



President's Message

Bill Pearson

It is with mixed emotions that I announce that Dave Richards will be retiring as the Cordage Institute's Technical Director this year. Dave has been the Cordage Institute's Technical Director since 2004, and prior to that, he was a long-time member. His extensive contributions and achievements are well known in the industry. Although we will miss having Dave's involvement as Technical Director, we wish him all the very best in his retirement.

The Board has a transition plan in place, and has already begun the search for a new Technical Director. The selected candidate will continue to support the Cordage Institute's mission of creating value for members by educating product users, the standards writing community, government agencies, and other entities on the proper usage of industry products through the development and dissemination of standards. In addition, the Technical Director will drive the Institute's strategic goal of global standardization of testing methodologies to create a means for users to assess, confirm, and make informed decisions on cordage products.

In order to ensure a seamless transition, Dave has kindly offered to assist with recruiting and training a new Technical Director, and he will continue to participate in Cordage Institute activities and attend technical meetings through the transition.

In recognition of his many years of service, the Board of Directors plans to grant Dave a lifetime honorary membership in the Cordage Institute, and he will be recognized as Technical Advisor Emeritus. A celebration of Dave's many achievements will be planned for a future Cordage Institute meeting.

Cordage Institute Searching for New Technical Director

The Board of Directors is searching for a new Technical Director to support the Cordage Institute's mission of creating value for members by educating product users, the standards writing community, government agencies, and other entities on the proper usage of industry products through the development and dissemination of standards. In addition, the Technical Director will drive the Institute's strategic goal of global standardization of testing methodologies to create a means for users to assess, confirm, and make informed decisions regarding cordage products.

[Click here](#) for a summary of responsibilities and qualifications for the Technical Director position. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and compensation requirements to the attention of Pete Lance, Executive Director, at pete@mmco1.com by **April 14, 2017**.

Please send this information to anyone who you think might be a good candidate, and please consider sharing with your connections on LinkedIn. If you have any questions, please contact the Cordage Institute office at **610.971.4854**.

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Cordage Institute Happenings



Technical Subcommittee Updates

The Cordage Institute's Technical Committee had a well-attended and productive meeting, led by Keith Buzzell - Technical Committee Chair, on January 31 and February 1, 2017 at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia.

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2017 Joint Conference with EUROCORD

EUROCORD and the Cordage Institute are quite pleased to announce their continued strong collaborative relationship with the Third Joint Conference in Mallorca Island (Spain) at Be Live Collection Son Antem Lluçmajor.

[View Meeting Notice>>](#)



CIRTS Update

The Committee for International Rope Testing Standards (CIRTS) met in Atlanta during the Cordage Institute Winter Technical Session for a working meeting to review comments provided for the ISO 2307 final revision, in preparation for the ISO meeting in Porto, Portugal the week of March 7, 2017.

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Keeping the Art of Knot Tying Alive: A guild of knotters won't let this historic craft die.

by Eric Grundhauser, *Atlas Obscura*

As new technologies revolutionize and streamline our lives, more and more traditional crafts are falling by the wayside or becoming the domain of hobbyists. Among those that were once ubiquitous, but are becoming more obscure is the art of knot tying—once an essential skill in professions ranging from sailing to farming and today becoming a more and more specialized craft, as the number of people who use the traditional methods of knotting dwindle.

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Antitrust Guidance

by Jon Koch, *Cordage Institute Legal Counsel*

In a recent Guidance document, jointly issued by the Antitrust Division of the Justice Department and the Federal Trade Commission, the agencies summarized the law on agreements between competitors, which limit or fix the terms of employment for potential hires. The prohibited conduct includes agreements among competitors not to recruit each other's employees and agreements not to compete on terms of compensation or other terms of employment, such as benefits. Both the DOJ and the F.T.C. have recently brought successful actions against colluding groups of employers (and sometimes their trade associations), in industries including health care, technology and fashion. The technology cases involved many prominent defendants, including eBay, Intuit, Lucasfilm, Pixar, Adobe, Apple, Google, and Intel. Each of the cases resulted in a settlement in favor of the government.

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Member News and Press Releases



Tony Bon: From Yarn Handler to CEO

Tony Bon, who served on the Cordage Institute Board of Directors from 2009-2015, recently retired after 42 years with Samson. Learn about Tony's journey from yarn handler to CEO by following the below link to an in-depth article.

[Read Full Article>>](#)



Tracy Carrico Retires from SWOS

Following a 30-year tenure at SWOS, Tracy Carrico has decided to step into a semi-retirement role. Tracy has been instrumental to SWOS's development over the years, and his insight and passion along the way have helped form the SWOS of today. Through the course of his tenure, Tracy has been involved in countless new products, markets, and applications where his specialty knowledge was advantageous. Though his many years of dedication were to SWOS and its employees, Tracy has been one of the great champions of the synthetic fiber rope industry altogether.

