This is the "Show" Issue
For AESF Week ’99

AESF Week (January 25–29) will feature more than a conference. At this event, AESF is celebrating 20 years of cooperation with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Read all about the scheduled events starting on page 10. In addition to the AESF/EPA Conference for Environmental Excellence (January 25–27), AESF Week will also include:

- An exhibit of 90-plus companies—many new products will be introduced (see p. 18). If you’re in a hurry to locate specific products, use the product locator on p. 36.
- Ten AESF courses and workshops are being offered the week before and during AESF Week, and other courses are being offered by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers and the Society of Vacuum Coaters (see p. 16).
- TRI Training Session (p. 17).
- U.S. EPA/IPC DfE PWB Project (p. 46).
- President’s Cup Golf Tournament (Sunday, January 24; if you haven’t signed up already, call AESF to be placed on a team).
- Lunch at EPCOT’s Norway; Day in the Park (Sunday).
- AESF “Nite” at Pleasure Island (Tuesday).
- Silent Auction (p. 35).
- Disney’s Accent on the Environment (Thursday).

Be sure to read the advertisements in this special edition of P&SF, because many have products or services that can aid surface finishers to achieve environmental excellence. A number of our advertisers will also be exhibiting at AESF Week.

Benchmarking Project
To Show EPA Other Ways
To Achieve Goals

According to an item in the November 17, 1998 Washington Line, published by the AESF/NAMF/MFSA Government Relations Office, a major concern of metal finishing industry leaders is that companies signed up for the Strategic Goals Program are already the top environmental performers. Because they have already achieved “beyond compliance” levels, they should not be expected to reach the program’s ambitious reduction targets associated with the use of energy, water, TRI releases and hazardous waste generation. A metal finishing industry environmental performance “benchmarking” project is being developed to show EPA that many platers, whether or not they are involved with the CSI Strategic Goals Program, are top performers.

Many of these top-performing firms have reached the point at which additional technology, processes or other investments yield diminishing marginal returns for human health and the environment. Because of this, the industry is undertaking a $200,000 study to benchmark good practices and demonstrate that new forms of regulatory flexibility should be tested for companies that are already at the top in compliance. The project will also chart a “road map” for companies that want to move up the ladder and make efficient use of their resources toward environmental improvements. An industry survey is scheduled to be mailed in early 1999. The Government Relations office is also urging Congress to give EPA new tools for rewarding good firms.

IUSF’s new president, Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Paatsch (right) of DGO (Germany) is shown with the outgoing president, Dr. David Gabe, Institute of Metal Finishing (U.K.).

AESF Executive Director Ted Witt, CEF (right), representative for the Society, was elected to the two-year position of Honorary Secretary General of the IUSF. With him is the outgoing secretary, Bruce Wilson, Australasian Institute of Metal Finishing (Australia).
**Metal Finishing Pilot Stakeholder Advisory Group Has Familiar Names**

A number of proactive metal finishing professionals show up on the list of names on EPA’s Metal Finishing Pilot Stakeholder Advisory Group. The project includes users of metal finishing pollution prevention (P2) technology, and suppliers who wish to have their performance verified under the P2 Metal Finishing (MF) pilot of EPA’s Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) Program.

The goal of the EPA’s ETV is to verify the performance characteristics of commercially-ready environmental technologies through the evaluation of objective and quality-assured data. The data would provide potential purchasers and permittees with an independent and credible assessment of the technology.

Listed as technology users are: Dennis Foster, Delta Faucets; Glen Graham, Tinker Air Force Base; Gary Lomasney, Pratt & Whitney; Jim Jacobs, Northwestern Plating Works, Inc.; Fred Mueller, Multi-Flex Plating Co.; Steve Schachameyer, Eaton Corporation; Richard Burton, ACME Industrial Group; Milton Stevenson, Sr., Anoplate Corporation; and Doug Wyatt, United Airlines.

Listed as technology suppliers are: Terry Hutchins, NAPCO, Inc.; Tony Revier, Uyemura International; Bill Saas, Taskem, Inc.; and Blair Vandivier, CEF, Benchmark Products, Inc.

Representing associations are: Howard Saunders, Nashville Wire (AESF) and Diana Tringali, Metal Finishing Suppliers’ Association (MFSA).


POTWs are represented by Richard Sustich, Chicago Water Reclamation District.


Representing state government are: Tom Wallin, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency; and Greg Workman, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

**Important Dates**

April 19
AESF Election Sheets Due At AESF Headquarters
April 19 is the deadline for return of election sheets from AESF Branch secretaries for listing Branch Delegates/Alternate Delegates in the roster, which will be sent to all branches prior to the Council of Delegates meetings during SUR/FIN® ’99—Cincinnati (Monday, June 21 & Thursday, June 24).

April 15
Scientific Achievement Award Nominations Due
Nominations may be made by AESF Boards, Sections and Committees, as well as by Branch and Regional secretaries. Nominations due April 15.