



Belt Line

A publication of NIBA-The Belting Association

Explore NIBA's Members-Only Resource Library; Technical Info OnDemand

Need to know the difference between a Belt Slip and a Belt Slope? A Fisheye and a Dog Leg? Check out the NIBA **Glossary of Belting Industry Terms**, one of dozens of member-only resources available within the Resources Library of niba.org.

The following are just a few of the resources available for download:

Tech Notes. Over two dozen entries cover everything from conveyor belt repair options to buffing and cleaning.

Tech articles. We've built a collection of technical articles curated from published issues of the NIBA Belt Line newsletter. Everything from splicing to fasteners is explored.

Heavyweight Engineering Manual. The manual is a compilation of information collected from various sources which relate to the proper fabrication and operation of flat conveyor belting. It recognizes that following production of the belt, independent fabricators/distributors must customize the product for customer use in a variety of applications and utilize a variety of operating equipment.

Chemical Resistance Chart. This chemical resistance chart attempts to characterize various belting cover polymeric formulations with respect to compound properties and their resistance toward various chemical and other agents.

NIBA Logo. The NIBA logo is the perfect complement to your company logo. Display it on your website, brochures, and proposals — anywhere your company logo appears. Several versions are available depending on your needs and are in the resource library, ready for download. While you're there, be sure to check out the NIBA Logo Usage Guide.

Also in the Resources Library are dozens of **educational presentations** for both heavyweight and lightweight belting, an archive of **Belt Line** newsletters, the **Introductory Guide to Conveyor Belting**, and a PDF of the latest **Membership Directory**.

The NIBA Resources Library is located within the NIBA Info Hub on niba.org. It's easy to find. At niba.org, click on "Sign In" at the top of the page. Log in with your email address and password and you'll immediately be taken to the NIBA Info Hub. "Resources" will be in the left column.

Once in Resources, you'll have access to dozens of technical articles and documents. Start exploring at niba.org. ●

Tip: Search after selecting from the dropdown menu of categories

President's Message

Brian Schachner,
2018-19 NIBA President

The Spring season always brings optimism, not only in the change of weather, but with a renewed sense of purpose. NIBA continues to evolve and grow to meet the needs of an ever-changing industry by staying focused on growing the organization, while maintaining our core mission. NIBA members are impacting society in many different ways — ensuring efficiency in packaging and handling, helping to reduce waste from run-off, encouraging workforce development through the advancement of STEM skills and much more.

One of the key strategic initiatives is the development of **NIBA's certification program**, which is currently in the content development stage. The goal is to develop a series of short online tests on basic information like Belt Selection, Safety, and Fabrics and Compounds. The tests can be taken at any time and would help advance the knowledge of members who want to then attend more advanced training with NIBA or their company. More information will be coming this year as we look to early 2020 for a potential launch.

So far this year, we have made strides in on our **annual renewals campaign** (approximately 85% of companies have renewed

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HOW TO LOG INTO THE NIBA INFO HUB

1. Click on "Sign In" at the top of the page
2. Create an Account, or
3. Enter your First Name/Last Name/Email
4. The system will send you an email verification message and then prompt you to create a password (passwords are not stored in our database so be sure to make note of the one you create).



Member Incentive Program offers reward

The Member Incentive Program offers the ideal opportunity to share the many benefits of membership with non-member distributor and fabricator companies. By reaching out to your network and encouraging fellow businesses to become members, you pass along the benefits of membership. In turn, NIBA will reward your referral efforts with a \$100 Visa card and recognition at the convention.



Presidential Scholarship applications close May 1

Each year, NIBA - The Belting Association honors all of the past Presidents, for their dedication to NIBA and all Distributor/Fabricator and Manufacturer members. This scholarship provides four (4) \$4,000 scholarships for children with a parent employed by a NIBA Distributor/Fabricator or Manufacturer company, and who will be or are attending a two-year or more accredited college, university or technical school. [Deadline for applications is May 1, 2019.](#)



Spring seminars filled; Watch for fall dates

We're pleased to announce that our Spring Technical Seminars have sold out! NIBA offers live technical seminars for both heavyweight and lightweight belting, with courses held in both the Spring and Fall. We plan to offer three more classes this October. If you missed your chance at the Spring seminars, watch for announcements coming soon with dates and locations for the Fall programs. All events are also posted to the Calendar at NIBA.org.

