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Ductile Iron Production Seminar Wrap Up

Rolling Meadows, IL

The spring session of the Ductile Iron Society's Production Seminar was held at the Holiday Inn in Rolling Meadows, IL on March 18-19, 2008. The seminar was attended by 18 individuals from different producers and associates companies.



The first day started off with Jim Csonka of Hickman, Williams & Company covering basic ductile iron metallurgy, materials and practices.



The second part of the morning was Fred Linebarger of Miller & Company covering processing, treatment methods, inoculation and handling of ductile iron.



After lunch Fred concluded his presentation, and then Gene Muratore of Rio Tinto Iron & Titanium presented gating and risering practices.



On the second morning, Tim Dorn of Applied Process, Inc. made a presentation on quality control procedures and then ended the seminar with a summary of austempered ductile iron.

After the seminar concluded the group gave us a positive feedback on the presentations and the technical content. We hope that other members or even non-members will take advantage and attend future seminars.

Many thanks go out to the four gentlemen and their respective companies for the donation of time in making this seminar a great success.

James Wood
Executive/Technical Director
Ductile Iron Society



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E-Mail: asi-alloys@msn.com

Web Site: www.asi-alloys.com

ASI International, Ltd is celebrating its twenty-fifth year of supplying melting consumables to the foundry industry. During this time, ASI has established a reputation for quality and service. The company started in 1983 when the business was originally a marketing unit of a large multinational chemical company that produced binders for the foundry industry.

ASI has longstanding affiliations with major producers of metals and alloys as well as large international trading companies and ferroalloy producers. ASI manufactures proprietary EF40L electric furnace fluxes that are used worldwide to eliminate slag buildup, improve refractory life and furnace efficiency in coreless, channel and pressure pour furnaces. ASI's newly developed EF40LP keeps pouring ladles clean and improves metal cleanliness. ASI also manufactures specialty high performance inoculants, inoculant enhancing additives, low silicon nodularizers, in-mold inoculant inserts, specialty deoxidizers, ferroaluminum, aluminum and copper fluxes and hot topping agents.

Quality – ASI is ISO-Compliant. ASI works exclusively with producers of alloys and other melting consumables who have attained ISO 9000 certification. ASI's quality inspection team thoroughly examines all incoming and outbound shipments for product uniformity. Thus, you can be assured of receiving quality products.

Value – ASI has on staff three degreed metallurgists with over 80 years of experience in melting, furnace and refractory troubleshooting, and casting defect analysis. We can provide expert advice on selection and/or substitution of alloys to reduce melting costs. Our new line of electric furnace, pressure pour and ladle fluxes continue to solve difficult slag build up problems without harming refractories.

ASI is a leader in developing new cost savings technology for the foundry industry. Since 2001, ASI has been awarded three U.S. Patents and presently has two patents pending. Patents have been awarded for Sphere-o-Dox (U.S. Patent 6,293,988B1) gray and ductile iron high performance inoculants, Inocu-Bloc in-mold inoculating systems, Resulf 30 (U.S. Patent 6,733,565 B1) briquettes that are used for both resulfurizing and for the production of compacted graphite Irons to become a "simpler and more forgiving process", Resulf IEP (U.S. Patent 6,866,696 B1), an inoculant enhancing additive, especially well suited for "dead" or "hard to inoculate" irons, that, when added with any inoculant, dramatically improves overall inoculation performance. Other manufactured products include Nodu-Bloc low silicon nodularizers that can reduce ductile iron production costs by up to \$10.00 per ton. ASI's new electric furnace fluxes can double refractory life. EF40LP ladle and pressure pour fluxes keep ladles clean, and reduce inductor slag build up in pressure pour furnaces. ASI also manufactures ferroaluminum briquettes and specialty steel deoxidizers.

Service – Technical Assistance - ASI can provide unparalleled metallurgical and refractory technical assistance. Our trained staff has a wealth of experience ranging from cupola melting, elimination of casting defects and solutions to refractory problems. ASI also has complete metallurgical laboratory facilities at its Cleveland headquarters. Technical credentials include over 40 technical papers published by the staff, four best paper awards, four Silver Anniversary Paper awards, one AFS Service Citation, one Scientific Merit Award and one Joseph Seaman Gold Medal. ASI also offers a fee-paid technical consultation service for melting and refractory problems.

