THE aia | Vision SHOW

April 15, 2014 – April 18, 2014 ✧ Boston, Massachusetts USA

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Robert Tait has been working in the field of industrial imaging since the 1970's, and has been an enthusiastic consumer and implementer of machine vision technology. He is a champion of "Design for Inspection" as a means to drive cost out of manufacturing processes by including features on components and in the design process of systems to improve visibility and readability of critical features. Tait has been with General Electric Research since 2002, where inspection tasks have taken him from to the top of a wind tower to the bottom of a nuclear reactor, inside gas turbines, and outside capturing thermal images of railroad car bearings. He believes that a successful vision application requires a full understanding of lighting, optics and software.