

**ETI  
QUARTERLY  
NEWSLETTER**

**MARCH 2025**



# **CELEBRATING 45 YEARS OF TECH WEEKS!**



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF ETI



As we enter Spring 2025, I am reminded of [at least to those who live in northern climates] how the changes in weather brings restoration to things that were seemingly dormant or decayed. The grass begins to green, flowers bud and leaves reappear in the trees to signal health and vitality. Opportunity once concealed now revealed. Metaphorically speaking, ETI is poised to capitalize on new opportunities.

In 2024, ETI announced an initiative to expand operations into Europe, to leverage the global dynamic that is now the transportation industry. Better relations with both European OEMs and suppliers means everyone wins through synergy and cooperation. That initiative, once only an aspiration, is now a viable entity, already acquiring new members and planning industry events. We are actively working to make this big world a smaller place indeed, at least in the arena of vehicle repairability.

We also want to officially announce a big change to something that has been the norm for many years at ETI, specifically Tech Weeks. With the ever evolving landscapes of trade shows, travel, communication and collaboration, we have determined that we will be consolidating Summer and Winter Tech Weeks into one big event, to be hosted in June of 2025 in Metro Detroit. The goal is to have more access to OEMs, more technical content to deliver and more efficient networking opportunities when two events are merged into one venue. Stay tuned for more conference and registration details as well as sponsorship opportunities!

Warm regards,

*Bob Augustine*

President, Equipment and Tool Institute



## BRIAN PLOTT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ETI

It has been a whirl wind of activity since our ETI Winter Tech Week in Nashville. We are grateful to our friends at Nissan for hosting a fantastic event and all of the companies who sponsored and attended the affair. The ETI Staff and Board of Directors received a lot of good feedback regarding structure, flow, and content and I think you'll see some exciting enhancements to our Tech weeks going forward, as we embrace a little change. We've decided to move to a single annual tech event format this year. We're going to consolidate Winter Tech Week with Summer Tech Week and offer a consolidated format with stronger content. The new structure will be called the ETI Industry Technical Conference and will target OEM developing technologies, activities and aftermarket trends, and expert speakers. We have contacted our OEM partners one at a time and we've received strong feedback from all. Based on our survey feedback, most plan to attend or participate virtually. The event will be held in Detroit June 9, 10, and 11 and there is even talk about including golf! We're already working on content and maybe a surprise or two. Another thing you'll see is invigorated activities and content from our vertical groups. Chris Bowman has been busy driving vertical group leaders and technical information for our members. He is looking forward to sharing the progress through our new structure.

Thanks to the efforts of Winston Lee, we've been getting genuine interaction with European auto makers and making great progress on new members. We have a number of members with a presence in the EU and US and we are looking to leverage this strength across the institute.

Finally, Tool Tech is fast approaching and it looks like it will be another record year! We are really excited about holding the event again in Coronado and I look forward to seeing you there.

Best Regards,

*Brian*



# WELCOME TO OUR EU MEMBERS



## KEY ETI CONTACTS:

General Queries - [admin@etools.org](mailto:admin@etools.org)  
Technical Queries - [gpotter@etools.org](mailto:gpotter@etools.org)  
OEM Relations - [bplott@etools.org](mailto:bplott@etools.org)  
USA Membership - [bplott@etools.org](mailto:bplott@etools.org)  
EU Membership - [wlee@etools.org](mailto:wlee@etools.org)  
Events - [mtruckel@etools.org](mailto:mtruckel@etools.org)  
Invoicing - [mtruckel@etools.org](mailto:mtruckel@etools.org)



# EVENTS



## 2025 MARCH 31 - APRIL 2 ToolTech CORONADO ISLAND MARRIOTT - CORONADO CA

We are looking forward to welcoming our members and OEMs to ToolTech and seeing the new technology at the Spotlight Show. This year's event will also have an OEM Panel, Shop Owner's Panel, VR demo and presentations about current and future impacts on our industry.

### ETI - Industry Technology Conference

We are excited to announce that we are combining Summer and Winter Tech to bring everyone together in Metro Detroit for our new event which will kick off with a golf outing followed by an evening reception and then a two day conference with evening events planned.