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ASHLAND®

Ashland Inc. is a diversified, global chemical company that provides quality products, services and solutions to customers in more than 100 countries. A FORTUNE 500 company, Ashland operates through four divisions: Ashland Performance Materials, Ashland Distribution, Valvoline and Ashland Water Technologies.

Ashland Casting Solutions, a business group of Ashland Performance Materials, is a leader in supplying products, processes, services and technologies to the global metal casting marketplace. Long known for our casting consumable products, Ashland Casting Solutions continually strives to expand both our knowledge of metal casting and our product offering to serve our customers throughout the entire casting process. Ashland's patented EXACTCAST® riser sleeve exemplifies this commitment.

Introduced in 1997, the EXACTCAST riser sleeve technology led the way to improved performance through dimensionally accurate, more consistent, fiber-free riser sleeves. These features helped to maximize accurate placement of the sleeves in the mold and the effectiveness of the metal that is poured into molds. This technology also resulted in new sleeve designs and new methods for making thin wall casting, allowing metal casters to realize significant productivity gains in the casting process.

Over the past ten years Ashland Casting Solutions has continually updated the EXACTCAST riser sleeve technology to meet our customers' needs, especially in the Ductile Iron foundries. EXACTCAST "EXF" series riser sleeves were designed specifically for ductile iron foundries to eliminate "Fish-Eye" defects. The use of this technology also helps reduce aluminum pick up and the potential for microstructure degradation within the metal. EXACTCAST mini-riser sleeves not only provide the higher strengths required to withstand high pressure molding, but also result in yield and process advantages. For more information, contact Dana Cooper at 614-790-4945 or Ronald Aufderheide at 614-790-4337.



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**Serious Content. Serious Answers.
Right Here. Right Now.**

Elkem Metals, Inc.
P.O. Box 266
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15230

Elkem offers a complete line of performance-oriented inoculants, nodularizers, calcium-carbide desulfurizers, and foundry ferrosilicon alloys used in the production of ductile iron. Each product is designed to bring real and measurable value that flows to each foundry's bottom line. To do this, Elkem's technical sales and technical-support staff, enhanced by the industry's only ferroalloy research-and-development facility, work side by side with each foundry's operations and metallurgical personnel.

By fully understanding each operation and assessing its needs, Elkem will optimize a nodularizer and/or inoculant package that provides the best cost alternative for that foundry's needs in today's competitive world.



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Ductile Iron News



Ductile Iron Society

Issue 1, 2008

To Promote the production and application of ductile iron castings



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Globe Metallurgical Inc. is headquartered at its Beverly, Ohio, production facility with other plants located in Selma, Alabama and Alloy, W. Virginia. Globe is the largest domestic producer of foundry nodularizers, inoculants, ferrosilicon derivatives and silicon metal alloys. The firm's high quality standards, delivered the Malcolm Baldrige Award for small business in 1988.

Globe's continuous cast nodularizers have become the industry's benchmark for quality and performance. This innovative casting process was developed to improve alloy properties and performance as well as aid in cost containment. This technique, coupled with the company's smelting and ladle metallurgy practice have made Globe an industry leader in the production of alloys for the ductile iron industry.

Globe Metallurgical is part of the Globe Specialty Metals group, headquartered in NY, NY. The parent company is also involved in silicon metal production in Brazil through its Globe Metals subsidiary. The Globe Metals affiliate in Argentina produces nodularizers for the European market as well as calcium silicon and cored wire products for the steel and nodular iron industries world wide. Globe Specialty Metals is also moving into the hi-tech solar grade silicon industry through its acquisition of Solsil.

