

ETI QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Q2 2026



ETI
EQUIPMENT
AND TOOL INSTITUTE

TECHNICAL VERTICAL GROUPS

- VEHICLE & DIAGNOSTICS
- ADAS & DRIVER ASSIST SYSTEMS
- WORKSHOP EQUIPMENT & SOFTWARE
- REPAIR DATA & OEM INFORMATION
- SECURE GATEWAYS & CYBERSECURITY
- TELEMATICS & CLOUD CONNECTIVITY



Highlights For Q2

TECHNICAL GROUP UPDATES

COUNTDOWN TO EU INDUSTRY TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION FOR US INDUSTRY TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE



Message from ETI President



As we wrapped up ETI Tool Tech 2026, I am filled with immense pride in what we have achieved, and excitement for where we are headed. This year's event solidified our unique position in the industry: we are the essential lifeline bridge between OEMs and the Aftermarket, and that partnership continues to grow stronger every day.

The past year, has been a season of rejuvenation for ETI. We have assembled a world-class team dedicated to leading this institute to new heights. With this foundation in place, we are accelerating our mission to serve the industry even more closely throughout 2026.

The progress is already visible. Our vertical groups are taking shape and delivering a tangible, positive impact across their respective sectors. Simultaneously, we are building out our trainer programs to expand our reach and welcome a broader community of professionals into the institute.

We are incredibly pleased with the momentum we have built. Looking ahead, we are excited to host ETI Europe this June as we continue to forge stronger partnerships across the globe. Thank you for being part of this journey; the future of the institute has never looked brighter.



Eri Muca
President
Equipment and Tool Institute

THE ETI TEAM

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Update from the Managing Director EU



As we move through Q2, it has already been a highly active and productive period for ETI in Europe, with continued growth in both membership and industry engagement.

April's ETI ToolTech 2026 in the United States provided a valuable opportunity to connect with members and OEMs across the wider ETI community. It was particularly encouraging to see increased participation from European members this year, reflecting stronger alignment across our vertical group activities and a shared focus on addressing the evolving technical challenges within the industry.

This engagement is increasingly translating into tangible outcomes. Companies such as Lyteflo joined ETI Europe following their first participation at ToolTech. Recognising the value of the platform early, Lyteflo have already extended their involvement into Europe and registered for the June conference, highlighting how quickly organisations are engaging with ETI to support their development in emerging areas such as battery diagnostics and electrification.

A key development this quarter has been the launch of ETI TekHub, which is now live and already being populated with content generated directly from our vertical group activities. TekHub acts as a central resource for capturing discussions, tracking actions, and maintaining visibility of emerging priorities across the industry. As contributions continue to build, it is becoming a practical working platform for both members and the ETI team, ensuring that focus remains aligned with the most relevant technical and commercial topics as they evolve.

Focus Turns to Europe

Attention now turns to the upcoming ETI Industry Technology Conference Europe 2026, where we will bring together OEMs, tool manufacturers, and key industry stakeholders for three days of technical sessions, structured discussion, and direct engagement.

This year's programme brings together a strong range of speakers and reflects the most relevant topics shaping the sector, including data access, cybersecurity, ADAS, and regulatory frameworks such as SERMI. We are also pleased to include contributions from industry experts including IGA, providing direct insight into the implementation and impact of SERMI, alongside panel discussions featuring perspectives from across the aftermarket, including independent workshop representation from Louise Baker.

As always, the focus is on creating an environment for practical dialogue and meaningful industry alignment. It is also worth recognising the continued commitment from across the industry to participate in these events. Despite ongoing financial pressures, organisations are making the effort to engage, collaborate, and invest time in shaping the future of the sector, and that contribution is both recognised and appreciated.

Looking Ahead

Looking ahead, our focus is on continuing to build a structured and effective platform for collaboration in Europe, ensuring that member engagement translates into clear technical outputs and meaningful industry alignment.

