British Business Urges U.S. To Withdraw Steel Tariffs

The Confederation of British Industry (CBI), one of the United Kingdom's leading independent employer's organizations, is urging the U.S. to withdraw tariffs on steel imports, pointing out that they have been "ruled illegal by the World Trade Organization (WTO)."

CBI says the WTO ruling points out that there had been no surge in imports to justify the tariffs and is calling on the U.S. to use a planned mid-term review to remove them.

The organization backed the European Union's WTO challenge to tariffs imposed a year ago by the U.S. on many imported steel products. The U.S. argued that its steel companies needed protection against cheap foreign steel. The CBI says tariffs were imposed for domestic political reasons, and that it seriously undermined the principles of free trade.

Many steel consuming companies in the U.S. are also opposed to the tariffs.

Aluminum Extruders Council Elects New Officers & Directors

The Aluminum Extruders Council elected officers and directors recently at its annual meeting in Henderson, NV.

Robert Peacock, president of Almag Aluminum, Inc., Brampton, Ontario, Canada, was elected chairman of the council. Others named to new terms on the executive committee were: Thomas Hutch, Jr., president of Aerolite Extrusion Company, Youngstown, OH (vice chairman), and Rand Baldwin, CAE, president of the council.

Others elected to the Board of Directors were: Robin Greenslade, Portland, OR; William Wetmore, Newnan, GA; Curt Rone, Jr., West Columbia, SC; Richard Boehman, Linthicum, MD; Veronica Hagen, Chicago, IL; Thad Piatkowski, Alpharetta, GA; and Chris Brett, Stamford, CT.

Call for Papers Issued For Galvatech '04

The Iron & Steel Society (ISS) has issued a call for papers for Galvatech '04, which will be held April 4–7, 2004, at the Sheraton Chicago, Chicago, IL. The deadline for submitting abstracts is July 1, 2003. Manuscripts are due by January 8, 2004.

Topics for papers being sought include:

- Fundamental aspects of zinc coatings
- Applications for zinc coatings (*e.g.*, automotive, construction, appliance)
- Production technology (pretreatment technology; bath composition; coating thickness, appearance and solidification control; and post treatments)
- Product development
- Environmental considerations

Interested authors can submit abstracts online at www.iss.org, or call for more information (724-776-1535, ext. 616).

Test Your Plating I.Q. #384

By Dr. James H. Lindsay, AESF Fellow

Electropolishing

1. In electropolishing, the workpiece is made the _____.
2. A polished surface is produced, because surface material is removed more rapidly from _____.
3. The effect occurs because _____.
4. Electropolishing was developed primarily for polishing metallurgical specimens, but was found useful for _____ parts that were difficult or impossible to _____.
5. The most widely used electropolishing electrolyte consists of a water mixture of the following two acids: _____ and _____.

Answers are on page 94

Company News

❑ Anoplate Corporation and General Super Plating (GSP) have formed a strategic alliance. The two finishing jobshops are both located in Syracuse, NY.

The shops have a combined history of 110 years and more than 300 employees. They both have vast finishing capabilities for a broad range of industries, and have a long background of mutual cooperation.

The alliance allows both companies to more effectively market their diverse capabilities and respective strengths, while reducing costs. By using resources from both companies, they can pursue emerging technologies and other finishing opportunities to ensure sustained growth.

In conjunction with forming the alliance, the companies have hired Ken Spatola, CEF, a business development professional, to enhance the existing marketing and development programs at both companies. Spatola has more than 25 years of sales and marketing experience in the surface finishing industry.

❑ Interplex Industries, Inc., a worldwide group of companies with headquarters in Flushing, NY, has reached an agreement with the shareholders of Metal Logic, Inc., and Etch Logic, LLC, both of Attleboro, MA, to purchase their shares in exchange for shares in Interplex. The agreement combines the resources and technology of the organizations, increasing both the geographic reach and scope of services they can offer to customers in the electronics, automotive, aerospace, telecommunications, medical, and other high-tech industries.

Interplex Industries is one of the largest privately-owned stamping, plating and molding companies in the world, with 20 locations around the globe. Metal Logic is a full-service producer of precision metal

stampings, tools and dies, and automated assembly equipment. Etch Logic is a leading provider of reel-to-reel chemically etched parts.

❑ Handy & Harman Electronic Materials Group recently announced that its HH Sumco Division has achieved certification for the ISO 14000 environmental management standard.

Handy & Harman Electronic Materials Group is a supplier of precision stampings, close tolerance selective electroplating, and reel-to-reel insert molding to the semiconductor, sensor, automotive and electronics industries. It is a subsidiary of WHX Corporation.

❑ Founded in 1943, Milwaukee Plating Company, Milwaukee, WI, is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year.

The company's early growth was largely because of Vincent Mattacotti, the son of an Italian immigrant who was hired as a research chemist in the 1940s. Vincent later became a partner in the company before retiring in 1978.

