A compliment - I want to compliment Progressive Technologies, one of the industry leaders, for a company policy that I think has merit. Up in Grand Rapids, if Karl Kaake (manager of field service) says "it doesn't ship", then it doesn't ship. The machine is right before it leaves. Period. Otherwise Karl has to fix in the field, and Karl doesn't like to do that.

Machines from Progressive Technologies (Progressive Blasting Systems) may not be flawless, but I sure don't spend much time on the road with Karl. I wish more companies had the resolve (and the capacity) to prove it works before it leaves. It's a lot cheaper, and a lot less embarrassing. Congratulations!

Another compliment goes to Metal Improvement Company. John Eckersley sent me the graph of arc height versus air pressure. (See Figure 4 on Page 17 in my article, "Shot Peening Process Variables"). Metal Improvement Company has been around a long time; they have done a lot of research; and they sure know a lot about shot peening.

Research - Electronics Incorporated has been investigating "Low Intensity Peening" and is reporting very consistent intensities in the 2N-5N range. For more information, contact Jack Champaigne at 219-256-5001.

One of the awards not mentioned at ICSP-5 included 'Brightest Tie", which went to Michael Schilling. His wife gave him a Scottish clan tie that morning. I offered to trade my plain old tie (bright red Toucans etc.). Later, Michael agreed to trade me for a U.S. baseball cap. Bill Miller had Boeing ball caps, but he wouldn't give me one to trade.

For those of you who couldn't attend the 1993 conference, copies of ICSP-5 are available at a cost of £30 (approximately 50 U.S. $). Contact Dr. David Kirk at Coventry University in the U.K. Tel: 44 203 83 8281; Fax: 44 203 83 8282. These books will also be available through The Shot Peener at a later date.

Mark your calendar for ICSP-6 to be held in San Francisco, California, USA in September, 1996.