The Metal Finishing Shop Directory

The Shop Directory is a heavily visited feature at the National Metal Finishing Resource Center (NMFRC). The directory contains information for more than 500 U.S. and Canadian metal finishing facilities. More than 5,000 visitors have used the directory during the past 18 months. The directory is contained in a database that can be accessed by using various search mechanisms.

Accessing & Using
The Shop Directory
To access the NMFRC’s Shop Directory, go to the NMFRC home page and click on “Shops” in the left menu. This will bring up the display shown in Fig. 1. There are several ways of locating shops contained in the database. Users can search for shops by process, company name or location. Search capabilities also include combining process and geographic-regional search terms. For example, to locate a hard chromium plating company that serves the southwestern U.S., select “Chrome, Hard” from the process pull-down menu and select “NM, AZ, NV, Southern CA” on the regional pull-down menu, and then click on “Submit.” A table displaying the search results will then appear, as shown in Fig. 2 (this display only shows some of the shops—use the scroll bar to see the remaining ones). The data in the display include company name, location and contact information. Companies shown in bold print are members of the National Association of Metal Finishers (NAMF), a project partner that helped to establish the Shop Directory. Companies listed in blue text have purchased a “hyperlink” from the NMFRC, which gives users quick access to a shop’s website.

Joining the Shop Directory
Listing your company in the NMFRC’s Shop Directory is very simple. It can be performed quickly, and there are no charges associated with listing. Looking again at Fig. 1, click on “Add Your Company to the Shop Directory On-Line.” The user is given the display shown in Fig. 3. Just fill out the company information, identify which processes are present at the facility, select the regions...
serviced, and click on “submit.” Your facility is now in the Shop Directory database.

If you have any questions regarding the Shop Directory contact George Cushnie (703-264-0039 or by e-mail: geoc@nmfrc.org).

NMFRC Update:
Regulatory Determinations
One of the unique features developed and maintained by the NMFRC is the EPA Regulatory Determinations database (found in the Compliance Assistance section of the NMFRC). Determinations are letters written by EPA management in response to specific regulatory questions by industry. These letters clarify many regulatory points that are otherwise difficult to interpret. This feature contains recent and historical listing of more than 200 metal-finishing-specific EPA determinations and more than 2,000 general determinations. The determinations can be searched with a convenient keyword search engine. More than a dozen determinations were added this spring that relate to the Chromium Plating NESHAP. Recent titles include: CARB Method for Chrome NESHAP; Determination of Sampling Time for Affected and Non-affected Sources at Large Hard Chromium; Electroplating Facilities; Approval of an Alternative Test Method to Demonstrate Compliance With Chrome Plating NESHAP; Review of Performance Data Demonstrating Compliance With the Chrome Plating NESHAP; Alternative to Method 306B for Measuring Surface Tension in a Chrome Plating Tank; Clarification of Chrome Plating NESHAP 40 C.F.R. § 63.343(c)(5); Source Testing Requirements for Some Hard Chrome Platers That Use Fume Suppressants; Surface Tension Limit, Clarification of Chrome Plating NESHAP; Proposed Relocation of Equipment Subject to Chromium NESHAP; Tank Applicability to Chromium Electroplating and Anodizing NESHAP; Classification of Two Chrome Strip Tanks Under Chromium NESHAP; Initial Performance Testing Required Under Chromium NESHAP; Various Issues Concerning Testing Under the Chromium NESHAP; Compliance Status Reports for the Chromium Electroplating MACT; and Issues Regarding Shutdown Units Under the Chromium Electroplating MACT Standard.

NMFRC Update:
Project Partners’ Websites
The NMFRC was established under a program jointly funded by the U.S. Commerce Department’s National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the Environmental Protection Agency. The industrial project partners include the American Electroplaters and Surface Finishers Society (AESF), the National Association of Metal Finishers (NAMF), and the Metal Finishers’ Suppliers Association (MFSA). Each of the project partners operates websites that provide association information, up to date news and unique features. The web address for the associations are:

• AESF: http://www.aesf.org
• NAMF: http://www.namf.org
• MFSA: http://www.mfsa.org

Fig. 3—Adding your shop to the NMFRC Shop Directory.