We look forward to seeing many of you, in Surrey.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Winston Lee'.

Winston Lee
Managing Director - Europe
Equipment and Tool Institute





Update from the Executive Director US

As we move further into 2026, I would first like to thank the ETI membership, OEM partners, industry associations, and the ETI operational team for the warm welcome and support as I transition into the role of Executive Director US. Over the past several weeks, I have had the opportunity to engage with members across a wide range of discussions, and one thing has become increasingly clear: the pace of change across our industry continues to accelerate, but so does the need for practical collaboration.

Today's aftermarket ecosystem is navigating increasing complexity across software-defined vehicle architectures, secure vehicle access, electrification, advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS), connected vehicle platforms, and evolving service information models. These changes are reshaping not only vehicle technology itself, but also the tools, processes, training, and partnerships required to support the industry moving forward. What continues to stand out most, however, is the willingness of ETI members and OEMs alike to engage constructively in solving these challenges together.

ToolTech 2026

ToolTech 2026 in Palm Harbor, Florida once again demonstrated the unique value of bringing together OEMs, tool and equipment manufacturers, trainers, and industry partners in one place. The event featured insightful presentations covering vehicle technology trends, ADAS calibration, technician training, and the evolving needs of the aftermarket.

This year's conference also reinforced the importance of the conversations that happen both inside and outside the meeting rooms. From formal presentations and panel discussions to hallway conversations and networking events, ToolTech creates an environment where members can exchange ideas, strengthen relationships, and identify new opportunities to collaborate. We have included a separate article in this newsletter highlighting key takeaways and notable presentations from this year's event.

Vertical Groups and Technical Collaboration ETI's vertical groups continue to play an increasingly important role in facilitating collaboration and technical discussion throughout the industry. Participation and engagement across the groups continue to grow, with members contributing valuable expertise and helping identify emerging industry needs. The Trainers vertical has already generated significant interest and reinforces the importance of education and workforce development as vehicle technologies continue to evolve. Likewise, the ADAS, Collision, Electrification, Heavy Duty, Scan Tool, Scan Tool Security, and Telematics groups provide valuable forums for members to discuss real-world technical and business challenges impacting the aftermarket.

Several initiatives are already underway across the groups, including discussions surrounding OEM data access and licensing, awareness campaigns related to ADAS calibration, and efforts to identify opportunities for standardization and broader industry education.

Looking Ahead – ITC US

Momentum continues to build as we look toward ETI's next major US event. ITC US will return to the Detroit area from September 21–24. This ETI members-only event provides engineers and product managers from member companies with the opportunity to hear directly from participating vehicle manufacturers about new vehicle systems, emerging service models, and the special tools and equipment that will be required to support them. As vehicle platforms continue to evolve toward increasingly connected, electrified, and software-defined architectures, discussions surrounding diagnostics, secure service access, and future service strategies will remain critically important. ITC gives members valuable insight into upcoming technologies and the practical requirements needed to ensure the aftermarket is prepared to service the next generation of vehicles.

Member Engagement and Industry Communication

In parallel with our events and technical activities, ETI continues expanding opportunities for member engagement and communication. Initiatives such as the Meet the Member podcast series provide members with an additional platform to share expertise, discuss industry trends, and highlight the work being done throughout the aftermarket ecosystem. These conversations help strengthen understanding across the industry while reinforcing one of ETI's core strengths: bringing together diverse perspectives and technical expertise in a collaborative environment.

Looking Forward

As we continue through 2026, ETI remains focused on strengthening collaboration across the industry while supporting technically informed, practical discussions surrounding the future of vehicle serviceability. The challenges facing the aftermarket are significant, but so are the opportunities when organizations work together constructively. ETI's role will continue to be that of a technically neutral convener—helping facilitate dialogue between OEMs, tool manufacturers, trainers, service providers, and industry partners while supporting the long-term health of the aftermarket ecosystem.

I look forward to continuing these conversations with many of you throughout the year and appreciate the continued engagement and support from the membership.