Website: <http://www.glbsm.com/>
Contact: David@globemetallurgical.com

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Hickman, Williams & Company
An employee-owned company serving the
metals industry since 1890
Committed to Excellence

HICKMAN, WILLIAMS & COMPANY – PROFILE

Hickman, Williams & Company was formed in 1890 in Louisville KY as a partnership to provide raw materials to the foundry industry. It is now a major sales & service organization marketing ferroalloys, inoculants, nickel, pig iron, foundry coke, carbon additives, injection equipment, ceramic metal filters & other materials to the foundry & steel industries as well as other associated industries.

Hickman, Williams & Company serves its customers from twelve offices & sales locations in North America. In another eight locations, operating plants process & package carbon & alloy products to customer specifications. Materials are stored in strategically located warehouses throughout North America for convenient availability & prompt shipment.

Early in its history, Hickman, Williams & Company was structured to accommodate broad employee ownership. Today, almost every employee is also an owner, and no ownership is held by anyone outside of the company. This structure provides assurance that the company can meet its primary goal of service to customers' & principals' needs without external influence. Employee ownership also encourages individual performance & enterprise.

Over its many years of operation, Hickman, Williams & Company has become the premier supplier of a broad range of products & services to the foundry industry. In addition to its own manufacturing & processing facilities, the company has built long term alliances with important principal suppliers. The company recently purchased Melting Materials Inc., Alloy & Metal Processors Inc., and Alloys & Carbon Inc. (AMP/MMI) in Birmingham AL. This acquisition will increase the company's capacity to process carbon products & ferroalloys. In addition, the company has a new sales agency agreement with Tonawanda Coke & Erie Coke, and will supply customers with foundry coke from these facilities.

Service to the customer is key to Hickman, Williams & Company's success. This is clearly demonstrated in the company's commitment to quality control. A management ISO team has established an ISO 9001:2000 compliant system for all company locations. An audit team conducts regular audits of all locations to ensure compliance.

Another aspect of customer service is technical assistance. With this in mind, the company formed a Technical Services & Support Group whose mission is to assist customers in the use of foundry alloys, particularly magnesium ferrosilicon & inoculants. The group includes qualified foundry metallurgists with many years of combined experience. They will work with customers to solve production problems, improve productivity & reduce costs.

PRODUCTS: Abrasives, Ferroalloys, Nickel, Inoculants, Carbon Additives, Foundry Coke, Fused Silica, Injection Systems, Ceramic Metal Filters, Pig Iron, Silicon Carbide, Copper Chops, Briquetted Alloys, Specialty Metals & Alloys.

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NovaCast Foundry Solutions

NovaCast Foundry Solutions was established 26 years ago by Mr Rudolf Sillén, a foundry engineer who saw the possibilities of using computers to improve foundry processes. The first pioneering systems, implemented on APPLE II computers, were systems for gating and risering. Since then the company has grown considerably but the main business idea of providing know-how and technology to winners in the foundry industry has prevailed.

Today NovaCast's products are used by leading foundries in 42 countries. The products are used for methoding of castings (gating & risering), simulation of mould filling and solidification. NovaCast also have considerable experience in the metallurgical field and also in expert systems technology. These assets have been used to develop metallurgical process control tools based on advanced thermal analysis. NovaCast have also developed methods for production of castings in compacted graphite iron that are marketed by its fully owned subsidiary, Graphyte AB.

NovaCast products for methoding of castings:

- Foundry Tech III – Software for gating & risering
- NovaFlow & Solid – Simulation system for mold filling and solidification
- NovaFlow HPD – Simulation system for high pressure die casting

Products for optimization and process control:

- MetalMaster – Charge optimisation
- ATAS – Adaptive Thermal Analysis for gray and ductile iron
- PQ-DIT – Prime Quality Ductile Iron Technology
- Graphyte Batch – Batch treatment for CGI
- Graphyte Flow – In the mold treatment for CGI

NovaCast's expertise in foundry technology is also available as consultancy services for problem solving, reduction of casting defects and for improving casting yield.