Vincent's son, Al, followed in his father's footsteps. He started working in the shop at age 15 and worked his way up to president, a position he still holds.

Growth at the company has been steady through the years and many changes have been made. Some things will never change, however. Al says: "One thing that hasn't changed is Milwaukee Plating's unwavering dedication to the highest quality."

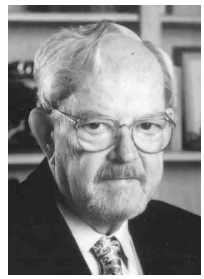
❑ Houghton International, Valley Forge, PA, a global supplier of metal processing chemicals and support services, has received a 2002 Excellence Award from Ford Motor Company. The award cites Houghton's drive for engineering excellence in selecting and implementing a renewable resource (canola) metal working fluid for Ford's powertrain operations worldwide.

Houghton developed a proprietary metalworking fluid in conjunction with Ford's Coolant Common Process Engineering Methods (CPEM) team. CPEM tested, piloted and implemented the fluid for use on all new model programs.

❑ Imagineering Enterprises, South Bend, IN, recently completed an audit by Performance review Institute and was certified for conformance to NADCAP AS7108 for chemical processing and AS 7003 and AS 7114, liquid penetrant and magnetic particle inspection services.

The company is also certified for QS-9000, ISO 9002, AS 9000, NAPCAP and ISO 14001.

In Memoriam



Lee Martin, former president, chief executive officer and chairman of the board of NIBCO Inc., died on March 26. He was 83.

Martin, who had been serving as vice chairman of NIBCO's board of directors since 1995, dedicated nearly 60 years of service to the company, which was founded in 1904 by his maternal grandfather, Casper Schweitzer. Martin joined the company in 1943 and served in various production and engineering functions, including managing the Nacogdoches, TX, production facility. He also built and managed the South Glens Falls, NY, production facility, prior to being named president in 1957.

He served as president until 1976, chief executive officer from 1965 to 1991, and chairman of the board from 1976 to 1995.

Martin was a graduate of Culver Military Academy with a MS in mechanical engineering, and a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

NIBCO is a regular exhibitor at AESF's SUR/FIN®.

Imagineering Enterprises is a provider of metallurgical consulting and process applications in a wide range of markets. Metal finishing services include electroless nickel-plating, non-destructive testing, phosphate and chromate coatings, passivation, dry-film lubricants, specialty paints, and other processes.

❑ Dynamic Finishing, L.C., Muskegon, MI, has achieved ISO 9001:2000 compliance. The company provides zinc-nickel alloy plating, hard chromium electroplating, and black oxide finishing for automotive, office furniture, and machinery building industries.

❑ Paramount Metal Finishing, Linden, NJ, has achieved ISO 9001:2000 certification. The company provides plating in tin, tin-lead, electroless nickel, zinc, silver, gold, and copper, as well as phosphating, anodizing, and chemical film application. The shop also provides robotic and conveyor painting, wet spraying and powder coating.

❑ Advanced Metal Etching, Inc., Ligonier, IN, recently achieved ISO 9001:2000 certification. The company is a supplier of photochemical etching services for thin flat prototype or production of metal parts. It supplies parts to a variety of industries, including electronics, stamping, medical, computer, and aerospace.

❑ Ever Green Coatings, LLC, Reading, PA, has achieved ISO 9002:QS 9000 certification. The company provides environmentally safe metal coating solutions to a wide range of customers serving the automotive, construction, appliance, castings, and industrial machinery markets.

❑ Sorbent Products Company (SPC), Somerset, NJ, has acquired National Sorbents, Inc., Cincinnati, OH., a full service provider of sorbents, material disposal services, hazardous waste consultation and management training. The acquisition is expected to add depth domestically and internationally to SPC's sorbent enterprise.

❑ Shipley Company, LLC, recently opened its Advanced Technology Center (ATC) in Marlborough, MA. The facility is dedicated to the development of lithography, interconnect, low-k dielectric and other critical materials needed to produce the newest generations of microelectronic devices. A subsidiary of Rohm and Haas Company, Shipley has invested $30 million in the center as part of its ongoing commitment to deliver advanced materials capabilities to the semiconductor market.

The company also announced a strategic partnership with Copper to Copper, LLC (C2C), New Hampshire, to expand its North American printed wiring board offerings.

As part of the partnership, Shipley will become the exclusive distributor of C2C lamination foils for use in the lamination process of multilayer printer circuit boards. ***P&SF***

Answers to I.Q. Quiz 384

1. Anode.
2. Raised, or rough spots.
3. Resistance to current flow is lower over the raised projections because the anodic film formed is thinner over these areas. Thus, the current is higher and dissolution is more rapid.
4. Irregularly-shaped; buff or mechanically polished.
5. Sulfuric and phosphoric acids.