Tracy will remain a shareholder of SWOS, and will remain available for consultancy and part time work as needed and where needed at SWOS.

Thank you, Tracy, for your outstanding dedication and service!

Maine Trade Group Names Yale Cordage as Exporter of the Year

The Maine International Trade Center is recognizing four organizations with its 2017 International Trade and Investment

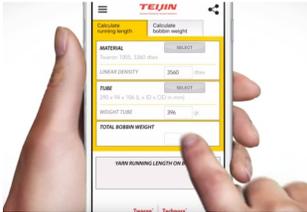


Awards, including Yale Cordage as its Exporter of the Year. The awards will be presented during Maine International Trade Day on May 25 at the Cross Insurance Center in Bangor.

Yale Cordage, based in Saco, makes high-performance synthetic ropes and rope systems that are used in national defense, science and industry, sport and recreation, and professional arboriculture. The company exports its products to more than 30 countries, with a concentration on markets in the European Union, according to a

news release from MITC.

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Handy Running Length App to Quantify Aramid Yarn Usage

Teijin Aramid offers a handy free app to allow customers to make the best use of Teijin's aramid fiber. The purpose of the Running Length app is to optimize the use of materials by providing information on how much material is left on a bobbin of continuous yarn after a production run, by making a weight-to-length calculation. As customers regularly do not use an entire bobbin in one production run, knowing how much material is left can be useful information.

The app not only allows weight-to-length calculations, but also length-to-weight. If a customer knows how much yarn length they require for a given production run, the app enables them to work out how much bobbins should weigh before starting this production run.

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Check how much aramid yarn you've got left

Teijin Aramid's Running Length app makes it easy to check the remaining running length of yarn on a used bobbin. It's an ideal tool to reduce waste and plan ahead. Check out your app store!



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Industry News



Coast Guard Offloads 26.5 Tons of Cocaine in Florida



Modernization of the U.S. Fishing Fleet



Delay Averted with Underwater Sterntube Renewal

The U.S. Coast Guard recently offloaded 26.5 tons of cocaine seized in 27 separate interdictions in international waters off the Eastern Pacific Ocean. The cocaine was offloaded in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

The drugs were interdicted by Coast Guard and Royal Canadian Navy ships sailing with embarked Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) teams aboard.

In the January 2017 edition of Maritime Reporter & Engineering News is an insightful report on the modernization of the U.S. Fishing Fleet, with a focus on the ubiquitous Pacific Northwest. Modernization of the North Pacific Fishing Fleet, a study by The McDowell Group for the Port of Seattle, has made the rounds and given weight to the idea that a major fleet upgrade really is underway.

Hydrex Underwater Technology has assisted an excavation vessel hemorrhaging oil from a stern tube seal entangled with steel wire to pass safely through the Panama Canal.

The 156m long, Dutch-owned vessel was unable to make the canal transit until the propeller shaft seal had been repaired, potentially delaying operations and resulting in financial penalty for the owner.

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Upcoming Industry Events

Event	Date	Location	Venue
AWRF 2017 Spring General Meeting	April 23-26, 2017	Savannah, GA	Westin Savannah Harbor
WSTDA 2017 Annual Meeting	May 8-11, 2017	Incline Village, NV	Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe Resort, Spa & Casino
Techtextil 2017	May 9-12, 2017	Frankfurt am Main, Germany	Fairground
Herzog and Roblon Open Houses	May 15-19, 2017	Germany & Denmark	Herzog & Roblon Factories
Cordage Institute 2017 Annual Conference with Eurocord	June 18-21, 2017	Mallorca, Spain	Be Live Collection Son Antem Lluçmajor
Oceans '17 MTS/IEEE	September 18-21, 2017	Anchorage, AK	Dena'ina Convention Center
WSTDA 2017 Fall Meeting	October 16-19, 2017	San Diego, CA	Hotel Solamar
AWRF 2017 Fall General Meeting & PIE	October 22-25, 2017	Minneapolis, MN	Hilton Minneapolis
International WorkBoat Show	November 29-December 1, 2017	New Orleans, LA	Morial Convention Center
Cordage Institute Annual Conference 2018	May 21-23, 2018	San Diego, CA	Rancho Bernardo Inn

RoperecordNews

RoperecordNews is published by the Cordage Institute. The Cordage Institute is an international association of rope, twine, and related manufacturers, their suppliers, and affiliated industries. Articles appearing in RoperecordNews are the views of the authors and not necessarily those of the Cordage Institute. Members are encouraged to contribute articles and items of interest by emailing them to info@cordageinstitute.com. [Rates for advertising](#) are available from the Institute.

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