

USBC chooses Ford engineer as technical advisor

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USBC News



The United States Bowling Congress has selected Ford Motor Co. engineer Scott Sterbenz to be a volunteer technical advisor to the USBC Equipment Specifications and Certification Committee.

As a quality assurance engineer and statistical data analysis expert for the past 12 years at Ford in Dearborn, Mich., Sterbenz has tested vehicle concepts and solved quality issues on Ford vehicles at foreign and domestic assembly plants. Sterbenz holds master black belt status in Six Sigma, a disciplined process issued by the American Society for Quality and used by companies to recommend product improvements based on statistical analysis. He teaches Ford engineers advanced statistical methods and data analysis techniques.

Sterbenz will put that expertise to use with USBC, where he is expected to use his statistical analysis skills on the Equipment Specifications Committee to assist the Specifications and Certification team as it analyzes research data relating to the System of Bowling. The System of Bowling includes components of the sport that affect scoring, such as bowling ball motion studies, bowling ball dynamics, bowling pin testing, lane surface analysis and oil evaluations.

Sterbenz is a USBC member and resident of Brownstown Township, Mich. The right-handed bowler averaged 228 last season in a Detroit USBC league and has one certified 300 game and a 776 high series to his credit.

"We look forward to working with Scott and taking advantage of his expertise in data analysis to help USBC review, organize and plan research to help improve credibility issues in bowling," said USBC Technical Director Neil Stremmel.

"How often in life do you get a chance to be involved with the governing body of a sport to help maintain and improve integrity in a sport?" said Sterbenz, who earned a B.A. and Masters degree in Mechanical Engineering at Wayne State University in Detroit. "You don't get opportunities like that often so I jumped on it. I look forward to working with Neil and

his team."

The USBC Equipment Specifications and Certification Committee makes final decisions on matters relating to USBC approval of bowling equipment, developing and modifying specifications governing the use of lane dressing and the equipment used in USBC competitions, regulating bowling center certificates and setting policies and procedures related to equipment specifications and certification.

The USBC Equipment Specifications and Certification testing facility - open since 1977 - is an eight-lane center in a climate-controlled building where team members regulate and standardize bowling equipment by concentrating on pin and product testing, research work, bowling center certifications and lane dressing inspections. The team of engineers, technicians and support staff provides lane-conditioning support for a variety of tournaments and Sport Bowling events.