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NEWS RELEASE

Expanded Valve Basics Education Program Set for Nov. 6 & 7 in New Orleans

- The Valve Manufacturers Association (VMA) developed this course to help industry newcomers
- The education seminar offers in-depth sessions on valve, actuator and control fundamentals
- November event has been expanded to two full days
- Hands-on learning is featured during the “Valve Petting Zoo”

(Sept. 1, 2013—Washington, DC) In response to the popularity of its Valves & Actuators 101 course, the VMA has now expanded the program from one-and-a-half to two full days.

Originally created for newcomers to the industry, the event has received such rave reviews that it has become popular among a much larger group. The seminar brings together employees and supervisors of the plants that use valves, actuators and controls with distributors and sales reps who want to better understand the products they sell. Personnel from valve manufacturing companies are in the classroom with staff that specify and purchase valves and related equipment. They learn together with engineers in the early phase of their careers, as well as advanced-level mechanical engineering students (whose attendance is sponsored by VMA’s educational foundation, the Friends of the Crawford Library, Inc.).

The Valves & Actuators 101 course consists of lessons that guide attendees through the world of valves and the systems they help control, starting with simplest types of valves and moving into the more complicated automated products, including actuators and controls. The course has been expanded to 2 full days, with the addition of two new lessons—solenoids & limit switches, and positioners & accessories.

The event also features the popular “Valve Petting Zoo,” a unique hands-on experience that enables participants to “touch and feel” examples of the many products discussed during the course. Attendees are led in small groups around to tables where valves, actuators and controls are displayed. At each station, an industry expert is on hand to answer specific questions about the products and further explain how they work.

A tabletop exhibition provides attendees time between education sessions to learn what is offered by valve, actuator and control manufacturers, suppliers to the valve industry, and valve repair and service firms.

The cost to attend is \$700 for the first person from a company and \$635 for each subsequent registration from the same company. Those who complete the course receive a certificate from the Valve Manufacturers Association, indicating they have earned 12 hours of continuing education. Breakfast, lunch, beverage breaks and a reception, as well as a comprehensive reference manual, are also included.

For more information or to register, go to <http://www.vma.org/?ValveBasics>. Contact Judy Tibbs, VMA director of education (jtibbs@vma.org), if you have additional questions.

NOTE: A limited number of exhibitor opportunities are still available at the tabletop exhibition being held in conjunction with the New Orleans event on Nov 6. Exhibitors must be U.S. or Canadian manufacturers of valves, actuators and controls, or U.S. or Canadian suppliers and distributors of products and services for valve manufacturers. Review the exhibitor prospectus and register on VMA.org.

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ABOUT THE VALVE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA: Founded in 1938, the Washington, DC-based Valve Manufacturers Association of America represents nearly 100 North American manufacturers of valves, actuators and controls. Members account for approximately 80% of total industrial valve shipments out of U.S. and Canadian facilities. The North American valve industry supplies approximately 35% of worldwide valve demand, and VMA member companies employ 30,000 men and women in supporting jobs. VMA is the only organization exclusively serving U.S. and Canadian manufacturers of industrial valves, actuators and controls. Products manufactured by members are used in numerous industries, including: chemical processing; petroleum refining; oil and gas exploration, distribution and transmission; power generation; nuclear power; water/wastewater; commercial construction; and pulp and paper. VMA is also publisher of [Valve Magazine](#), written for buyers, specifiers, users and distributors of industrial valves, actuators and controls.