

Vertical Powder Coating System For Architectural Aluminum Comes to the U.S.

Two new vertical powder coating systems designed for coating aluminum extrusions for the architectural market will begin operations in the U.S. this year.

Proven successful in Europe and other parts of the world, the new facilities are expected to quicken production and coating time, and offer better quality control, for a more economical coating operation.

Greg Bocchi, Executive Director of The Powder Coating Institute, said: "I am excited that these new vertical extrusion powder coating lines will soon begin operation in the United States, as they will help give powder coating the influence to better penetrate the U.S. architectural market.

The first vertical line will start up at Extruders Texas, Wylie, TX, a division of Atrium Group. The system includes an energy efficient, low maintenance pre-treatment washer, automatic powder guns along with an automated cleaning delivery system, automatic synchronization of gun stroke lengths and reciprocator speed, and a fast cleaning cyclone booth and final filters to recirculate and re-use the air.

The system also uses convection ovens with an infrared booster for dry-off and curing.

The Extruders Texas line can accommodate 24 ft parts, with the possibility of many color changes per shift, with no production time lost during the changes.

Another vertical powder coating system will be started this fall at Indalex of Gainesville, GA.

Chemical Coaters Association Holds 2005-06 Elections

The Chemical Coaters Association International installed its 2005-06 officers and board members during its 2005 annual meeting, held in June in Tucson, AZ.

Officers are: Jeff Watson, President (R3 Technologies); John Sudges, Vice President (Midwest Finishing Systems); Michael Richards, Secretary-Treasurer (MRCO); and Jerry Trostle, Immediate Past President (Wagner Systems).

Test Your Plating I.Q. #409

By Dr. James H. Lindsay, AESF Fellow

Laboratory equipment

What are the following pieces of laboratory equipment? What are they used for?

1. Stalagmometer
2. Goniometer
3. Scanning electron microscope
4. Buret (burette)
5. Scleroscope

Answers on page 32

The Board of Directors include: Bruce Bryan, *Industrial Paint & Powder Magazine*; George Bryant, Briggs and Stratton Corp; Jim Gallagher, PTI; Ronald Cudzilo, George Koch & Sons, LLC; Sherril Stoenner, Pneu Mech Systems Mfg.; Jim Docken, Fremont Industries, Inc.; Scott Peterson, Atlas Mfg.; Steve Houston, DuPont Powder Coatings; James Malloy Kolene Corporation; John Reseland, Nalco; Rodger Talbert, R. Talbert Consulting; and Robert Warren, Nalco. Serving as an ex-officio member of the board is Larry Melgarey, Northern Coatings & Chemicals.

Company News

Techniks, Inc., Indianapolis, IN, is holding an open house at their new headquarters on Thursday, September 22, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The event will celebrate almost 10 years of success for the company, as well as growth of more than 40 percent each year for the past four years.

A spokesman for the company said the event is designed to showcase Techniks innovative tool holder solutions, outstanding technical support, customer service, and fulfillment departments. Guests can make stops on the tour of Techniks new building to learn about product features,



Techniks new facility in Indianapolis will host an open house in September.

how to use and maintain tool holders properly, and how tool holders can extend the life of expensive carbide tools. Other fun activities are also scheduled so that guests can be entertained as well as informed.

John Stagge, President of Techniks, says: "The open house is our way of saying 'thank you' to all our customers, distributors, and suppliers who are such an important part of our success. We hope many of them can make time to come and see all of our new capabilities, and we hope other people who are interested to learn more about Techniks can come too."

To RSVP for the open house, contact Chris Deis at 317-803-8013, or e-mail: cdies@techniksusa.com. Deadline for making reservations is September 15.

□ Carolina Process Control (CPC), Rutherfordton, NC, a distributor of metal finishing chemicals and equipment, is expanding its product line to include powder booth systems and application equipment.

The company has announced a new distributor agreement with MS Powder Systems, the U.S. division of MS International, to sell and service automatic and manual powder booths and guns in the Southeast.

Answers to I.Q. Quiz #409

1. A stalagmometer is a device to measure the surface tension of a plating solution.
2. A goniometer is an instrument that either measures angles or allows an object to be rotated to a precise angular position. Goniometers are used in crystallography for measuring angles between crystal faces. They are also used in X-ray diffraction to rotate the samples and identify the structure of plated deposits.
3. The scanning electron microscope is an electron microscope capable of producing high resolution images of a sample surface. An accelerated electron beam scans the sample area in the same way that a TV tube operates, line-by-line. Because of the way the image is created, SEM images have a characteristic 3D and are useful for assessing surface structure.
4. A burette is an instrument used to deliver variable and accurately known volumes of a liquid during titration or volumetric analysis of plating solutions.
5. A dynamic indentation hardness test using a calibrated instrument that drops a diamond-tipped hammer from a fixed height onto the surface of a bulk material (not a coating). The height of the rebound is a measure of the hardness.

□ Godfrey & Wing, Inc., Cleveland, OH, has opened a third manufacturing center in Dayton, OH.

The 20,000 ft² facility features the company's proprietary continuous flow impregnation technology. The patented

system is an advanced porosity-sealing process for cast metal components. The new facility is also providing pressure test services, and will offer shot peening and other finishing processes in the future. *P&SF*

SFIC Southeast Regional Conference October 13-15 in Atlanta

AESF, NAMF and MFSA are joining forces to sponsor the SFIC Southeast Regional Technical Conference October 13-15, at the Marriott Hotel at Hartsfield-Jackson Airport, Atlanta, GA.

Activities will kick-off on Thursday, October 13, with a full day workshop on ASTM-B117 salt spray exposure tests, conducted by AESF Technical Director Frank Altmayer, MFS, AESF Fellow. The workshop will cover basic corrosion principles, overview of equipment, and preparing, exposing and evaluating parts. Also included will be variations or alternatives to the salt fog exposure test, specifically Corrodokote (ASTM B-380); Humidity (ASTM D-2247); CASS (ASTM B-386); and Kesternich (DIN 5018).

MFSA will host a social hour in the table top exhibit area on Thursday evening.

On Friday, Jeff Hannapel of the Policy Group, Inc., will present an update on the Chromium PEL, to open the session.

Global metal costs now and in the future will be discussed by Warren Smith and Jeff Peterson.

Planned for the afternoon session on Friday are discussions on the future of the automotive industry in the Southeast, new requirements in the aerospace/airline industry (by Nick Cortese of Delta Airlines), and the TS Quality Standard.



Atlanta International Airport Area

Altmayer will conclude the Friday sessions with a look at analytical methods to assure passivate coatings are truly hexavalent-free.

NAMF is sponsoring a social hour on Friday evening in the table top exhibit area.

Saturday is strictly for fun, with a golf tournament planned for an 8:30 a.m. start. The golf outing and conference will conclude with a golfers lunch and awards.

Reservations must be made at the Marriott Hotel by September 30. A special room rate of \$99 has been arranged. Call the hotel direct at 800-228-9290, and let them know you are with the SFIC conference.



**For more information on the conference, contact Ken or Kyle Hankinson of KCH Services (fax: 828-245-1437).
For information on the golf outing, contact John Murphy, Techmatic, Inc. (phone: 615-256-1416; fax: 615-242-7908).**