**SAVE THE DATE  
JUNE 9TH TO 11TH 2025**



**Join us for ETI Europe's first event!  
MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON.**

**SAVE THE DATE  
OCTOBER 20TH TO 22ND 2025**





# TECHNICAL UPDATE



## US and Technical Committees Update

The Scan Tool Vertical Group has been actively addressing key industry topics in recent months. We are in the final stages of completing a whitepaper on Service-Oriented Vehicle Diagnostics (SOVD), authored by Jay Horak of Opus IVS. This document will encapsulate Jay's insightful presentation from Winter Tech Week and provide a deeper dive into the technical and practical implications of SOVD for scan tool developers and users alike.

In parallel, the group continues its ongoing investigation into data gaps and secure access measures that are affecting scan tool functionality, with current focus areas including Nissan, Mercedes, Hyundai, Subaru, and Stellantis. Additionally, the Telematics Subcommittee has been reactivated under the leadership of Robert Vogt from IOSiX. Robert has circulated a sign-up form for those interested in participating, and we encourage all members with a stake in telematics data access to get involved.

ETI also continues to influence and monitor numerous SAE, ISO and TMC standards and government regulations to aid in the enhancement of the aftermarket's abilities for automotive and HD vehicle repair.



## EU Plan to support Automotive Industry

I'm pleased to share news of the European Commission's recently announced plan aimed at strengthening Europe's industrial base and ensuring our long-term competitiveness. Recognising that the automotive sector is a crucial driver of European prosperity, supporting over 13 million jobs directly and indirectly, contributing around €1 trillion to our GDP, the Commission has placed significant emphasis on enabling the green and digital transformation within this and other key industries.

The plan includes a range of measures designed to expand Europe's ability to develop and produce vital technologies, bolster investment, and reinforce supply chains. In doing so, the Commission seeks to ensure that businesses, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, can introduce innovative, sustainable solutions to the market more swiftly. Additionally, the initiative prioritises streamlined regulations and cross-border collaboration, promoting resilience and economic growth throughout the EU.

At ETI Europe, we fully support this direction, which aligns closely with our mission to drive transformative technology adoption across the continent. We look forward to helping our partners leverage these opportunities—keeping Europe at the forefront of sustainable, high-value industrial innovation.





## UK Type approval consultation

The UK Department for Transport has launched a consultation on mandating compliance with UNECE Regulations R155 and R156 within the GB type approval scheme. These regulations focus on cybersecurity (R155) and software update management (R156) for vehicles, ensuring manufacturers have systems in place to protect against cyber threats and safely deploy software updates.

### Key Points:

- **Mandatory Compliance:** The proposal would require R155 and R156 approvals for new passenger (M) and goods (N) vehicles, as well as trailers (O) for software updates.
- **Alignment with EU:** The EU has already mandated these regulations, and most manufacturers operating in both markets should already comply.
- **Implementation Timeline:**
  - o New vehicle types: February 1, 2026
  - o Complete vehicles: February 1, 2027
  - o Completed vehicles (multi-stage builds): February 1, 2028 (R155), July 7, 2029 (R156)
  - o Special purpose vehicles: July 7, 2029
- **Potential Future Expansion:** The UK is also considering extending the requirements to motorcycles (L category) and additional trailer regulations.

This consultation reflects the UK's commitment to enhancing vehicle cybersecurity and ensuring regulatory alignment with global standards. Stakeholders are encouraged to provide feedback before the April 28, 2025 deadline.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GET INVOLVED IN A TECHNICAL COMMITTEE PLEASE CONTACT**

**US - GREG POTTER - GPOTTER@ETOOLS.ORG**  
**EU - WINSTON LEE - WLEE@ETOOLS.ORG**



# ToolTech SPONSORS 2025



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**WE COULD NOT HOST OUR EVENTS WITHOUT  
OUR MEMBERS' SUPPORT. IF YOU WOULD LIKE  
TO SPONSOR A FUTURE EVENT PLEASE  
CONTACT [MARINA MTRUCKEL@ETOOLS.ORG](mailto:MARINA.MTRUCKEL@ETOOLS.ORG)**

