



NAWEA 2013 Symposium Boulder, CO

NORTH AMERICAN WIND ENERGY ACADEMY

Session Speaker

Eric Smith, Keystone Tower Systems

On-site tapered spiral welding of wind turbine towers



Eric Smith is the founder and CEO of Keystone Tower Systems, a startup developing an advanced manufacturing process for towers for wind turbines. Eric holds graduate degrees in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Prior to founding Keystone, Eric ran a machine design consulting company that primarily focused on developing and evaluating new wind energy technologies, everything ranging from alternative drivetrains to advanced controls to new manufacturing techniques. Eric has also taught wind turbine engineering in the Mechanical Engineering Department at MIT. Eric's family has a long history in the wind industry – his grandfather's company developed the Smith-Putnam turbine, the first megawatt scale grid-tied turbine. It held the record for tallest turbine in the world from 1941 until 1979 – a record Eric plans to reclaim.