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KEPCO'S LOW COST, UL 508 LISTED POWER SUPPLIES. [Learn More.](#)

54th Analysis Division Symposium
19-23 April • Houston, TX, USA



InTech e-Weekly is the weekly news supplement to *InTech* magazine, published by ISA—The International Society of Automation. Send news tips, commentary, and letters to ISA at info@isa.org.

Automation Update

Fuel cell boost from nanowires

The creation of long platinum nanowires could soon lead to the development of commercially viable fuel cells. [More...](#)

Stainless steel gives a cheaper microbial cell boost

There is no getting around it, platinum is expensive; but there is now a way to replace the platinum catalyst in hydrogen generating microbial electrolysis cells with stainless steel brushes without losing efficiency. [More...](#)

Production waste cut via predictive technology

A new technique in the making of ceramics has the potential to save the industry time and costs while reducing waste. [More...](#)

Pane sensitive windows

Windows and doors with built-in motion sensors can now detect suspicious movements like whether and how quickly something is moving. If it feels the motion is a person, the system can then sound an alarm. [More...](#)

Valero wins bid for ethanol plants

Valero Energy Corp.'s \$477 million bid to buy eight ethanol plants from VeraSun Energy Corporation gained approval from the bankruptcy court overseeing the assets' auction. [More...](#)

Safety, security providers form partnership

When it all comes down to the basics, safety and security for a manufacturer means assessing risk. [More...](#)

Shifting sound to light could bring better chips

Reversing a process that converts electrical signals into sounds heard out of a cell phone may lead to a new way to build computer chips, LEDs, and transistors. [More...](#)

Safety feds target mining operations

Fifteen mining operations need to clean up their health and safety practices or face stricter enforcement, the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) said this week. [More...](#)

Distributor sells off share of Colombian pipeline

Ecopetrol, the Colombian national oil company, will pay \$400 million to buy Canadian energy distributor Enbridge Inc.'s indirect 24.7% stake in the 515 mile-long pipeline in Colombia. [More...](#)

Global perspectives: Fuel cell testing in U.K.

U.K.-based alkaline fuel cell producer AFC Energy inked a partnership deal with Akzo Nobel, a major international chemicals company and the fourth largest chlor-alkali producer in Europe. [More...](#)

Market Research

Nanocups show solar cell potential

A metamaterial that could light the way toward high-powered optics, ultra-efficient solar cells, and even cloaking devices is now under development. [More...](#)

InTech in Print



What's Inside

■ **Web Exclusive:** A new way to improve quality and energy efficiency of commercial air conditioning systems in any buildings, including factories, has led to savings of up to 30% to companies in tropical countries cooling costs typically consume 45% to 60% of building energy expenses. Welcome PAC. [More...](#)

■ One option to overcoming the far-reaching and disparate challenges of oil exploration is to integrate intrinsically safe designs into all the systems. [More...](#)

■ The pharmaceutical industry might be slower than biotech at using process analytical technologies, but adopting the concept of quality by design as a way of life in their processes and improving communication between process development and manufacturing could take the industry closer to the goal line. [More...](#)

Next Issue

- Offshore oil
- Automotive techs
- HMI upgrades
- Wireless

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People in Automation

Better gas mileage? What a drag

Ramesh K. Agarwal knows the pain this country felt last year when gasoline prices soared to new heights. [More...](#)

Columns

Pinto's Point: Autonomous-agent adaptive systems

Smart, wireless sensor networks will soon be everywhere, collecting and transmitting vast amounts of previously unmeasured data. To accommodate higher I/O point count, significant new advantages and benefits will emerge through autonomous-agent adaptive systems. [More...](#)

Calendar of Events

25-27 MARCH

Flow Expo, Guangzhou, China. <http://www.biztradeshows.com/trade-events/flow-expo.html>.

17-19 MAY

MCAA Industry Forum, Orlando, Fla.
<http://measure.org/meetings/IF09/IF09Program.htm>.

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