



Highlights of the opening address from the President of the AEMT, Mr Gary Downes

As you know, the AEMT represents the interests of service companies across the world, a truly international market place. I think we are all aware that the world is becoming a smaller place and despite the UK's upcoming Brexit, we need increasingly to be aware of global changes that will affect us all. The AEMT needs to be a global voice for its membership.

Year-on-year, our international membership has grown and the AEMT importantly now provides training services to many far and distant places.

So, why is it that so many overseas countries look to the AEMT for these services?

They realise that by reaching out and gaining a wider view, their businesses grow and accommodate new methods and technologies that drive them forwards.

In the UK, we need to do the same!

With the help of the AEMT, the UK market can benefit from a world view and needs to be aware of upcoming changes that are sweeping through the world of service and repair.

So, whilst the AEMT is a grand and historic UK institution at heart, we need to look forward with a global view and embrace the many opportunities and alliances that such globalisation can bring.

What about the organisation itself, where do we take the AEMT?

From a membership point of view, and that is both Associate and Full Members, I am looking forward to ensuring that we all continue to prosper from our involvement. I am keen to ensure that the AEMT "brand" will continue to stand for quality, fairness and trustworthiness. We are working hard to promote the AEMT nationally and internationally so that your customers recognise the benefits of working with a recognised quality standard within the industry.

I am pleased to announce that next year we will be building on the success of this evening and providing a conference that is open to AEMT members, industry suppliers and your customers and I would personally like to see you all involved.

The council is also keen to work with other similar trade associations to effect global standards and the political process. We are delighted to have Mathis, Johan and Frederic from EASA with us as our guests tonight and both the AEMT & EASA know that only by having a strong national and global voice can we truly protect and promote all of our members interests.

The AEMT continually looks to improve on the range and depth of the excellent technical training provided for its members and to do so in a cost-effective way. We are also looking to provide an improved apprentice scheme to try and attract much-needed youngsters to this fantastic, problem-solving industry that help keeps the world turning!

So, with this level of commitment and delivery being maintained, I suggest the AEMT is well placed to represent the best interests of our industry for many years to come. I would like to again thank all of the sponsors for making tonight possible - with your foresight and commitment we can continue to celebrate the hard work of the industry for many years to come....