From the Desk of...
Jack Champaigne

- **The Ricochet Club**
  
  “NO...........that’s not what the ricochet club is about” could be caption of the new pinocchio cartoon. Well, here’s what happened. The r-club has been broken for several months and we asked our Internet Service Provider (ISP) to fix it. They couldn’t. We volunteered to pay to get it fixed with a consultant helping their expert. Well, some of you discovered what happens when a computer “listserv” goes wild. For the uninitiated, a listserv is an automated e-mail technique that allows multiple e-mail messages to be posted instantaneously. The repair team sent out a test message. The message went to the 120 club members. However, since some of the addresses were bad, (i.e. no longer valid) those message came back as a reply. The listserv, true to design, treated the 10 bad addresses as new messages. You guessed it. They each went out to the 120 club members. And, ten messages came back as undeliverable and around the loop we go. We were spawning messages. Some people got up to 250 messages before we pulled the plug. Sorry folks. It’ll be fixed soon. Please be patient. Once it’s working people got up to 250 messages before we pulled the plug. Sorry because we asked our Internet Service Provider (ISP) to fix it. They couldn’t. We volunteered to pay to get it fixed with a consultant helping their expert.

- **ICSP-7 coming soon**
  
  Please visit Dr. Nakonieczny’s special web site at http://www.shotpeening.com for the next International Conference on Shot Peening. A lot of progress has occurred in the shot peening industry since the last conference in San Francisco. Plan to attend. Get your passport updated and get your travel agency working to plan an extended stay in Poland and surrounding countries.

- **Flapper Peening Training**
  
  Flapper peening training is now available from Electronics Inc. Peter Bailey has visited several sites already and has a nice two day curriculum for flapper peening operators. Call EI for more details or contact Peter at pbailey433@aol.com.

- **Surface Enhancement Division of Fatigue Design and Evaluation Committee of SAE Meeting**
  
  The next Surface Enhancement Division of Fatigue Design and Evaluation Committee of SAE is scheduled for April 20 in Auburn Hills, MI. This is the division that maintains the “J” series shot peening specifications. Also, the Wednesday afternoon will be open for a special task force reviewing AMS 2430 (shot Peening specification from the Aerospace division of SAE (a project under Aerospace Materials Engineering Committee AMEC). For more information see “SAE Info” on our website. The next meeting of Surface Enhancement Division will be in West Lafayette, Indiana in October with a tour at Purdue University. Jack Champaigne will be co-host. A special banquet will be held to honor the companies donating shot peening related equipment and funding to the Purdue University Mechanical Engineering Technology School. For more information contact Mike Magill at mmagill@tech.purdue.edu.

- **New calibration method for Almen gage**
  
  Electronics Inc. is working on a new calibration method for Almen gages that will provide “near ideal” gage reproducibility. If your company or organization uses several Almen gages and if you are concerned about inter-changeability of gages please contact Jack Champaigne for more information. We would like to get more data from companies on the amount of variation that they experience when inter-changing gages.

  Several companies/individuals are working on a computer generated Almen saturation curve program. We hope to have a synopsis of this effort on our web page soon so that you can follow the progress and interact with the various participants. Dr. David Kirk, chairman of The International Scientific Committee for Shot Peening, has agreed to review the program and offer assistance. For additional information contact Dr. David Kirk at DKirk@dial.pipex.com in the United Kingdom.

- **1999 Buyer’s Guide**
  
  The 1999 Annual Buyer’s Guide is late this year. We sent out special postcards asking people to reserve their personal copy for FREE. The bulk mailing is made (FREE) each year to over 2,500 subscribers. Copies ordered after the cut-off date will be available for $15 per copy to defray the extra mailing and handling costs. (Trivia: the production and distribution cost of the annual buyer’s guide is approximately $45,000 U.S.)

- **How to reach the staff at Electronics Inc.**
  
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  Regards,

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**VLP MagnaValve™ Installation Guide Available**

Call for our free step-by-step installation guide of the VLP MagnaValve. This guide has easy-to-follow instructions and full-color photos covering the actual installation of the MagnaValve in a shot peening machine.

Call Electronics Inc. at (219)256-5001 and ask for Application Note AN-159.