President's Message from page 1

so far), scholarship promotion (58 applicants were submitted for the Memorial Scholarship and the Presidential Scholarship is open until May 1), and April technical seminars have filled up nicely. (As of publishing, we're all sold out!).

I encourage all member companies to get in touch with the NIBA staff as soon as possible if you need help processing your renewal. The NIBA staff is also there to help with **website** questions, like updating your company's online profile and getting you access to all the site's new functionality. The new website is very user friendly and should be easy to navigate. I encourage all of our members to take a look at NIBA.org.

In mid-March, the NIBA Board of Directors and Committee members met in Washington, DC at the Gaylord National for our **annual Spring meetings**. The resort has

plenty of amenities on site as well plenty of eating and shopping venues a block away. Overall, we had a very productive two days which included committee and Board meetings, social gatherings, a team building activity, and a strategic planning session. It's clear to me that we have a very dedicated group of volunteer leaders, who strive to achieve what's best for the organization despite not necessarily agreeing on everything. The NIBA staff have also been wonderful in helping NIBA to continue to be a strong organization that looks out for its member companies.

Washington, DC will provide quite the location for this year's **Annual Convention**. Registration, for both attendees and expo booths, starts April 15, 2019.

I'm excited to announce that this year we will be expanding to a dual-format for the **NIBA golf outing**. We will keep with the traditional Captain's

Choice/Scramble format for those that enjoy networking and team golf, while incorporating a stroke play event for the more avid golfers who prefer to play their own ball. More details to follow as we get closer to convention registration.

We are also excited to offer a new format for the closing event: a monument by moonlight tour to take advantage of Washington, DC's unique setting. There will also be a **NIBA silent auction** to benefit the scholarship fund. (This takes the place of the raffles we have had in the past). Watch for messages from volunteer leaders requesting donated items. When you donate, you'll thrive and benefit from the positive publicity the event will produce. It will be fun!

NIBA2019 registration opens April 15. Please check out NIBA.org for the latest information and watch for more announcements as we get closer. I hope to see you there! ●

Belt Tension and Relaxation

by Bart Natoli, Chief Application Engineer, Habasit America, Inc.

Belt tension is a primary element of proper conveying system and belted drive performance. Insufficient tensioning leads to inefficient and damaging belt slippage, while excessive tension may produce premature component fatigue resulting from inordinate shaft deflection and/or bearing loads. In either case, system performance is compromised and component service life diminished.

The objective of belt tensioning is to impart a specific contact force between the belt and drive pulley for given application to prevent the belt from slipping on the drive while under load and to cause reliable belt tracking performance. It is common practice, however, to perform the belt tensioning operation rather subjectively until the belt tension seems right based on these two indicators. As a consequence of this type of tension-by-feel operation, the conveyor or drive components are subjected to unknown forces from the belt being either under or over tensioned, which may lead to premature component wear and/or failure. Although in some cases the belts are found to be over tensioned; what is ordinarily discovered, within a relatively short operating window, is that the belt no longer has the tension necessary to prevent slip on the drive or provide for effective response to tracking components.

So, how is one to understand this behavior: the belt performing well upon initial installation, but with diminishing performance over time? The understanding lies within the nature of the belt. A belt is similar to a steel spring wherein a specific, applied load (force) produces a particular elongation in relation to its spring constant or “k factor”:

- Elongation (in.) = Force (lbs.) ÷ k factor (lbs./in.) or
- k factor (lbs./in.) = Force (lbs.) ÷ Elongation (in.)

Where the similarities between the synthetic belt and steel spring diverge is in the way by which they each respond to the applied load. When a specific load is applied to the steel spring it elongates to achieve the target elongation within a moment of the load being applied (Fig. 1) after which the elongation remains unchanged over time.

The synthetic belt, on the other hand, responds to the application of a specific load by

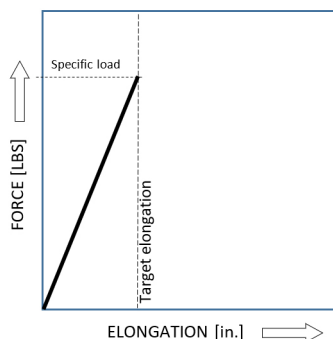


Fig. 1

elongating at the moment the load is applied, but comes up short of the target elongation; then, gradually extends over time to hit the target (Fig. 2). This second phase of [time-dependent] elongation correlates to a form of deformation known as a “viscous” elongation, which results from the material’s resistance to the realignment of its molecular chains caused by the strain induced by the load. As the belt exhibits both elastic (elongation and recovery upon application and removal of a load) and viscous forms of reaction to loading, its characteristic response is referred to as being “viscoelastic.”

