and Elgin BLACK ICE™ performance parts; and Elgin Rxemedy™ lubricants and additives. The company also is a leading provider of advanced heat and cryogenic treatment services.



"Under Chris's leadership, Elgin World Trade has experienced tremendous growth, both in the range of products offered and the regions and customers we serve," said Bill Skok. "His product expertise and customer-centric approach will serve us well as we continue to expand manufacturing operations to meet the needs of transportation, industrial, defense and other customers in North America and abroad." Anderson resides in Geneva, Ill., with his wife, Brannon, and two children. He earned a bachelor's degree from Miami (Ohio) University, Oxford, Ohio.



NPR Expands Performance Piston Ring Series For American V8 Engines

NPR of America, Inc. (NOA) a division of Nippon Piston Rings Co. Ltd., has announced an expanded range of high-performance piston ring sets for Ford, GM and Chrysler V8 engines. A total of 28 bore diameters are now available in the three series - GNHD, GNHM and GNHS – available for American V8 engines. Each series represent different size ring packs.

"Expanding the range of available bore diameters for our performance rings for V8 engines gives our customers more options and make our rings available for more pistons," said Romy Laxamana, General Manager at NPR of America. Each 8-cylinder piston ring set contains steel gas-nitrided top rings for maximum performance and durability.

To learn more about NPR performance rings and other products, visit www.nprofamerica.net.

| American V8 Engine Ring Series | GNHD 1.5 x 1.5 x 3.00 mm | GNHM 1.2 x 1.5 x 3.0 mm | GNHS 1.2 x 1.2 x 3.0 mm |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Top Ring (Steel, Nitrided) | Top Ring (Steel, Nitrided) | Top Ring (Steel, Nitrided) |
| | 2nd Ring (Cast Iron, Phosphated) | 2nd Ring (Cast Iron, Phosphated) | 2nd Ring (Cast Iron, Phosphated) |
| | Oil Ring (Chrome) | Oil Ring (Chrome) | Oil Ring (Chrome) |

Member News

April 2023

Vol. 36 Issue 2

MAHLE

MAHLE Aftermarket Extends Sponsorship with 'The Reaper' and Motorsports Icon, Ryan Gustin

MAHLE Aftermarket has extended its sponsorship with multiple champion auto racer, Ryan Gustin, of Reaper Nation Racing for the 2023 season, which marks the third year of collaboration between the two organizations. The agreement includes serving as a sponsor of Gustin's World of Outlaws Late Model series car and as an engine rebuild partner with **Tri-Star Engines & Transmissions**. Gustin is also an integral member of the Team MAHLE engine parts test team.

"The relationship between MAHLE and Reaper Nation Racing is just one example of us working with winning teams who appreciate our OE-quality parts," said Jon Douglas, President, MAHLE Aftermarket North America. "We have been supplying parts for high-performance cars for nearly a century. MAHLE is looking forward to supporting Ryan Gustin and his team again this year."

'The Reaper' is scheduled to compete at some of racing's most elite events, which conclude with the World finals in Concord, North Carolina in early November. Gustin and his team have already started off the 2023 season strongly with a first-place finish at the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series in Gibsonton, Florida.

"Our collaboration with MAHLE has helped position Reaper Nation Racing as a leading competitor in the motorsports industry," said **Dave Steine**, Owner of Reaper Nation Racing and **Tri-Star Engines & Transmission**. "Using MAHLE's high-quality, aftermarket components, our team has achieved multiple victories on the racecourse, and we look forward to what's to come both this year and beyond."

Gustin's achievement of becoming a two-time United States Modified Touring Series (USMTS) National Champion is among the many highlights from his remarkable career. The MAHLE and Gustin collaboration has been a successful one for years, with both expecting to continue the partnership for years to come.



(Continuing MAHLE News)

MAHLE Aftermarket Announces 2023 Team MAHLE NHRA Stable of Elite Drivers

MAHLE Aftermarket continues partnerships with several of National Hot Rod Association's most recognized drivers. This group of elite drivers will also support MAHLE through racecar promotion and special event appearances.

MAHLE Aftermarket is also pleased to continue its partnerships with several of the National Hot Rod Association's (NHRA) most recognized motorsports icons. Serving as pivotal members of the Team MAHLE Engine Parts and Products Test Teams, this group of elite drivers enlisted for the 2023 NHRA Camping World Drag Racing season will also support MAHLE through branded racecar promotion and special event appearances slated throughout the year.

"MAHLE has been fortunate to have been collaborating with some of these incredible forces in the motorsports industry for several years now; in fact, 2023 marks 6 years of partnership with John Force Racing and 12 years of partnership with Clay Millican," said Jon Douglas, President, MAHLE Aftermarket North America. "Since the initial onboarding, our relationship with NHRA has blossomed and we've been able to grow our arsenal of Team MAHLE championship drivers."

MAHLE's premium aftermarket piston rings and engine bearings are used by every NHRA Nitro race team that goes down the track. The Company's newly released gasket offering also enables good vehicle penetration. MAHLE components are the choice of all NHRA Nitro competitors due to their proven reliability and consistency of optimized vehicle performance when it's time to hit the racetrack.

