

sensor & calibration tips

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Your one-stop sound & vibration shop

Greetings,

Welcome to issue #32-

Weather starting to change where you are? Whether you're eagerly awaiting Springtime or ushering in the more moderate temperatures of the Fall, we hope you are still taking a little time for learning each month. Please have a look (like thousands of your industry colleagues do each month!), and share it with a co-worker. I will also start a blog soon so that it will be easy to comment and share ideas. Friend our [Facebook](#) fan page now. Follow the archive links below to where you'll find all the back issues with their wealth of information.

Join Our Mailing List!

Tip of the Month

Participate in continuing education programs and seminars at least once a year. Technical organizations such as [NCSL](#) and [SAE](#) provide opportunities for both local chapter meetings and regional seminars on many sensor and calibration related topics. PCB Piezotronics is again hosting a very popular [dynamic measurements seminar](#) presented annually by [Dr. Patrick Walter](#) over the past several years. Dr. Walter is currently a professor and department chair at Texas Christian University, with over 30 years of dynamic test experience while working at Sandia National Laboratories.

Quick Links

[NCSL](#)

[IMEKO](#)

[PTB](#)

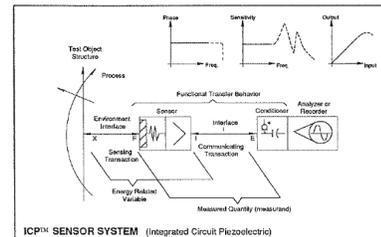
[NIST](#)

[ISO TC 108](#) - Mechanical vibration, shock and condition monitoring

[ISO TC 108/SC 3](#) - Use and

Piezoelectric Transduction

Following last month's theme of back to basics, almost every month I get requests for educational material on piezoelectric sensing and I always start with this classic, written by PCB co-founder Bob Lally. It does such a good job handling the basics of dynamic sensing in a single page that I'm still handing it out after more than 30 years! See how much of this classic you are able to explain to your young test engineering team members (or to your family for that matter...!). This is the one to read and recite when they ask that famous question, "What do you do at work?"...



[Click to read more about piezoelectric transduction](#)

<http://www.modalshop.com/calibration.asp?ID=325>

Do I really need to Calibrate?

The following Questions and Answers were taken from a magazine interview with The Modal Shop's Sr. Application Specialist Rick Bono.

The pervasiveness of vibration and shock sensors continues to grow at an exponential rate. You can find these sensors everywhere, from aerospace labs and automotive test bays, to smart structures providing condition monitoring systems and active control. While these sensors continue to improve the performance of people, products and processes, this growing nation of test and automation is also a growing calibration liability. Considering the work involved with calibrating all these sensors, the question



calibration of vibration and shock measuring instruments

[ESTECH](#) - Reno, NV (May 3-6)

[Sensors](#) - Rosemont, IL (June 7-9)

[NCSLj](#) - Providence, RI (July 25-29)

[SAVIAC](#)

[Vibration Institute](#)

[The Modal Shop website](#)

[PCB Piezotronics website](#)

[IMI website](#)

[Larson Davis website](#)

Newsletter Archive

listed alphabetically by topic

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Measurement uncertainty; PCB accelerometers on Mythbusters

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Basics; Placebo Transducers

typically follows, "Do we really *need* to calibrate all these sensors?"...

[Click to read Rick's answers...](#)

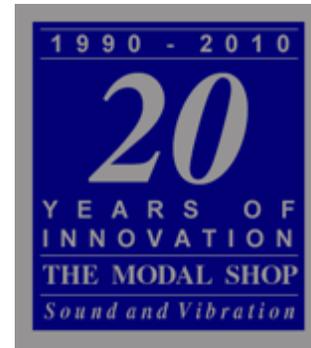
<http://www.modalshop.com/calibration.asp?ID=326>

Last month, I shared that The Modal Shop is celebrating its 20th Anniversary in 2010. Become a fan of our [Facebook page](#) and see pictures of "Modal Shoppers" (and maybe some of your colleagues) from our past conferences, applications and celebrations. As you'll see in the pictures, we're here to serve you with all your dynamic sensor and calibration needs.

Sincerely,

Mike Lally signature

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[Forward email](#)