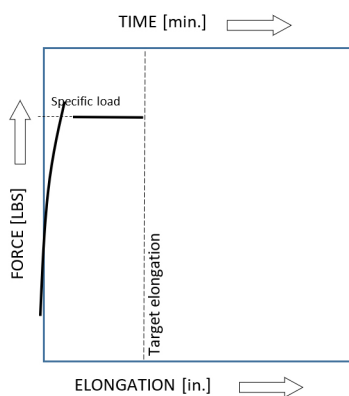


Fig. 2

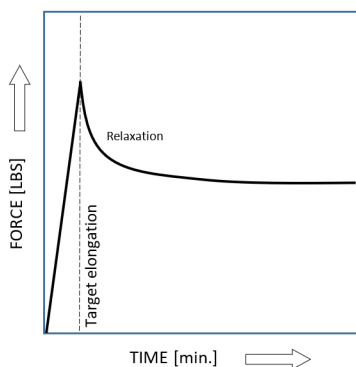


Fig. 3

The synthetic belt responds to an induced elongation in similar [viscous] fashion. When stretching the belt to the target point, upon its coming to rest, the applied force necessary to attain the target elongation begins to decline in response to the material’s waning resistance in conforming to its new disposition (Fig. 3). Depending on the belt’s design, this decline in force can be in the area of 50% of the originally applied force.

To add greater clarity to the viscoelastic properties of synthetic belts, distinct k factors are derived to account for the belt’s short and long term force/elongation response. More specifically, it is the k1% factor that describes the force necessary to elongate a belt specimen of one unit of width (i.e., inch, millimeter, etc.) to a length which is 1% greater than it was originally. As illustrated in Fig. 4, the k1% factor is applied more definitively for:

- short-term response as k1%_static
- long-term response as k1%_relaxed

It is by this viscoelastic nature that a

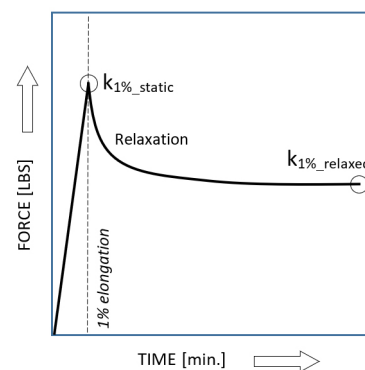


Fig. 4

belt, which seemed sufficiently tight when initially tensioned, consequently ceased to perform over time in a manner consistent with that tension i.e.; worsening tracking and slipping on the drive pulley when under load. To ensure that belt related machine performance remains optimal and consistent following installation and throughout its service, it’s important to abide by the manufacturer’s tensioning guidelines whereby the negative consequences of improper tension (poor tracking, belt slip, over loading of components, etc.) may be averted. ●



Laura Hoggan
Marketing Director
REMA TIP TOP



“NIBA is the first association I’ve been involved with that was so close and supportive of each other. NIBA is more focused on the people and building relationships than many associations.”

NIBA Member Spotlight

REMA TIP TOP

Tell us about your company

REMA TIP TOP is a global company that started in Germany in 1923 by the Gruber brothers as a distribution company. Manufacturing started in 1937 with patches for inner tubes, inner sleeves and tires. The REMA TIP TOP name was a result of Willy Gruber’s exclamation during a product trial in 1938 that “these things are really tip top!” REMA TIP TOP became an international company in 1950 with the first agencies outside of Germany and is currently in 170 countries world wide.

REMA TIP TOP is the leading manufacturer of rubber adhesives, conveyor belt repair materials, vulcanizing equipment, sheet rubber linings, skirt rubber, chute linings, rubber and ceramic pulley lagging. REMA TIP TOP high quality protective coatings and industrial rubber products for wear and corrosion protection include vinyl ester flake glass coatings, soft and hard rubber lining materials, polyuria coatings, PU coating systems and molded rubber and ceramic linings.

Tell us about your role at REMA TIP TOP

As Marketing Director, my role is to set the marketing strategy to help the business units achieve their growth goals. I plan and manage all tradeshow that REMA TIP TOP exhibits at, email blasts, social media and other marketing activities.

