

# Got Fastener Training?

*It's Been a Banner Year for Training*

by:

John Wachman  
Director  
Fastener Training Institute®  
10842 Noel Street, #107  
Los Alamitos, CA 90720 USA  
[www.FastenerTraining.org](http://www.FastenerTraining.org)



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As 2013 winds down, the **Fastener Training Institute® (FTI)** has had a strong finish to its training schedule. At the *National Industrial Fastener & Mill Supply Expo* in Las Vegas, **Bengt Blendulf's Fastener Technology Workshop** had a full classroom of fastener professionals. This workshop continues to be a hit and will return for next year's show.

We're happy to report our November 2013 *Fastener Training Week-Cleveland* registration maxed out. To provide a quality event, registration was closed to insure a personal relationship with each student and allow for hands-on demonstrations. In 2014, we'll offer *Fastener Training Week* four times in three locations: Los Angeles CA, USA; Cleveland OH, USA; and Spokane WA, USA. These classes are co-produced with the **Industrial Fasteners Institute (IFI)** and are always heavily attended with great reviews.

The year 2013 marked our first *Aerospace Fastener Technology* class with a very good inaugural turnout. We'll bring back this program in 2014 in a revised format of two separate three-day classes. *Aerospace Fasteners for Business Professionals* will be presented in the spring and our *Aerospace Fastener Technology* class will be offered later in the year. These classes are also co-produced with IFI.

Another new class in 2013 was *Understanding Hydrogen Embrittlement in Fasteners*. This course, taught by **Salim Brahim**, is an in-depth two-day class. The recent hydrogen embrittlement issues with the new San Francisco Bay Bridge highlighted this potential problem. It has also demonstrated the need for those involved with specifying, producing and using fastening elements to be up-to-date on current technology. This class will again be offered twice in 2014 in conjunction with the IFI.

FTI will continue to offer more new classes in 2014. **Carmen Vertullo**, CFS, is working on our new *Structural Bolting* class. This will bring together state-of-the-art information in an intensive one-day format. Carmen is also developing a *Quality Management Systems* class, which will also be a one-day session.

**Joe Greenslade**, Director of Engineering Technology for the Industrial Fasteners Institute and longtime instructor at FTI events, advises that **Laurence Claus** will be joining us as an instructor for IFI co-produced events. Laurence has over 25 years of experience in the fastener industry. He is a degreed Mechanical Engineer with a broad knowledge of fasteners and special experience in materials, thread-forming screws and automated assembly of small parts. He has participated for many years in technical standards activities

with the IFI, **SAE, ISO, ASME, ASTM** and **NASC**. He is knowledgeable in the manufacture and use of automotive, industrial and aerospace fasteners. We welcome Laurence to our FTI faculty.

**Jim Law (Ababa Bolt)** and **Andy Cohn (Duncan Bolt)** will continue to teach *Fastener Product Training* in the Los Angeles, CA, USA area. This three-part program will again be offered twice in 2014. Andy and Jim also often take our one-day *Fastener Basics* class on the road for various fastener association conferences.

FTI also expects to deliver more of our on-site fastener training programs in 2014. These can be one of our current offerings or customized programs tailored to the needs of the hosting company. Let us know how we can help you with training.

Also in 2014, we plan to introduce on-line training. A webinar format will be offered initially. We've got the content you need and on-line courses will provide another format to reach more folks interested in increasing their fastener knowledge. We'll also develop on-demand programs that will provide more ways to get FTI training.

We close 2013 with an over 30% growth in student attendance. The year 2014 is scheduled to show even greater growth. I extend a heartfelt thanks to all who have supported, produced and attended our events. A special thanks to **Jeannine Christensen**, our Director of Education, who has been working on FTI programs from the beginning. Thanks also to **Beth VanZandt** who joined us last year to help with the marketing and business development end of FTI.

Did I mention our first 2014 *Fastener Training Week* class will be in warm and sunny southern California in January?

Please visit our website listed below for the complete 2014 schedule. To be placed on a mailing list for Fastener Training Institute classes please send an email to [info@FastenerTraining.org](mailto:info@FastenerTraining.org).

The Fastener Training Institute's core purpose is to enhance fastener use, safety and reliability.

For more information, visit [www.FastenerTraining.org](http://www.FastenerTraining.org).

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**John Wachman** is Director of the **Fastener Training Institute** and the head of **Desert Distribution Sales LLC**, a manufacturer's representative company located in Scottsdale, AZ, USA. To receive additional information, visit the website listed below. [www.FastenerTraining.org](http://www.FastenerTraining.org)