Chris Bowman
Executive Director US





2026 TOOLTECH RECAP

ToolTech 2026 in Palm Harbor, Florida provided an excellent example of ETI's core mission in action—bringing together OEMs, tool and equipment manufacturers, trainers, service providers, and industry partners to discuss the technical, regulatory, and business challenges shaping the future of vehicle service and repair.

This year's event featured a wide range of presentations and discussions that underscored the accelerating pace of change across the automotive industry. Several sessions highlighted the increasing complexity of modern vehicles as software, electronics, advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS), electrification, connected vehicle technologies, and artificial intelligence continue to expand. These trends are driving new requirements for tools, service information, technician training, and collaboration across the aftermarket ecosystem.

In his presentation, Steve Greenfield provided a broad perspective on the trends reshaping the automotive landscape. Steve explored the continued growth of electric vehicles, rising repair costs, the impact of artificial intelligence, and increasing global competition. His presentation reinforced the importance of helping the aftermarket remain informed and adaptable as vehicle technology and business models continue to evolve.

Another standout session, "Get It Straight to Calibrate," presented by Chuck Olsen and Jeramy Holloway, emphasized the critical relationship between vehicle structural integrity, wheel alignment, and ADAS calibration accuracy. The presentation served as a timely reminder that safe and effective repairs depend on more than simply performing electronic calibrations—vehicle geometry must first be restored to OEM specifications to ensure sensors and safety systems function as intended.

Training and workforce development were also recurring themes throughout the week. Ford Motor Company highlighted several of its technician development initiatives, including Automotive Career Exploration (ACE), Ford Accelerated Credential Training (FACT), and Automotive Student Service Education Training (ASSET). Jerry Truglia delivered an informative and entertaining presentation titled "Techs Need to Update So They Don't Evaporate," emphasizing the importance of continuous learning as vehicle technologies rapidly evolve. This year also featured ETI's first Trainers Panel, which provided candid and eye-opening perspectives on the challenges and opportunities associated with technician education, skills development, and knowledge transfer. The discussion reinforced an important reality: advanced tools and service information are only as effective as the technicians who know how to use them.

The scheduled 1:1 meetings remained a cornerstone of ToolTech, providing members with opportunities to meet not only with OEMs, but also with one another. These meetings facilitate a wide range of productive discussions—from technical collaboration and joint development opportunities to product introductions, partnership discussions, and strategic conversations.

At the same time, some of the most meaningful conversations take place outside the formal agenda. Whether in the hallways between sessions, during meals, or at one of the many networking events, ToolTech creates an environment where relationships are built, ideas are exchanged, and new opportunities often begin.

What continues to make ToolTech unique is the ability to bring together organizations that may approach challenges from different perspectives, but share a common goal of supporting safe, effective, and sustainable vehicle serviceability. The strong engagement and open dialogue throughout the week reinforced the important role ETI plays in fostering collaboration and helping the industry navigate an increasingly complex technological landscape.



2026 EU ITC



Following on from our first European event in Germany, we are looking forward to welcoming our European members to the next EU Industry Technical Conference in the United Kingdom, less than eight miles from Heathrow Airport. The 2026 programme will expand on the strong foundations set in Lippstadt with media presence, more technical content and broader OEM engagement.

SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

Monday, 15th June - Evening

17:00 - 18:30 Registration

19:00 Opening Reception

Tuesday, 16th June

Conference - Presentations, Panels, Spotlight Trade Show

Evening - Brooklands Museum (transportation provided)

Wednesday, 17th June

Conference - Presentations, Panels, Spotlight Trade Show, Member and BoD Meeting

Evening - Closing Dinner & Driving Range Challenge (transportation provided)

Thursday, 18th June

Departures

Holiday Inn
Shepperton

BROOKLANDS
MUSEUM



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TO COUNTDOWN
WITH US**

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We look forward to welcoming you back to Metro Detroit in September 2026 for the next US Industry Technology Conference. This event is to be held at Four Points Sheraton in Novi which is approximately 30 minutes from Detroit Metro Airport and beside Fountain Walk, Twelve Oaks and West Oaks shopping malls.

SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

Monday, September 21st

11:00 - 14:00 Board Meeting (closed) - ETI Office, Farmington Hills, MI

17:00 - 18:00 Registration - Four Points By Sheraton, Novi, MI

18:30 - Opening Reception - Four Points By Sheraton, Novi, MI

Tuesday, September 22nd

All Day - Conference

Evening Dinner - Brentwood Grille, Novi, MI (transportation provided)

Wednesday, September 23rd

All Day - Conference

Evening Closing Dinner and Tour - Detroit Historical Museum (transportation provided)

Thursday, September 24th

09:00 - Golf - Golden Fox at Fox Hills of Plymouth, MI

All Day - Departures



PLEASE FOLLOW US ON LINKEDIN TO KEEP UP TO DATE WITH HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EVENTS AND CONFERENCES ATTENDED.

Please contact Marina mtruckel@etools.org with any suggestions or queries.

Trainers - Global

The Trainer group's purpose is to facilitate collaboration among trainers in the aftermarket and OEMs, noting that the aftermarket often needs opportunities to license training from OEMs. It was also suggested that the trainers in this group could help tool companies with projects like beta testing and prototype testing, areas where they have previously been involved. Tanner Brandt mentioned starting a spreadsheet of ideas, including licensing training, which they will share with the group in the TekHub, a platform developed by the technical director for Europe, which is currently in pilot mode. This TekHub is suggested as the ideal place to upload the spreadsheet and for people to anonymously add topics, concerns, or issues they want addressed. Rob Morrell, Training Director of Worldpac Training Institute, put forth a great idea about collaborating with other organizations, specifically ATMC, noting potential synergy. The Trainers Vertical group is looking forward to collaborating with the rest of the members of Equipment and Tool Institute and can't wait to see how we can all help each other.



Tanner Brandt
Trainers' Group Chair

ADAS - EU & US

Over the past several months ADAS vertical group(s) have met separately a few times for both US and Europe ETI members interested or expertise specifically in ADAS. Several areas of interest are common and justify collaboration between regions, however regulatory and requirement differences between regions have also surfaced that will need to be discussed and addressed by region separately. Another area of collaboration has to do with topics that are covered or overlap with other ETI vertical groups such as data access, scan-tool functionality, training and cybersecurity that contain obstacles to overall vehicle maintenance and repairs including ADAS service or calibration procedures. So far there is consensus from the start up group to focus ADAS group activities to the requirements to restore and verify ADAS functions after vehicle repairs or maintenance activities that influence ADAS performance. Some of the early goals of the group is to identify by system or sensor or system what tools and methods are needed to accomplish this and to avoid overcomplication or oversimplification of the procedures specifically to each sensor or systems function. Looking forward to what we can discover and accomplish as these activities continue.



Chuck Olsen
Chair

US Collision Group

How structural integrity impacts sensor alignment and calibration was presented at ToolTech. If you would like to know more please join this group.



Jason Black
Co-Chair



Jeremy Holloway
Co-Chair

US Heavy Duty Group

The Heavy Duty Vertical Group is co-chaired by Kevin Smallhorn of Noregon and Kim Cottle of Associated Equipment. The group hosted several welcome sessions during ETI's ToolTech conference in April, which generated strong interest from a variety of tool suppliers and manufacturers eager to help strengthen relationships between ETI and the heavy duty segment.

The group is actively working to grow participation among heavy duty OEMs and industry stakeholders, with a focus on increasing collaboration and engagement across the segment. Looking ahead, the group hopes to develop a dedicated heavy duty forum or panel discussion as part of next year's ToolTech event.



