SSPC Launches New Certification Program

The Society for Protective Coatings (SSPC) has announced the launch of its newest contractor certification program, SSPC-QP6. The certification is for companies that perform thermal spray coating/metallizing work on industrial marine structures and miscellaneous metal parts.

The goal of the program is to provide facility owners with a tool for pre-qualifying and selecting contractors with industry standard capabilities and commitment to quality.

The SSPC-QP 6 is designed as a method for evaluating the qualifications of a contracting firm to determine if it has the personnel, organization, qualifications, procedures and knowledge to determine acceptability of surface preparation, apply thermal spray/metallized coatings, and apply a sealer of the required quality under the conditions and restrictions specified by the owner. The contractor can either be qualified for the application of thermal spray coatings of aluminum, zinc and their alloys for corrosion protection of steel; the application of zinc anodes on steel reinforced concrete; or both.

Unless specified, QP 6 certification requires that the contractor also be SSPC-QP 1 or SSPC-QP 3 certified. QP 1 is a nationally recognized program that evaluates contractors for the field application of coatings to complex industrial and marine structures. QP 3 evaluates the practices of shop painting facilities.

PCI Installs New Officers

Dave Heflin, market manager of Akzo Nobel, Inc./Interpon Powder Coatings, was installed as president of The Powder Coating Institute (PCI) for 2005-06 at the organization's annual meeting in May.

Heflin presented an agenda of "getting back to basics," which includes selling the benefits of powder coating over other finishing methods, properties of powder coatings, stronger market growth, controlling the costs of PCI, and promoting the value of PCI membership.

Phil Bechtold was installed as vice president of the organization, and Steve Houston of DuPont Powder Coatings USA, Inc., was elected PCI secretary-treasurer.

Newly elected to the PCI Board for two-year terms are Ken Kreeger of Nordson Corporation, and Ralph Owens of EMS-Primid. Already serving on the board are Barry Keating, PPG Industries; Chris Merrit, ITW Germa; Don Williams, Troy Corporation; and Chris Wright, Carolinas Custom Clad.

Test Your Plating I.Q. #410

By Dr. James H. Lindsay

Friction and wear

Define the following conditions encountered in friction and wear applications.

1. Scuffing
2. Fretting
3. Abrasion
4. Cavitation erosion
5. Delamination

Answers on page 38

NACE International Appoints Keane Executive Director

NACE International, Houston, TX, a professional and technical organization for corrosion control technology, has appointed Tony Keane to the position of Executive Director.

Formerly of the Optical Society of America (OSA) and the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI), Keane has significant not-for-profit association experience. He served as chief operating officer of the Optical Society of American in Washington, DC, for the past year and a half. In that position, he was responsible for general management, which included membership, education outreach, HR, building administration, finance and accounting, business planning, information technology and customer service.

At CSI, he served as director of resource management, interim executive director and deputy executive director.

Keane is active in the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) and the Council of Engineering and Scientific Society Executives (CESSE), and has served on the finance committees of both organizations.

Company News

❏ Heatbath Corporation, Springfield, MA, has purchased certain assets of Chemtech Finishing Systems, Warren, MI.

According to Ernest Walen, President of Heatbath, "the acquisition of Chemtech is expected to substantially benefit the customers of both companies, just as Heatbath's acquisition of Chemical Finishing Corporation created new efficiencies for customers a decade ago. We believe customers have much to gain through the expansion of the technical, manufacturing and distribution resources made possible by this purchase," he said.

Chemtech is best known for its proprietary electroless nickel, and dymaxion and synergy nickel systems, along with a complete line of phosphate technologies, copper and chrome plating products. The company also offers proprietary cleaners, stripping systems and waste treatment solutions. The products are highly complementary to the Heatbath product family, Walen noted.

Founded in 1911, Heatbath is a global manufacturer and marketer of advanced electroplating and metal finishing products, including black oxide, zinc plating, conversion coatings and aluminum finishing products. The company also offers other surface finishing technologies that enhance wear performance, corrosion resistance and appearance.

❏ Modern Plating Corporation, Freeport, IL, has been approved by Atotech USA, Inc., as an applicator for Ford's trivalent zinc nickel with cathodic e-coat finish (WSS-M21P44). Zinc nickel is considered to be the top performing of the zinc alloy

finishes. When combined with a cathodic e-coat topcoat, the finish offers superior corrosion resistance. Neutral salt spray testing has shown that the finish will exceed 480 hours to the first sign of white corrosion and 960 hours to the first sign of red corrosion.

