

CLYDE MAY

ASNT President (2024-2025)
Senior Director, Varex Imaging
HOUSTON, TX

HOW DID YOU BEGIN YOUR CAREER IN NONDESTRUCTIVE TESTING (NDT)?

Probably like most people who are in NDT: by accident. I was in my second year at Marshall University, pursuing an accounting degree. I ran into a friend from high school who told me, "If you're bored, come see what we do." I started working for a company that did in-house nondestructive evaluation (NDE) for a company that built power plants. That was 1978.

CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE WORK THAT YOU CURRENTLY DO?

I work for a company that manufactures digital imaging equipment and X-ray machines, so my main method is radiographic testing, and that's where I've been for the last 16 years. I spend a lot of time face-to-face

with customers, doing training, applications development, and helping with techniques and procedures. I travel probably 40 weeks out of the year. I've been to every continent except Antarctica, and every state in the US. I've had the opportunity to see so many places.

HOW HAS THE NDT INDUSTRY CHANGED THROUGHOUT YOUR CAREER?

Until the mid '90s, we were very focused on construction and equipment fabrication. But then there was a big shift in what NDE is primarily used for. Today it's so much more in-service NDE, since assets are being required to last longer. Bridges, airplanes—you pick any industry, and the NDE focus is on maintaining existing assets. We still do construction, but not on the same scale as we did 30-40 years ago.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES CURRENTLY FACING THE INDUSTRY?

Getting people to know what NDE is about and bringing them into the profession. It's such an unknown field, but so important. And, at least in the US, the industry is so understaffed, very similar to every skilled trade.

How do we get the word out about NDE and its importance in day-to-day life? I think that's our biggest challenge.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE SOMEONE CONSIDERING A CAREER IN NDE?

Learn as many different things as you can. While it's great to be really good at one thing, it's also important to have a working knowledge of everything in NDE, because it changes, right? The hot button of today may be gone tomorrow, so the more you can learn and get exposed to, the better.

YOU'RE ABOUT TO START YOUR TENURE AS ASNT PRESIDENT. IS THERE ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR THAT YOU'RE EXCITED TO WORK ON?

I'm fortunate to be involved with the ASNT Strategic Management Committee, and we've got a lot of things teed up. Certainly, drawing more people into the industry is very important. Also, reviewing our legacy programs and models for training and certification—they work, but they're 60 years old. The industry and much of what we do has changed. What is the workforce of tomorrow, what are the skills needed, and how do we prepare people for it? That's my primary focus for the next couple of years.

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE QUOTE THAT INSPIRES YOUR LIFE?

Particularly in our business, you see the catastrophes that can happen if we fail to do NDE or fail to do it correctly. My go-to saying is, "There's never a wrong time to do the right thing." **ME**



TO LISTEN TO THE EXPANDED INTERVIEW, SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO TO [ASNT.ORG/PODCAST](https://asnt.org/podcast).

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS ON BIO-INSPIRED ROBOTICS AND SENSING FOR NDT

Materials Evaluation invites interested researchers to contribute to our upcoming Technical Focus Issue on Bio-Inspired Robotics and Sensing for NDT, to be published in January 2025. To submit an abstract for consideration, please contact Ehsan Dehghan-Niri, PhD, guest technical editor, at nde@asu.edu. Final manuscripts for invited papers must be submitted no later than 1 September 2024.

- Topics of interest include:
- ▶ PAUT
 - ▶ TOFD
 - ▶ AR/AI in NDT
 - ▶ Eddy current
 - ▶ Thermography
 - ▶ Digital radiography
 - ▶ NDT in aerospace
 - ▶ Unique NDT applications
 - ▶ Level I/II introductory topics
 - ▶ Safety in NDT
 - ▶ Business management of NDT

SPEAK TO AN ASNT SECTION

ASNT Sections are required to host a minimum of three technical meetings per year. Our sections need speakers to deliver NDT-related technical presentations at their meetings. ASNT has created a Section Speaker's Directory as a resource to help sections find speakers. Respond to this opportunity at volunteer.asnt.org to be added to the Section Speaker's Directory so sections can easily find you.



CALL FOR ASNT WEBINAR SPEAKERS

ASNT is recruiting speakers for its 2024 webinar series, and we invite you to submit your topic for consideration. ASNT webinars can be hosted by one speaker or a panel of speakers depending on the topic. Webinars are 1 h long with 10 min embedded for Q&A, and are typically held at 12:00 or 1:00 pm (ET). We're open to webinars hosted in English and Spanish (with a moderator provided by the speaker), and we may be open to other languages depending on topic and interest.

Do you have a technical topic you'd like to submit for consideration? Please email education@asnt.org with the following details:

- ▶ Your name
- ▶ Email address
- ▶ Proposed webinar title
- ▶ Proposed webinar description and 3-5 learning objectives
- ▶ Intended audience
- ▶ Availability to present virtually

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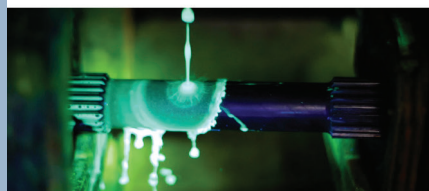
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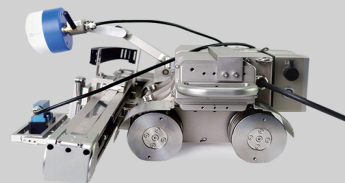
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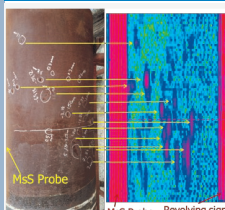


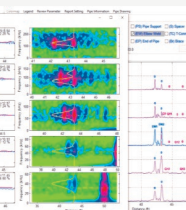
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Visualizations and measurements through 3D visual inspection provide a solid foundation for decision-making in the aeronautical field. This approach not only improves the safety of aircraft but also results in significant savings by allowing a more precise assessment of the condition of turbines or engines. This process helps to ensure that an aircraft meets the necessary standards to guarantee the safety of its users.

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