

MFSA Very Active at SUR/FIN® '98

With 74 member companies—or about half of the exhibitors—participating in AESF's annual show, the MFSA maximizes its opportunities at SUR/FIN® to hold committee meetings, conduct its annual business meeting and host its Board of Trustees' meeting. In addition, for the first time, MFSA jointly sponsored—with AESF and NAMF—a Joint Industry Party.

The Joint Industry Party was a big success, drawing 900 attendees to enjoy time socializing and listening to the tunes of *Three Dog Night*. Conference participants danced, sang and rocked to the hits. A good time was certainly had by all at the first, of what we hope will be many more, jointly sponsored activities.

With so many company representatives in attendance, SUR/FIN® also affords an excellent venue to conduct committee meetings. Committees are actively involved in a number of activities, including Exhaust Standards, a Benchmarking Study, UPS Hazardous Materials Shipping Guidelines, production of new QMF Guides and many other projects. For more information on committee involvement, visit MFSA's website.

Members Honored

MFSA bestowed honors on several of its members at its Annual Meeting, which was held June 23, 1998. More than 160 MFSA and NAMF members attended this year's luncheon. Following the President's address by Blair R. Vandivier, Benchmark Products, several members were honored for their service to the

association and to the surface finishing industry.

This year's August P. Munning Award, which is the highest honor MFSA bestows, was given to Tom Richards, chairman of Process Technology, Inc. in

Mentor, OH, and MFSA's treasurer. The award, named after MFSA's first president and founder, August P. Munning, is given to an MFSA member, who, in the opinion of his peers, has contributed significantly to the future well being of the Association and who exemplifies the traits of August P. Munning—great interest, hard work, dedication and selfless devotion to the metal finishing industry.

Tom has been in the metal finishing industry since the beginning of his career. After working many years as a traveling salesman, Tom ultimately decided to start his own business, Process Technology, in 1978. Today, Process Technology has a distributor base that covers the globe. Tom has been extremely active in MFSA



This year's Munning Award winner is Tom Richards (center), pictured here with Dennis Hanlon (left), MFSA past president and Blair Vandivier, CEF, president.

through the years, serving the last 10 years as its treasurer. His excellent financial management has carried MFSA to its current healthy financial state.

An Award of Merit and words of praise were given to Gerard H. (Jerry) Poll, Jr., *Products Finishing* magazine, who retired as MFSA's secretary after 12 years of service. Jerry retired as publisher of *Products Finishing* in December 1993, but his love for MFSA and the industry has kept him actively engaged in association activities for the last few years.

Dick Crain, who most recently served as MFSA's executive director for the past eight years, was also honored with an Award of Merit and recognition upon his retirement. Dick has been involved in the metal

finishing industry for more than 30 years, including service as an MFSA trustee.

Retiring as trustees after serving three-year terms were Anthony R. Revier, Uyemura International Corporation, and Peter A. Schorsch, The International Metals and Chemicals Group. Each of these gentlemen was also presented an Award of Merit for their outstanding service.

MFSA had two special awards to present, as well. The Award of Special Recognition, which is given to a nonmember of the association for his or her contribution and support of the metal finishing industry, went to Robert D. McBride, past president of NAMF, for his leadership and guidance through MFSA's affiliation with NAMF.

Presented for the first time this year was the Outstanding Committee Award, which honored the Pretreatment Committee for its work on the *Quality Metal Finishing Guide*, "Chemical Surface Preparation for

Electroplated and Metallic Coatings," which sold out in a matter of months, and for the soon-to-be-released *QMF Guide*, "Pretreatment for Painting and Powder Coating."

New Trustees Elected

MFSA also elected three new trustees and replaced the office of secretary. The three new trustees are Kent Dickie, McGean-Rohco; Dave Lucas, David K. Lucas Associates; and Diane Patterson, ACI Chemicals. Scott Walker, publisher of *Products Finishing* magazine, was appointed as secretary. James Graham, Atotech, and Cliff Nye, MacDermid, were also elected to new terms as trustees, both having been previously appointed to fill unexpired terms.

Throughout this highly successful week, there was a lot of enthusiasm on the part of the volunteers, and high spirits among members about the association's activities.

What's Ahead

Looking forward, the next activity will be the Legislative Conference, September 14-15, in Washington, DC. This is a joint industry event, sponsored by AESF, MFSA and NAMF. We are counting on your participation to not only learn more about the legislative/regulatory climate within which we all work, but to raise awareness about issues surrounding the surface finishing industry when you visit with your respective Congressional delegations. **P&SF**

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