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About the Author

Dr. James Thompson has more than 35 years of experience in noise, vibration, and harshness (NVH), finite-element analysis, experimental mechanics, and testing. He was the executive director of sales, marketing, and NVH at Link Engineering Co. for nearly 10 years. In this capacity, he played a major role in the development of brake NVH dynamometers and vehicle test systems. He also has worked as a consultant on several brake NVH issues and has lead testing programs successful in resolving such issues for major OEMs, Tier 1, and Tier 2 suppliers.

Currently, Dr. Thompson chairs the SAE Brake NVH Standards Committee. In addition, he is the current chairman of the SAE Noise and Vibration Conference. This committee was a pioneer in developing the first brake NVH test standard and has an outstanding record of developing innovative test and technology standards for the brake industry.

Dr. Thompson also developed the SAE Brake NVH course, which he has taught for the last five years in cooperation with SAE and Link Engineering. Over this time period, more than 200 students have attended the course. In addition, he has organized the NVH sessions at the SAE Brake Colloquium for the last 12 years.

Outside of his brake-specific activity, Dr. Thompson is also the president of the Institute of Noise Control Engineering in the USA. Dr. Thompson was elected to SAE Fellow Grade in 2006. In 2009, he received the SAE Lloyd L. Withrow Distinguished Speaker Award. He has more than 30 publications and regularly organizes and chairs NVH-related conference sessions.

Dr. Thompson received his PhD in mechanical engineering from Purdue University in 1979 and his BS and MS in mechanical engineering both from Virginia Tech in 1974. Both his master's thesis and PhD dissertations were on the topics of acoustics and noise control.