What was your first industry job and how did it lead you to where you are today?

My first position with a manufacturing company was with Plasti-Fab selling engineered fiberglass products to the wastewater industry. All of the gates had rubber seals which I had to specify based on the environment in which the gate would be installed. I never realized at the time that I would be selling and marketing rubber products later in my career.

What piece of advice do you wish someone had given you before you started in the belting industry?

That once you get into the rubber industry, you won’t ever get out.

How has NIBA impacted you, both personally and professionally?

Due to my involvement with NIBA, I’ve made some friendships that have added so much value to my life, both on a professional

and personal level. I’ve met people that amaze me with their intelligence, compassion and desire to give back to their communities. The people I’ve met through NIBA have shown me how you can be successful and humble at the same time, that your worth is in how you give back not in what you have.

In your opinion, what sets NIBA apart from other associations?

NIBA is the first association I’ve been involved with that was so close and supportive of each other. I was welcomed by vendors, customers and competitors at my first convention. NIBA is more focused on the people and building relationships than many associations.

Tell us about your favorite moment from a past NIBA Annual Convention.

There are so many favorite moments, from when Ben Chen rode the mechanical bull in Indianapolis, to the exchange of the gavel in San Antonio that included some very colorful dresses; sitting outside at Palm Springs enjoying a drink and conversation, to a whiskey barrel going missing in Arizona. My favorite moments are memories built with other NIBA members, there are so many it’s hard to choose just one.

What is the belting industry’s biggest challenge?

Education. We have so many brilliant people in this industry that have gathered all their knowledge through doing the work. As more people come into the industry, it’s important that we help them learn the industry and products quickly so that they can represent our industry well. Being able to communicate and educate our customers on the technical aspects of belting and conveyor systems is essential to protect the industry from the Amazon’s of this world. We must constantly show there is value in working with an expert in belting.

How can NIBA help to resolve it?

The certification program is a great step in the right direction, as well as the 3T and other technical seminars that NIBA has been hosting for years. I think the certification program will be critical in providing credibility for all of us when we approach a customer and talk about why they should buy from their local belt shop and not off the Internet. ●

MEMBER-TO-MEMBER NEWS

News submitted by and for NIBA members

EVENTS

ASGCO® “Complete Conveyor Solutions” will be attending the 21st Annual Electric Power Conference & Exhibition show April 24 - 25 in Las Vegas. ASGCO® representatives will be there to discuss how ASGCO®’s conveyor products can provide viable solutions for dealing with important issues such as conveyor efficiency, productivity, safety challenges, and much more.

NEW FACILITIES

Belt Power LLC announces the opening of their new corporate offices and a state-of-the-art fabrication facility in Marietta, Georgia. This facility combines and expands the fabrication capabilities of the Belt Power location in Smyrna, Georgia and the location added in the Regional Supply acquisition earlier this year. Belt Power LLC is also proud to announce that 2019 will mark its 35-year anniversary of serving customers in the Atlanta area.

NEW PRODUCTS

Flexco recently unveiled a new product in its belt maintenance line, TUG™ HD® Belt Clamps. Designed to secure the belt for safe repair, the new belt clamps are available in 6- and 8-ton versions to meet the most stringent safety test standards. TUG HD Belt Clamps provide even tensioning across the entire belt width, with an extruded non-slip grip pattern on the aluminum bars that provides ultimate holding power. The device clamps over the belt for greater strength, with the safety factors of the clamp ratings meeting or exceeding industry standards.

The **IMESA Model 1** ranges of multi-blade slitting equipment are the ideal slitters for companies converting a variety of materials, in sheets, plates or rolls, including heavy rubber, conveyor belting materials, foams and laminated foams, non-asbestos, cork, non-wovens and textiles, and similar materials. This machine is available in working widths from 800mm up to 3200mm and cut successfully slit products up to 76mm in maximum thickness. The Model 1 can be equipped with a variety of auxiliary material handling devices including cradle unwinds, powered unwinds and rewinds, integrated powered conveyors for heavy materials.

E6-GT12 is the newest belt in **Shingle Belting’s** growing line of quick melt belts. E6-GT12 is a 1.2 mm thick textile x rubber belt ideal for applications in the printing industry, paper converting, packaging, and many more.

