



From My Desk

Getting ready for the next International Conference on Shot Peening, ICSP-11, was a great experience for me as I got to reflect on the same activities I enjoyed in 1996. It was exciting to be affiliated with the International Scientific Committee on Shot Peening and a great honor to be selected the chairman of the ICSP-6 conference. Hosting the conference at The Fairmont, near the cable cars, Fisherman's Wharf, Ghirardelli Chocolate... what's not to like about that? The conference was a success mostly because of the large number of high quality papers presented. Here it is, 24 years later, and authors from all over the world are offering their contributions to the advancement of the science of shot peening. You can read the titles and abstracts accepted for the conference at the official web site: www.shotpeening.org.

South Bend should prove to be a great venue not only because of the excellent conference facilities and hotel accommodations but also for the many tourist opportunities. You can visit world famous Notre Dame University or travel back in time to Nappanee, Indiana and observe the Amish craftsman (or enjoy their excellent style of cooking). A visit to South Bend wouldn't be complete without visiting the Studebaker National Museum or to the Oliver Mansion, home of the inventor of the Oliver Chilled Plow. The plow is known around the world as one of the greatest advancements of agriculture. If you come to South Bend and don't have a good time, it's not my fault.

Speaking of progress in the shot peening industry, you might be interested to know of activities of SAE, Society of Automotive Engineers. SAE has two committees devoted to shot peening, one related to aerospace and one to automotive. The aerospace committee task group was recently formed as a sub-group of AMEC, Aerospace Materials Engineering Committee and I was asked to chair it. Previous to that the shot peening topics were addressed by engineers mainly interested in heat treatment and a few, usually four to six people, were keenly interested in surface treatments.

I volunteered to get more people involved and it didn't take me long to get a roster of over 96 people from around the world. The task group, AMECSE, Aerospace Materials Engineering Committee Surface Enhancement, now meets the day before the AMEC meetings and usually attracts about 25-30 participants. The committee has not only addressed deficiencies in existing AMS specifications but has also launched several documents reflecting awareness of new technologies such as laser peening and ultrasonically activated peening.

Attention was also directed at creating AMS documents for the flapper peening process. The industry standard practice created by the U.S. government, primarily for repair of helicopters in Viet Nam, had not been updated since 1972. After a three-year effort by committee members from three countries we now have a modern (and technically correct) document for standard practices. Please contact me if you would like to join this committee. The next meeting is January 18-19 in Monterrey, California. The meeting will be held at The Beach Resort Monterrey hotel, right on the Pacific Ocean.

There are other SAE documents related to shot peening and you might recognize these as "J" specs. These include J 4441, J 442, J 443 and so on. The Materials, Processes and Parts Council (Land and Sea Division of SAE) has several committees, including Surface Enhancement Committee. This is the body responsible for the "J" specs. So, when you read an aerospace document, such as AMS 2430, you'll notice that references to intensity and coverage revert back to the "J" specifications. Active participants that serve on both committees has helped tremendously in achieving synchronization of these documents.

Want to get involved? Send me an email at jack.champaigne@electronics-inc.com.

Let me close with a special thanks to Metal Improvement Company and Proto Manufacturing. Both companies joined Electronics Inc. as ICSP-11 Benefactors and their early financial assistance is deeply appreciated. ●