Kim Cottle
Co-Chair



Kevin Smallhorn
Co-Chair

Scan Tool Group

An Overview of DOIP and Practical Experience was presented at ToolTech. For more indepth knowledge please join this group or join us at the US Industry Technology Conference in Septmeber.



Jay Horak
Chair

US Telematics Group

The telematics group has been focusing on data gaps, security, remote code clearing and the impact of the Connected Vehicle Compliance ruling. If you would like to find out more and get involved in this group please join us at the next meeting.



Robert Vogt
Chair



EU TECHNICAL UPDATE



EU TEKHUB



Patrick Karlsson
Technical Director - Europe

TekHub Is Live - Join the Next Phase!

Since our last update, TekHub repository is now fully live and operational, marking an important step forward in how the ETI EU technical community collaborates and works together. TekHub is the central collaboration platform supporting our technical activities. It provides a structured environment for ongoing engagement, shared documentation and continuity between meetings. Moving us beyond isolated calls and towards a more coordinated, transparent and consistent way of working.

What's happening now

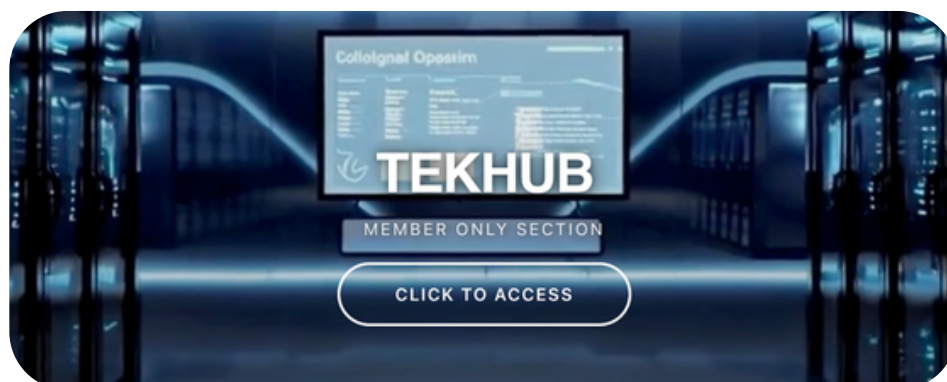
We are entering the next phase of active collaboration, where member participation is essential. TekHub is now the place to:

- Engage and collaborate between meetings
- Access and contribute to shared technical material
- Support ongoing discussions and regulatory interpretation
- Help shape priorities and areas of focus

Get involved

TekHub is open for participation. Members are encouraged to sign up, follow discussions and contribute actively. By sharing technical input, use cases and practical insights, members help build shared understanding and strengthen the overall technical dialogue.

If you would like to become involved in a specific topic or area of work, please reach out directly.





EU UPDATE CONTINUED



EU Diagnostic and Repair Group THE LATEST ON SERMI

SERMI has now been adopted in the UK – Apply Now if You Carry Out Security Work

SERMI is now live in the UK, giving independent workshops and technicians an approved route to access security-related vehicle repair and maintenance information. If your workshop carries out security-related jobs, you should apply as soon as possible.

We do not yet know how long individual applications will take, so it is worth allowing extra time and being cautious about booking in work that depends on security access. RMISC has said the process includes DBS checks, which can take up to two weeks, and sometimes longer. RMISC’s guidance also notes that applications can be delayed if the required training or experience evidence is missing.

Ford and JLR announced several weeks ago that they were moving to SERMI. However, a number of other brands are now known to be on the scheme as well, including FCA, Volvo, Toyota and Nissan. In some cases, workshops are only now discovering the impact on existing access.

SERMI is designed for businesses that need access to security-related functions, such as immobiliser and key-related work, through a recognised and standardised approval process. In the UK, the published price is £1,800 + VAT as a one-off fee or £30 + VAT per month over 60 months, and this includes certification for the organisation plus one technician. Certification lasts 5 years.