Shingle Belting has added Polyflex Drive positive drive belting to its line of Polyflex flat thermoplastic belting. Polyflex Drive’s deeper tooth engagement and excellent surface finish make it a superior replacement to modular belting and the typical homogeneous positive drive belts. Polyflex Drive will reduce your customers maintenance costs as well as their consumption of water and detergent for sanitation.

Shingle Belting has added a range of sprockets, retainers, adapters, tools, and other accessories to complement its new Polyflex Drive flat, homogeneous thermoplastic belting.

PANG Industrial introduces Chemical Tie Gum, a cured neoprene rubber compound specifically formulated to strengthen the cold bond of rubber substrates when used in conjunction with any of PANG’s three Pangofol cements. Rigorous field testing has shown more than double the adhesion within the first 24 hours. This game-changing product minimizes unplanned downtime which means you get up and running quicker to meet your production goals.

ASGCO® “Complete Conveyor Solutions” is proud to announce the introduction of a new model to their industry leading line of secondary belt cleaners. The Rotary Brush Cleaner™ secondary belt cleaner uses the speed and force of the belt rolling over hundreds of SBR finger tips, to provide effective cleaning on material that clings to cleated belts. The Rotary Brush Cleaners™ are designed for difficult applications, fines and fibers, including wood dust, cement dust, sugar and fertilizer.

New American Biltrite is pleased to present the Sheet Rubber Product Brochure, the latest in useful marketing tools for their customers. This brochure presents American Biltrite and the strengths of the Industrial Rubber division. It also gives an overview of their complete line of sheet rubber and engineered products and includes many employee and customer testimonials To request

your printed copy, call American Biltrite customer service.

Reveyron SAS, TPU high performance conveyor belt manufacturer based in France, has invested in the most advanced TPU conveyor belting production line. It has the capacity to calender the most sophisticated extruded TPU and plastic materials up to a width of 118 inches. Together with Reveyron’s unique powder-coating line, these two manufacturing lines combine flexibility, versatility and an extensive production capacity, providing belting solutions for the most demanding industrial applications requested by North American customers.

REMA TIP TOP has developed RG 7000 a new versatile, fast curing rubber repair product ideal for repairing conveyor belts. Complimentary to the REMA Goo product, RG 7000 provides a solution to applications that have a non-horizontal surface or required a faster cure time. RG 7000’s two-year shelf life ensures product doesn’t expire before application and will be usable when needed. RG 7000 cures in 1 hour, can be buffed without pilling and dries in a highly flexible state which allows movement equal to the rubber substrate it is applied to.

PERSONNEL

New to the **ASGCO**® team is William (Bill) Duda. Bill will be the new OEM/AE Account Manager, based in Allentown, Pennsylvania. He has been involved in the conveyor industry for many years, with experience in conveyor system design and conveyor belting.

YongLi America is pleased to announce the hiring of Glen T. Brown as Territory Sales Manager of the Western Region. Glen has been in the Belting Industry since 1989, and comes to Yongli America with a vast knowledge of the Western Region Light-Weight Belting Market.

Kaman Industrial Technologies is happy to announce that Bob Collins has been hired as the new shop manager in their La

WE WANT YOUR NEWS!

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Mirada, California facility. Bob comes to Kaman with over 30 years experience in belting, primarily in the Canada market.



Hyde Industrial Blade Solutions (IBS) welcomes Steve McCormack of Roswell, Georgia to the position of Southeast Regional Sales Manager. In this role,

McCormack will manage Hyde's sales force, distributors and customers in the states of Georgia, Florida, Alabama, North and South Carolina. McCormack has over 20 years of experience in industrial sales having worked for Johnson Controls, Grainger and Lennox International.



Motion Industries, Inc. announces the promotion of N. Joe Limbaugh to the position of Senior Vice President of Supply Chain, Operations Support and

Marketing. Limbaugh began his career in 1983 in an entry level position with Berry Bearing Company, which was later acquired by Motion Industries. He continued to work in various capacities for Motion Industries as an Operations Manager, Branch Manager, Corporate Sales Manager, Vice President General Manager, and most recently, Vice President of Operations, Distribution, and Properties.



Motion Industries, Inc., announces the promotion of Randall (Randy) P. Breaux to President. Breaux was most recently Executive Vice President

of Marketing, Distribution, and Purchas-

ing for Motion Industries, and has nearly four decades of experience in the industrial manufacturing and distribution markets. At Motion Industries, he has played a key role in setting corporate direction, strategic acquisitions, growing supplier relationships, advancing marketing activities and most recently overseeing corporate operations. He joined Motion Industries in May 2011 following 21 years with ABB/Baldor Electric Company.

