

From the desk of... Jack Champaigne

○ **Paybacks can be expensive.**

While visiting a large manufacturer with a shot peening shop in Indiana, I learned that they had just placed an order for a new machine from our friends in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Feeling a little ornery, I asked the young engineer if he was aware that they would receive a free Almen gage with their purchase. (I made up the story.) His response was immediate and overwhelming. "That's great. I just learned about gages and strips and didn't provide for their purchase in our budget. That's wonderful news."

As I drove back to Mishawaka I started to wonder what kind of a mess I had just gotten myself into. By the time I got into the office the next morning we had received a purchase order from Michigan and I just smiled. Then, about six months later, we were invited to an open house in Grand Rapids featuring airline and aerospace types of customers. We took our exhibit booth and headed North. After a great catered lunch we heard an announcement before the start of the afternoon sessions "Attention please. Attention. Be sure to drop you business card into the bucket before 2:00, we're going to have a drawing for a FREE Almen gage donated by Electronics Inc." I had to smile. What a payback. But let me take one more swing at this. Remember when every new washing machine came with a free box of Tide detergent? Shouldn't every new peening machine come with a free Almen gage? Of course I would think only the top few companies could afford to treat their customers to this concept.

○ **Upcoming trips for the road warrior.**

January will see Canada and Mexico. I'm hoping to get down to Australia and New Zealand during the first part of 2002. In the works: Asia (Singapore) workshop next summer (June 10, 11) with side trips to Taiwan and Korea. We also look forward to the next International Conference on Shot Peening, ICSP-8, in Germany during September.

○ **Check out the web pages of the SPORT group, Shot Peening Operators Resource Team.**

This is a voluntary organization from the Nordic countries that have been promoting shot peening under the guidance of chairman Per-Olof Karlsson. See the pages at www.shotpeener.com/SPORT.

○ **Almen strip saturation curves, the bane of peening operators, has some new technology in the works.**

Thanks to Dale Lombardo (General Electric) and Bill Miller (Boeing) as they head a SAE task group to quantify the requirements for any computer software program intended to graph and interpret intensity of the Almen strip arc height data points. A series of trials will be needed to qualify the saturation curve. If you have developed a program to create

the saturation curve, it will have to process the trial data and achieve results within the tolerance band to qualify to the new SAE specification. For more information contact Dale at dale.lombardo@ae.ge.com or Bill at bill.a.miller@boeing.com.

Lombardo and Miller were recognized for their pioneering work as recipients of the Shot Peener of the Year Award at the 2001 annual Shot Peening Workshop in San Antonio, Texas. See page 34 of this newsletter.

○ **New MagnaValves are coming next year.**

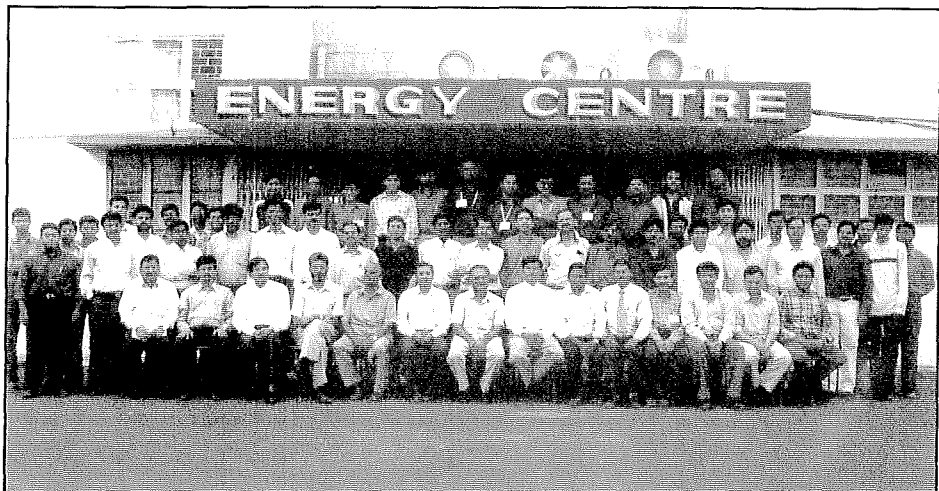
Model VLP-VAR is a low cost valve with flow rates of 1000 pound/minute valve for simple wheelblast applications. A variable AC transformer, called a Variac, is used to set the voltage on the valve. No other control is required. The entire airblast product line is being upgraded to meet the demands of control engineers for 24Vdc technology. The new valves will have the same physical dimensions but will offer capability to operate directly with the customers PLC control either with or without the FC controller.

○ **Toyo Seiko, a leading manufacture of cut wire shot announces the appointment of Yoshihiro Watanabe as President.**

Dr. Watanabe has been active in shot peening for several years with the Japan Society of Shot Peening and the International Scientific Committee on Shot Peening. Congratulations to Dr. Watanabe.

○ **Be sure to check out the "Learning-on-Line" feature of the web page at shotpeener.com.**

There are many articles on theory, history and application of shot peening available in Acrobat pdf format. And while you're there, be sure to look into "Letters-on-Line". It's a bulletin board forum for discussions on peening problems, specifications etc. Membership is free and open to the public.



The 2nd International Conference on Shot Peening and Blast Cleaning in Bhopal, India was held on September 13 - 15, 2001. According to Dr. Sharma, organizer of the conference, "The conference was a grand success with attendees from all over India."