Modern Plating offers a number of high performance finishes, including zinc iron, tin-zinc and zinc cobalt, Modern Plating is an approved applicator for a wide variety of automotive specifications.

Atotech is one of the world's leading suppliers of integrated production systems, chemistry and equipment for decorative and functional electroplating.

❏ Godfrey & Wing, Inc., Cleveland, OH, has opened its third manufacturing center in Dayton, OH. The 20,000 ft^2 facility features the company's proprietary continuous flow impregnation technology, an advanced porosity-sealing process for cast metal components.

In addition to casting impregnation, the new plant will immediately provide pressure test services, and will offer shot peening and other finishing processes in the future.

❏ Spirax Sarco, Inc. (SSI), Blythewood, SC, has purchased the business assets of EMCO Flow Systems, Longmont, CO, from Advanced Energy Industries, Inc., Fort Collins, CO. EMCO will be organized as a division of SSI, with operations headquartered in Longmont, CO. The EMCO network of independent manufacturers' representatives will continue serving existing customers and markets.

EMCO is a provider of flow measurement products for HVAC, commercial and municipal water and other industrial applications involving steam, gas and liquids. EMCO products include in-line and insertion vortex flow meters, insertion turbine flow meters, Doppler and transit time ultrasonic flow meters, electromagnetic flow meters, flow processors and temperature transmitters.

Spirax Sarco is a provider of products and services for the control and efficient use of steam and other industrial fluids.

❏ Finishers of aluminum and zinc-plated metals will benefit from trivalent chromium pre and post treatments through a process that has been exclusively licensed by SurTec International, Zwingenberg, Germany, from the U.S. Navy, for all areas outside of the U.S., Canada and Mexico. The new process is now a proprietary product being marketed by SurTec, which also has a license to market the process in North America.

Answers to I.Q. Quiz #410

1. Localized damage caused by the occurrence of solid-phase welding between sliding surfaces. This can be encountered in cold starting of internal combustion engines.

2. Wear occurring between two surfaces having a small-amplitude oscillating motion between them (*e.g*, vibration), (The term also applies to guitar manufacture and worrying.)

3. Wear caused by hard particles or hard protrusions forced against and moving along a solid surface.

4. Wear caused by high impact caused by cavitation, the formation and collapse of bubbles or cavities containing vapors or gases in a liquid in which the wearing article is immersed,

5. Wear in which thin surface layers are formed and removed from the wear surface (including but not limited to poorly adherent plated layers).

The new product will be marketed primarily in industries that have relied heavily on the traditional use of hexavalent chromium to prevent corrosion and help paint to stick to non-adherent metal surfaces. These include aerospace, automobile, hardware, electrical, telecommunication and construction industries.

Years of research and development at the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD) in Patuxent River, Maryland, resulted in the issuance of a suite of patents generally referred to as trivalent chromium pretreatment and post treatments, which have been developed to replace hexavalent chromium processes.

The TechLink Center, A U.S. Department of Defense technology transfer agent, assisted SurTec and the Navy in the process of licensing the trivalent process for both the North American and international markets. Industries that will benefit from the process include metal products, such as window frames, swimming pools, aircraft, wheels, bicycles and fasteners.

❏ ITW Ransburg, Toledo, OH, has opened a new facility in Shanghai, China. It will provide products and services to the growing Chinese market of automotive OEM and tier one customers.

ITW Ransburg Electrostatic Systems offers a variety of finishing products and systems, including electrostatic systems, electrostatic HVLP systems, automatic spray guns, disks and bells, gun reciprocators, closed-loop fluid control systems, and system parts and accessories.

❏ DeVilbiss, Binks and Owens Community College have teamed up to present a Spray Finishing Technology Workshop. The three-day training program is scheduled for November 16–18, 2005, in Toledo, OH. Classes will meet from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily and will include both classroom and hands-on sessions. Two continuing education units (CEUs) are awarded.

Attendees should be involved with industrial, contractor, or maintenance spray finishing applications, or spray equipment sales and distribution. Topics for the workshop will include:

- Equipment types and selection.
- Equipment set-up, operation and maintenance.
- Surface preparation and defect analysis.
- Material selection.
- Safety and regulatory concerns.

For information and to register, contact Jaime Hollabaugh, Owens Community College, Workforce and Community Services Division (phone: 800-466-9367, ext. 7357; e-mail: sprayworkshop@netscape.net; or visit www.owens.edu/workforce).