NovaCast head office is in Ronneby , Sweden .

www.novacast.se info@novacast.se

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Simpson Technologies

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Company Profile:

Simpson Technologies, founded in 1912, is a five generation family business concentrated on the design and manufacture of technology and services for the worldwide metal casting and chemical process industries. Primary products include batch and continuous mixing equipment, molding sand coolers, on-line mixer controls, core sand preparation systems, shell sand preparation plants, sand reclamation systems, sand laboratory equipment and foundry system design, engineering and automation systems. Simpson Technologies has operations in Aurora, IL USA; Saltillo, Mexico; Steinhausen, Switzerland; Calcutta, India and Changzhou, China.

Products:

Every Foundry is Different...To obtain the full potential from any green sand molding plant, Simpson Technologies provides a full portfolio of continually advancing technologies that can be matched to the specific needs of any foundry. Whether the sand preparation application is for a small jobbing steel foundry or a high-production automotive iron or aluminum foundry, we deliver an optimized solution in order to maximize the competitiveness and profitability of the foundry. Specializing in the field of molding sand preparation and control, Simpson Technologies builds on more than 95 years of experience providing innovative, integrated technologies with uniquely effective performance to the world's metal casting industry.

By continuously developing a full range of proven, integrated sand preparation and control technologies, Simpson Technologies can benefit any size or type of foundry by providing a complete solution from a single source that best:

- provides consistently high-quality sand preparation system performance with minimal process variation
- minimizes the total cost of operation in terms of supervision, energy, raw materials and maintenance
- minimizes the total capital cost to acquire and install the equipment

These benefits create value for a foundry by enabling it to produce molding sand which maximizes the potential of their casting plant to produce high-value, high-profit metal castings. Different Foundries Benefit from Optimized Solutions.

Sand Preparation and Control Technologies from Simpson:

- **Simpson Multi-Cooler[®]** - , Continuous sand cooler and pre-conditioning system operating on the principle of evaporative cooling in seven models from 20 to 270 tph to provide pre-mixing, cooling and moisture optimization before final mixing.
- **Simpson Mix-Muller[®]** - Medium-speed, high-intensity, muller-type mixer for batch operation in eight sizes from laboratory sized to 114 tph used typically in small to medium sized sand systems.
- **Simpson Speedmullor[®]** - High-speed, high-intensity, muller-type mixer for batch operation in eight sizes from laboratory sized to 136 tph used typically in medium to large sized sand systems. The original Speedmullor.

Simpson Multi-Mull - Medium-speed, high-intensity, muller-type mixer for continuous operation in eight sizes from 25 to 400 tph used typically in large to very large sized sand systems.

- **Simpson+Hartley®** - Hartley brand on-line mixer group control and automation systems, in two basic models, provide precise control, repeatability and versatility from the mixer group.
- **Simpson sand laboratory testing equipment** – Simpson has two product lines of advanced sand laboratory testing equipment. The Simpson+Gerosa brand laboratory sand testing technology, in more than 70 instruments, provides captures the power of advanced digital electronics to provide unequalled accuracy and repeatability in order to control and monitor the sand preparation process. Since 2008 Simpson also manufactures the entire range of former +GF+/DISA brand sand laboratory testing equipment from our plant in Switzerland.
- **Simpson Service** - the Engineering Services Group at Simpson has only one goal - to help you get the highest performance and efficiency from your investment in Simpson Group products, thereby achieving:
 - High machine up-time and minimized maintenance costs
 - High performance to maximize the value and profitability of your products
 - High yield, automation & energy efficiency that lowers your operating costs
 - High return on investment from quality parts and modernization kits that extend the useful life of your equipment
 - High customer satisfaction

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SUPERIOR GRAPHITE

Superior Graphite is recognized as the world's leader in providing the iron and steel industries with desired, high-value graphite/carbon solutions. The company is international in scope and provides advanced products, with technical services, to customers in more than 40 countries.

Since 1917, Superior Graphite has been providing its customers with graphite/carbon materials to solve metallurgical, as well as production, process problems. The company's knowledge-based employees, coupled with its unique high temperature manufacturing technologies, enable it to offer materials desired by the industries it serves.

