

The Evolution of Specs

I ENJOYED READING Dr. Kirk’s article on the evolution of SAE J 443 on page 24. It helps to keep a perspective on how technology changes over the years. We are now involved with more changes to AMS 2430, Shot Peening. This document was originally published by SAE in 1948. Soon after I joined the AMEC task group, I volunteered to make some minor changes (Revision L). I said it could be done in about six weeks. It actually took six years and 14 ballots. That was back in 1997.

Fast forward to 2012. James Kernan, U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center, offered to make some minor changes to AMS 2430. It’s almost ready to be published (Rev S) after several years of committee effort.

But, there is more work to be done. SAE adopted and then eventually cancelled the MIL-S-13165 shot peening spec and directed users to AMS 2430. Although the mil-spec did not allow manual peening, a significant amount of manual peening was practiced. The problem now is AMS 2430 specifically bans manual peening. This has resulted in “orphans” that don’t have a spec. The net result is two volunteers from large aerospace companies have offered to write new documents, one for manual peening and one for batch peening (tumble blast, barrel blast).

When you consider this history, and the articles from Bandini (page 16) and Simmons (page 34), you might conclude there are opportunities for improvement to our industry standards. This is your invitation to join our SAE committees and help with these specs. If you wish to join please call me (1-574-256-5001) or send me an e-mail at jack.champaigne@electronics-inc.com.



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