

LARRY BACHUS

Larry Bachus has over 40-years of experience working with industrial pumps. His areas of expertise include diagnosing pump problems and seal failures. Larry is highly regarded for his 'hands on' personalized consulting and actively pursues pump-upgrading projects all over the world. He has been instrumental in stopping leaks and seal failure and improving the operating time of industrial pumps. He has taught pump improvement courses at many major plants and industries all over the world.

Larry began his work career as a pump mechanic apprentice in a southern steel mill. He continued working on pumps while serving the U-S Navy. After completing his military service, Larry graduated from the University of Alabama in Birmingham. He worked installing and repairing pumps while designing his own products and ideas at night. For a period, Larry ran his own pump rebuild shop in the Caribbean. He began incorporating some of his original ideas to improve the service life of the pumps. This delighted his customers.

Larry incorporated his own company in 1988 after developing a tool that broke the code on identification of rubber compounds used in o-rings and other seals and gaskets. Today this tool is the standard in the industry. It is exported all over the world and is used by hundreds of thousands of mechanics and technicians to avoid accidents and spills of liquids and gases. This tool is purchased and used by every major industrial pump, seal, hydraulic, pneumatic and instrumentation manufacturer in the world. It is also popular in aviation maintenance.

Larry also has an invention that resolves various operational problems and stresses in pumps. Larry has inventions that are useful in other industries like surveying / civil engineering, farming equipment, and even household products. He is an active member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers-ASME. Now paying retired dues, he currently serves as the Vice President of the local ASME chapter in Nashville.

At first Larry lectured on how to correctly rebuild pumps and seals. Over the years, the courses have taken another tack. Nowadays the lectures are dedicated toward how to STOP rebuilding pumps by recognizing maintenance, operational and design errors, and identifying and eliminating the factors that lead to failure of process pumps. Larry has authored a book on pump theory, design and maintenance. The book is titled “Know And Understand Centrifugal Pumps” and is published by Elsevier Science. Larry published his own version of the book in Spanish.

Larry is known by thousands of industry professionals as his alter ego “**The Pump Guy**”. Larry writes the popular Pump Guy column that appears in Flow Control Magazine, World Pumps Magazine, Processing Magazine, Mechanical Technology Magazine, and to some 40,000 monthly Internet newsletter subscribers. The Pump Guy has a running ‘**CHEAT SHEET**’ of useful pump information and hints that come from questions asked in his classes and experiences as a pump consultant.

Having functioned as an apprentice, mechanic, technician and even design engineer, Larry relates easily with the engineers, mechanics and equipment operators who attend his classes. Larry travels about half the year, some weeks teaching and other weeks as a pump consultant.

When not traveling, Larry lives in Tennessee where he continues inventing new products. He recently received his certificate in Maintenance Management from the Univ. of Alabama and is working on his Masters Degree at Middle Tennessee State Univ. He has taught as adjunct faculty at Cumberland University and at the Tennessee Technological Center. Larry speaks, reads and writes fluent English and Spanish and teaches his courses in both languages.