Unique Capabilities

Superior Graphite operates two different electrothermal continuous process technologies, which, in turn, provide high-value end graphite/carbon products to its customers. In tandem with these technologies is a knowledgeable, flexible work force prepared to provide excellent innovative product support services. A sophisticated distributor/agent network complements Superior Graphite's worldwide direct employees.

In Hopkinsville, KY, and Sundsvall, Sweden, the company operates a proprietary continuous manufacturing process that thermally purifies granular carbon based materials in temperatures typically at 2,500°C.

This Statistically Process-Controlled technology is focused to produce a number of distinctly different specialized graphite/carbon materials. The most widely recognized finished product from this technology is trade-named Desulco®. Desulco® is a precision-engineered granular carbon additive used extensively in the ferrous making process where carbon performance is critical. Important Desulco® high-value characteristics are: consistency, reliability and predictability. Typical product properties are 99.9% C, 0.015% S, and under 100 PPM gas levels. Desulco® is the product of choice replacing synthetic graphite and cokes in the production of ductile iron, gray iron, carbon steel, special quality steels, and steel ladle refining stations. Over 1,000,000 tons of Desulco® have been shipped to customers worldwide without a quality defect.

In Russellville, AR, the company is uniquely focused on manufacturing mid-size diameter (200mm – 400mm) Ark® graphite electrodes used in electric arc furnaces. Ark® electrodes benefit from a unique continuous graphitizing technology that imparts very uniform and consistent properties on each piece. Other electrodes on the market are produced in Acheson batch furnaces. This Acheson process was developed in the late 1800's. Again, ultra-high temperatures exceeding 2,500°C are controlled to exacting standards to produce problem-free Ark® graphite electrodes. Finished products have earned a worldwide reputation for dependable, trouble-free, consistently high-value performance. Like all Superior Graphite product offerings, Ark® graphite electrodes are performance-benchmarked by technical field engineers throughout the world.

Manufacturing Facilities

- Chicago, IL USA – 3 sites

- Hopkinsville, KY USA – 3 sites
- Russellville, AR USA – 1 site
- Sundsvall, Sweden – 1 site

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President and CEO
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Senior VP – Finance
VP Sales

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MEETINGS

The **2008 Spring Meeting** of the Ductile Iron Society T&O Meeting will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin with a tour of Kohler Co. in Kohler, Wisconsin. Dates are June 18-20, 2008

The **Keith Millis Symposium** will be held at the Orleans Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada, October 20-22, 2008. The meeting will feature a full technical program.

BUSINESS

For Immediate Release

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News Release

Meretec Limited Completes Plant Sale and Technology Licence

London, February 08, 2008: Meretec Limited is pleased to announce that it has completed the sale of its East Chicago plant to CMA Corporation Limited (ASX:CMV) an Australian recycling company concentrating on steel scrap. In addition to the asset sale Meretec has sold CMA a 10 year licence to use the de-zincing technology in the Chicago area.

CMA purchased the East Chicago plant to focus on operations in the marketing and sales of steel and zinc in the United States and this will provide them with ongoing revenue streams from the use of Meretec's advanced technology to add greater value to their secondary metal processing business.

Meretec's Knowledge Centre, which will support licensees of the technology and promotes new licenses worldwide, will continue to operate its research and marketing activities from the Midwest facility under the terms of the deal. It will share in profits from the de-zincing operation.

The combined asset sale and licensing deal is valued at \$17.5 million over ten years and is paid for in CMA shares and cash. CMA shares are publicly traded on the main Australian Stock Market under the

ticker code CMV.

Meretec's Chairman, Martin Young said "the licence and asset sale agreement with CMA will allow us to concentrate on marketing additional technology licenses around the world and increase the revenues for Meretec. I am sure that this license will provide unique opportunities for CMA to deliver de-zinced scrap.

MABRY CASTINGS LTD.

Mabry Castings Has Expanded Their Green Sand Molding Capabilities.

