

Robbi McDonald



Robbi McDonald is the Assistant Chief Engineer for LNG off-engine vehicle systems at Westport, a Westport Fuel Systems Company, in Vancouver B.C. In her 6 years at Westport, she has been responsible for the design and development of LNG tanks and high pressure cryogenic fuel pumps for heavy duty off-road and high horse power on-road vehicles. The LNG pump in tank systems at Westport include new methods of cryostat support for mobile applications, high vacuum getter and sieve materials, high accuracy LNG level sensor technology, long life LNG dynamic piston seals, and high and low pressure cryogenic valves and plumbing.

Prior to Westport, Robbi was a Mechanical Engineer at GE Healthcare for 7 years, bringing new zero boil-off LHe cryostats for MRI superconducting magnets to production and supporting manufacturing. During this time she focused on design for minimal heat conduction, cryostat and cryocooler reliability, evaluation and manufacture of cryogenic composite materials, LHe fill optimization, and low temperature instrumentation.

Robbi got her start in cryogenics during her Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Victoria, where she designed a liquid free superconducting magnet cryostat for an experiment to simulate antigravity crystal growth and attended her very first CEC conference in Alaska 2003. She is excited to have the potential opportunity to be on the CEC board.