Earlier this month, the Team MAHLE NHRA drivers kicked off the 2023 season at the AMALIE Motor Oil NHRA Gatornationals in Gainesville, Florida. Of note, Matt Hagan of Tony Stewart Racing took home the first 2023 Funny Car Wally win racing Kalitta Motorsports driver, J.R. Todd, in the final round. During his first-round win on the way to a semifinal finish, Kalitta Motorsports Top Fuel driver, Doug Kalitta, recorded a career-best 3.646-second elapsed time at 333.82 mph, which also set the Gainesville Raceway elapsed time track record. Lastly, Brittany Force, dragster champion and daughter of well-known drag racer, John Force, secured the first Top Fuel No. 1 qualifier of the year. Ron Capps earned the title of first No. 1 qualifier for the Funny Car division.

2023 Team MAHLE NHRA Roster of Drivers

J.R. Todd, Kalitta Motorsports [<https://www.nhra.com/drivers/jr-todd/981>] – 2018 NHRA Funny Car Champion

Shawn Langdon, Kalitta Motorsports [<https://www.nhra.com/drivers/shawn-langdon/151>] – 2013 NHRA Top Fuel Champion

Doug Kalitta, Kalitta Motorsports [<https://www.nhra.com/drivers/doug-kalitta/681>] – Michigan Motorsports Hall of Famer

John Force, John Force Racing [<https://www.nhra.com/drivers/john-force/756>] – 16-time NHRA Funny Car Champion

Member News

April 2023

Vol. 36 Issue 2

MAHLE (continued)

Brittany Force, John Force Racing [<https://www.nhra.com/drivers/brittany-force/986>] – 2-time NHRA Top Fuel Dragster Champion

Robert Hight, John Force Racing [<https://www.nhra.com/drivers/robert-hight/691>] – 3-time NHRA Camping World Drag Racing Series Funny Car Champion

Austin Prock, John Force Racing [<https://www.nhra.com/drivers/austin-prock/28001>] – 2019 NHRA Rookie of the Year

Leah Pruett, Tony Stewart Racing [<https://www.nhra.com/drivers/leah-pruett/886>] – 2010 NHRA Nostalgia Funny Car Champion

Matt Hagan, Tony Stewart Racing [<https://www.nhra.com/drivers/matt-hagan/771>] – 3-time NHRA Funny Car World Champion

Ron Capps, Ron Capps Motorsports [<https://www.nhra.com/drivers/ron-capps/966>] – 3-time NHRA Funny Car Champion

Antron Brown, AB Motorsports [<https://www.nhra.com/drivers/antron-brown/996>] – 3-time NHRA Top Fuel Dragster Champion and first African American champion in drag racing history

Clay Millican, Clay Millican Racing – [<https://www.nhra.com/drivers/clay-millican/936>] 6-time IHRA World Champion

Details of the complete 2023 NHRA schedule can be located here: <https://www.nhra.com/schedule/2023>.



DRiV Honored by Pronto

DRiV, aftermarket division of Tenneco, was recently honored with The Pronto Network Partnership Award. The award was presented last month at the Automotive Parts Services Group (The Group) national conference and expo held in National Harbor, Maryland.

The Pronto Network Partnership Award is bestowed upon members, suppliers or individuals who best demonstrate

dedication and commitment to The Pronto Network and its membership. The recipient of the award has demonstrated a commitment to support and enhance the group by providing efforts above and beyond the scope of a normal job assignment. This special award recognizes the true spirit of partnership in helping to further the success of The Pronto Network and its programs.

"DRiV has been instrumental in the success of our members over the years so it is only fitting that we recognize them for their great support and partnership," said Robert Roos, president of The Pronto Network. "We congratulate the team at DRiV for earning this prestigious award and look forward to many more years of working together to help The Pronto Network members grow their businesses."



LKQ Reports 1st Quarter Financials

Dominick Zarcone, LKQ President and Chief Executive Officer, reported that revenue in the first quarter of 2023 was \$3.3 billion and that "we are excited about the balance of the year and the pending acquisition of Uni-Select to strengthen our existing LKQ operations. Overall, the first quarter was a terrific start to the year, and we remain on track to deliver on our full year guidance. Our two largest segments, Wholesale – North America and Europe, exceeded our expectations in the quarter as our teams continue to embrace operational excellence and execute our key initiatives. Our Wholesale – North America segment delivered its highest first quarter parts and services organic revenue growth rate and quarterly Segment EBITDA margin on record, at 14.4% and 20.5%, respectively." LKQ also saw revenue growth in their Europe segment.

Net income for the first quarter of 2023 was \$270 million as compared to \$269 million for the same period in 2022. Diluted earnings per share for the quarter was \$1.01 as compared to \$0.94 for the same period of 2022, an increase of 7.4%.

In further news, LKQ's acquisition of Uni-Select Inc. has received regulatory approval and is expected to be completed during the second half of 2023. Because LKQ's interest in Uni-Select is primarily for their FinishMaster segment of automotive refinish and industrial coatings distribution, LKQ expects to divest itself of Uni-Select's GSF Car Parts segment once the purchase has been completed.

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