You can find more information and apply here through RMISC’s SERMI site.

www.sermi.co.uk



Andy Brooke
Chair

EU Cybersecurity and Secure Diagnostic Group

Here is a recap of latest activities in the Cybersecurity & Secure Diagnostics Group:

- Published a summary of EU Cyber Resilience Act requirements and some practical tips for ETI members, available on TekHub in the CRA Legislation folder.
- Investigating the Impact of Chinese Manufacturers on the EU Market.

New topics to be discussed in our next meeting.



Martin Bergenwall
Chair





EU UPDATE CONTINUED



EU Telematics Group

My journey in the vehicle telematics industry began in 2012, initially as an installer for stolen vehicle trackers, insurance telematics, hands-free kits, and emergency service equipment. Despite attempting to leave, I have remained captivated by this sector ever since! I've had the opportunity to work for companies like Zeta Automotive (part of the Arriva Group), MiX Telematics, and Webfleet Solutions.

Throughout my career, my primary focus has been on vehicle data, specifically, how we connect to vehicles to acquire this data. This expertise is now central to my role at Motive, where I focus on obtaining CAN logs from vehicles, reverse engineering the data, and ensuring our devices can communicate effectively with the vehicle systems.

Simply put, I'm a self-proclaimed nerd with a deep fascination for vehicle data and the practical skills to dismantle vehicles and extract the necessary information.

I am looking forward to chairing the newly formed Telematics Group.



Craig Ash
Chair

June Industry Technology Conference Preview

This June's ETI Europe Industry Technology Conference will bring together OEMs, tool manufacturers, workshop representatives, trainers and technical specialists to explore some of the most pressing topics affecting vehicle diagnostics and repair.

Technical sessions and panels will include discussion around:

- Secure gateways and the real-world impact on independent diagnostics
- SERMI implementation and operational experiences across Europe
- SOVD and the future direction of service-oriented diagnostics
- Telematics, remote connectivity and evolving vehicle architectures
- ADAS calibration challenges and workshop process implications
- Cybersecurity legislation including CRA and RED considerations
- The increasing complexity of software-defined and connected vehicles
- Data access, standardisation and practical workshop realities
- Chinese vehicle manufacturer engagement and aftermarket readiness
- Collaboration through ETI Vertical Groups and TekHub technical activities



The event will also feature panel discussions involving OEM representatives, tool and equipment manufacturers, and independent workshop voices to ensure technical discussions remain grounded in practical repair realities.





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Upcoming Events

Join Us at Our Next Event!

Get the latest info right from the source and visit our next event to get a first-hand look at some of our upcoming technology, tech demos, answer any questions you have and find out how we can help your collision repair company excel!



-  SDV and AI in Automotive Summit (May 4-6, 2026)
-  AAAA Collision Tradeshow (May 15-17, 2026)
-  Equipment and Tool Institute (ETI) European Meeting (June 15-17, 2026)
-  CIC - Summer Industry Week (July 20-23, 2026)
-  Auto Glass Week (August 27-29, 2026)
-  Equipment and Tool Institute (ETI) Industry Technology Conf (September 20-24, 2026)

PROMOTE ETI MEMBERSHIP

Highlight your ETI membership and Events like the example above. Logos are located here..

<https://etools.org/logo/>

FULL / TRAINING MEMBER ? JOIN A TECHNICAL VERTICAL GROUP

Please contact admin@etools.org for more information.

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Please contact admin@etools.org, to be added to the ambassador list. Then, just **like, comment, and repost.**

PARTICIPATE IN ETI EVENTS

MEET THE MEMBER PODCAST

HOST AN EVENT OR ACTIVITY

Please contact admin@etools.org, if you are interested in hosting an ETI event or event activity. For example, Hella-Gutmann conference facility and Light Tunnel demonstration.

WE CANNOT SUCCEED WITHOUT OUR MEMBERS' SUPPORT. PLEASE CONTACT MARINA MTRUCKEL@ETOOLS.ORG IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GET MORE INVOLVED.

Thank You

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