

A brief history of GEA achievements

- 1945** Formed as an independent trade association.
- 1972** Integrated into the SMMT as an independent trade section using all SMMT services but retaining association status having its own Constitution, Council and Honorary Officers.
- 1978** Sponsored first Garage Equipment Show held at Olympia.
- 1993** GEA negotiated affiliated association status with SMMT receiving even greater independence.
- 1994**
- Limited liability Company formed with its own bank account and registered for VAT purposes.
 - Members bound by Memorandum and Articles of Association and Code of Practice.
- 1995** Board appoints new Chief Executive with enhanced responsibilities. Headquarters relocated at Daventry. All GEA headquarters staff now employees of the limited company.
- 1996**
- First Overseas Associate Member.
 - Internet site established.
- 1997** 'The World of Waveforms' and 'An Introduction to Air Conditioning' published.
- 2000**
- 'Auto Insight' a Distance Learning Package on Air Conditioning was produced.
 - 'OBD and Diagnosis after the Code' published.
- 2003**
- Appointed by VOSA to administer Emission Test Equipment Approval Scheme.
 - Website directory receives 100,000 'hits' per month.
- 2004**
- Appointed by VOSA to administer the full MOT Test Equipment Approval Scheme.
- 2005**
- GEA Working Group helps establish the specification of VOSA's Automated Test Lane (ATL).
 - First video production to support the Automotive Trade Show.
- 2006**
- New website constructed and redesigned to stream video.
 - GEA purchase 2/3 Church Walk, Daventry.
 - New Code of Practice produced.
- 2008**
- GEA open meeting and conference facility at Daventry.
 - Introduce Lift Engineer accreditation scheme.

- 2009**
 - Lift Engineer accreditation scheme is seen as the industry standard with over 100 accredited engineers.
 - GEA publish 'The Safe Operation of Vehicle Lifts'.
- 2010**
 - GEA Working Group helps establish the specification of VOSA's Authorised Testing Facility equipment, such as HGV Play Detectors and Roller Brake Testers.
 - Over 200 accredited Lift Engineers.
- 2011**
 - Worked with VOSA to introduce the new MOT Smoke limits.
 - Over 250 accredited Lift Engineers.
 - Founding partner in the ProMote campaign, which was set-up to stop the MOT being changed from 3-1-1 to 4-2-2
- 2012**
 - In February 2012 Justine Greening announced that the frequency of the MOT would remain at 3-1-1.
 - Over 300 accredited Lift Engineers.
 - GEA introduce an assessment for engineers who install service and calibrate MOT equipment.
 - GEA members successfully roll-out ATF test lanes.
- 2013**
 - GEA members work with the HSE to investigate poor quality arm locking devices used on some vehicle lifts.
 - Over 350 accredited engineers.
 - GEA asked to report to the Board of VOSA on "the test lane of the future.
 - GEA lobby UK Government to introduce a check on DPFs .
- 2014**
 - GEA Working Group rewrites our Code of Conduct and Articles of Association.
 - Over 400 accredited engineers.
 - GEA take part in the DVSA Trade User Group to look at a web based MOT computer system.
 - GEA Working Group meets with various vehicle manufacturers to discuss equipment requirements for the 'Connected Car'.
- 2015**
 - GEA Working Group creates industry Code of Conduct for manufacturers of prefabricated vehicle inspection pits.
 - Wire Rope Inspection training programme introduced.
 - Relaunch of the ProMOTe campaign to lobby against proposed changes to the MOT (4-1-1).
- 2016**
 - Created an in-house Diesel Smoke Meter (DSM) correlation testing facility.
 - GEA accreditation audited and accepted by the CSCS as a partner and approved to issue GEA/CSCS Dual Cards.
 - 20th birthday of the GEA website, celebrated with a full redesign, added security and the introduction of individual members' log in area.

2017

- Successfully defeated the proposed changes by UK Government to change the introduction year for vehicles entering the MOT to 4-1-1.
- Tested and accredited over 150 engineers for the GEA/CSCS partner card scheme, thus providing access to construction sites.
- Worked with the EU to help identify vehicle lifts with bogus CE approval and to remove them from the European market.