Midwest Rubber is pleased to announce John Zattoni as the new Director of Sales. John comes to Midwest Rubber with a long history of sales and management experience in related industries. John will lead a team of six sales application specialists and work closely with the marketing department.

MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

Purvis Industries is pleased to announce they have acquired substantially all the assets, brand rights, websites and intellectual property of Snake River Supply based in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Snake River is a strong independent distributor who has been in operation since 2003 and focused on the aggregate, agricultural and food processing industries.

Purvis Industries has acquired substantially all the assets, brand rights, websites, personnel and intellectual property of Ready Bearing Supply located in Lubbock, Texas. Ready Bearing has been serving customers in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Oklahoma, and Kansas since 1978. For 40 years, Ready Bearing has prided themselves on solid technical product knowledge and outstanding customer service and support.

Hyde Industrial Blade Solutions (IBS), announced the acquisition of the square edge slitting knives line from Thurston Manufacturing of Smithfield, RI. The purchase covers the product line and machinery to service existing Thurston customers and provide Hyde customers with better access to this line of knives used for cutting of thin sheet metal, paper, cloth, fabric and rubber.

The two world-leading suppliers in belting technology – **Ammeraal Beltech** and **Megadyne Group** – who came together in a merger last fall, announce a new corporate name for their joint operations: **AMMEGA**. The new name of AMMEGA will serve principally to unite all of its employees under a common identity and corporate vision and mission. In view of their well-established reputations in their respective markets and their different channel-to-market strategies, which will remain unchanged, their two strong brand names – Ammeraal Beltech and Megadyne – will remain as they are.

RECOGNITION

The National Association for Business Resources has named **Flexco** one of the Nation's Best and Brightest Companies to Work for in 2018. This program honors companies and organizations that excel at employee relations, use innovation to motivate employees, implement creative compensation programs, and more. This marks the fourth straight year Flexco has made the list. In addition, Flexco was also recently named to the list of the Nation's Best and Brightest in Wellness®. This program honors companies that promote employee well-being, worksite health, and wellness. ●

**SEP
18-21
2019**


NIBA'19
WASHINGTON, DC

SAVE THE DATE
Registration opens April 15

(New for 2019!)

2019 SILENT AUCTION

To benefit the NIBA Scholarship Fund
Part of the 2019 NIBA Annual Convention in Washington, DC.

Donate items to the Silent Auction

Contribute to the future of the NIBA Scholarship Fund.
Contact silentauction@niba.org and donate today!

Donate. Bid. Support.

Annual Go for the Gold!

COMMIT TO EDUCATION!

Contribute to the NIBA Scholarship Fund at niba.org/scholarships/contributions/

The following companies have made contributions to the NIBA Scholarship Fund and will be recognized at NIBA2019

Gold Sponsors

(Contributions of \$800 or more in 2019)

AFM Industries
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Nashville Rubber & Gasket Co Inc.
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Accurate Industrial Inc.
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Vaughn Belting Company Inc

Bronze Sponsors

(Contributions of up to \$399 in 2019)

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Passaic Rubber Company
Power & Rubber Supply
Quality Belt Maintenance (QBM), Inc.
Ram Belting Company Inc
R/W Connection, Inc.
RAM Enterprise Inc
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RGA - Rubber & Gasket Co of America
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San Antonio Belting & Pulley Co Inc
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NIBA-The Belting Association
22 N Carroll St, Ste 300
Madison, WI 53703

CONVENTION SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Time to claim yours!

Benefits may include:*

- Recognition on signage, the website and in the mobile app
- Social media tag on LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter
- A push notification in the convention mobile app
- Option to add literature to the "Virtual Registration Bag"
- Priority exhibit booth assignment
- One-time email blast to all NIBA members
- Up to two convention registrations
- One exhibit booth at the Saturday Expo
- Promotional ad or video on the convention website

* Dependent on sponsor level

Contact Brittany Marsala Olson at
bolson@niba.org or 608-310-7549 to
reserve your sponsor opportunity!

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Daily Lunch
Golf Outing Lunch and Breakfast
Refreshment Breaks
Golf Hole Contests
Beverage Cart Signage
Plus, NIBA Bike Tour and
Golf Hole Sponsors