Mabry Castings, of Beaumont , Texas , has added a second automated Hunter 20 molding machine to its existing Hunter 20, Hunter 32 and No-Bake molding operations. This addition is expected to allow Mabry to handle double the quantity of 1lb. to 40lb. ductile and gray iron castings it can produce. Mabry Castings, a gray and ductile iron foundry, has also added various other "value added" services, which include painting and coating, to better serve their customers.

With the recent expansion of their green sand molding capabilities and their adoption of lean manufacturing principles, Mabry Castings expects to be able to reduce delivery lead times by as much as 40%, to less than four weeks

When asked to comment, Management indicated that this is further evidence of our commitment to follow through with various lean manufacturing initiatives.

Mabry Castings, which is a subsidiary of Advanced Metals Group LLC currently provides a range of castings to the Oil and Gas, Water Works, Agriculture, Marine, Construction , Machine Tool and Mining industries. Specific types of parts manufactured include valve bodies and pump housings, actuators, cable drums, and off-highway automotive parts.

For Immediate Release: April 29, 2008

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Planning for NIMS Student Summit at IMTS – The

International Manufacturing Technology Show 2008 Underway, Set To Be Bigger and Better Than Ever

McLean, VA . . . The NIMS Student Summit at IMTS – The International Manufacturing Technology Show 2008 will combine an interactive Career Development Center with a dynamic self-guided tour of the technology and manufacturing exhibition. Admission to IMTS 2008 for educators and their students is free and field trips are encouraged for students from middle school through high school and vocational college levels.

Sponsored by the Association for Manufacturing Technology along with the National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS), the event's main goal is to generate interest and incite enthusiasm in young people for precision manufacturing through contact with industry professionals and state-of-the-art technology. Educators can have their students witness emerging technologies that will be the future platform for precision manufacturing.

"By offering the opportunity for students and educators to experience IMTS and interact with exhibitors, as well as take advantage of the outstanding program NIMS has planned for our student attendees," said Peter Eelman, IMTS Vice President – Exhibitions. "We hope that students will see first-hand the outstanding, well-paying career opportunities precision manufacturing has to offer."

The NIMS Student Summit will feature the return of student-friendly exhibitors. Students will have the ability to interact with IMTS exhibitor personnel, ask questions about career opportunities and the skill sets required for entrance into the precision manufacturing industry. Examples of Student Friendly Exhibitors for 2008 include Haas Automation, Agie Charmilles, L.S. Starrett, ToolingU, and Mastercam, to name a few.

The Career Development Center (CDC) will be the focal point of the NIMS Student Summit. As part of the CDC, all students will experience an event orientation during which they will learn about what they can expect during their visit, how their IMTS experiences will relate to future career opportunities in the industry, and they will also hear from successful, young professionals in the industry. The CDC will feature interactive exhibits from colleges and universities, companies and company human resource representatives, and industry associations. Continuous door prizes, a group photo opportunity, and both student and instructor challenges will bring excitement to the

CDC while the Career Resource CD-ROM, given to each student, as well as the exhibits,

will provide students and educators with important industry-related career information.

New in 2008, graduating high school and college students may bring their resumes, including contact information, to the CDC to drop-off for participating companies to review for entry-level job openings. Educators bringing groups of students will be given more details about this exciting opportunity prior to IMTS.

The IMTS NIMS 2004 Student Summit attracted more than 6,600

students and educators.

IMTS is the largest and longest running manufacturing technology trade show in the United States is held every other year at McCormick Place in Chicago, IL. IMTS is ranked among the largest trade shows in the world. Recognized as one of the world's preeminent stages for introducing and selling manufacturing equipment and technology, IMTS attracts over 90,000 visitors from every level of industry and over 40 countries.

Continually updated information on the 2008 NIMS Student Summit at IMTS is available at www.imts.com/visitor/student.html.

IMTS – International Manufacturing Technology Show

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AMT – The Association For Manufacturing Technology

Founded in 1902, the Association For Manufacturing Technology represents and promotes the interests of American providers of manufacturing machinery and equipment. Its goal is to promote technological advancements and improvements in the design, manufacture and sale of members' products in those markets and acts as an industry advocate on trade matters to governments and trade organizations throughout the world.

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