AMEC Celebrates 29 Years of Service

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The SAE International Aerospace Metals Engineering Committee (AMEC) was 29 years old in January 2001. That date marks 29 years of accomplishment.

AMEC is composed of technical specialists in aerospace metallic materials and related processes. Its aim is to provide the aerospace industry and government agencies with the technical benefits which accrue from synergistic interchange of ideas and experience.

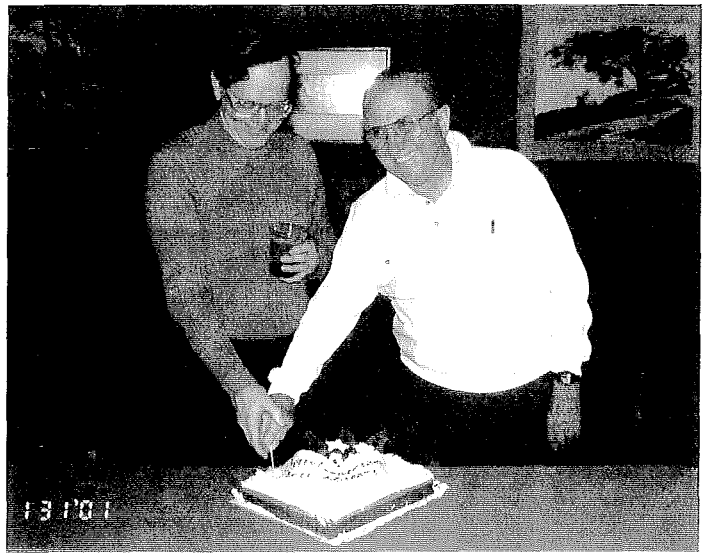
Robert H. Gassner, who was with Douglas Aircraft, Long Beach at the time, organized it as an independent initiative under the name Aerospace Heat Treat Committee (AHTC). Its mission was to consider specifications and common problems related to heat treating. Its first meeting was held on January 20, 1972. Metallurgical engineers from Douglas Aircraft, North American, Lockheed California, Boeing, Hughes Aircraft, General Dynamics, and Northrup participated.

In July 1974, the scope of AHTC was expanded to include all aerospace metallic materials, all processes for aerospace metallic materials, and problems related thereto. At this time the name was changed to Aerospace Metals Engineering Committee (AMEC).

In 1977, SAE International invited AMEC to affiliate with SAE's Aerospace Materials Division. AMEC's mission: Provide the aerospace industry and government agencies with the technical benefits which accrue through cooperative activities and through the synergistic interchange of ideas and experience. AMEC's activities: Develop new or improved specifications for aerospace metallic materials and related processes, investigate common problems, and develop common test programs. AMEC accepted the invitation.

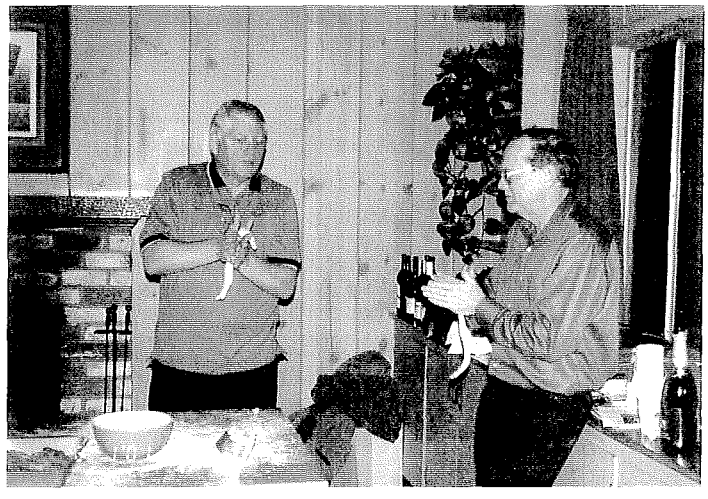
Since affiliating with SAE, AMEC has developed 45 Aerospace Material Specifications (AMSs). Two of these were for control of the shot-peening process, nine covered shot-peening media. Seven were for procurement and control of metallic materials. The balance was for control of various processes (mostly heat treatment). In addition, SAE has published two Aerospace Standards, seven Aerospace Recommended Practices, and four Aerospace Information Reports, all developed by AMEC. The aerospace industry has, and is currently, controlling the production of reliable, technically advanced aerospace equipment using these documents.

AMEC currently has 99 members. Most are from the United States and Canada. These members are currently working on 21 new projects and revision of several existing documents. ❍



Jay Pengra, Chairman of AMEC, and Bob Gasner, founder, cut the birthday cake.

Attendees at the January 2001 meeting.



The AMEC crew made pretzels during a break from meetings. Photographed are Jack Champaigne and Jay Pengra. What do pretzels have to do with AMEC? Only Jack Champaigne can answer that but we do know that everyone had a great time.