Ductile Iron News - Issue 1 – Summer 2018

The Ductile Iron Society held the Spring Annual 2018 Meeting at the Evergreen Resort in Cadillac, MI from June 6 to June 8th.

The DIS Research Committee Meeting was held on the Wednesday morning, June 6th with 40 members and 1 guest attending, and was then followed by the four Operating Committee Meetings that same afternoon.

At 3pm, the Board of Directors held their Spring Board meeting and at the same time the DIS Metalcasting Forum was held. The Board approved a new budget for the fiscal year 2018/19 effective July 1, 2018. At the same time they elected 3 new Board Members to replace the retiring Board members, Jim McMinn of Allied Mineral Products, Lizeth Medina of Neenah Foundry and Matt Meyer of Kohler Company. The Board re-elected Jim McMinn of Allied Mineral Products and Lizeth Medina of Neenah Foundry to serve for another 3 years. They also elected Greg Miskinis of Waupaca Foundry to the Board for 3 years. Greg will be replacing the seat held by Matt Meyer of Kohler who was elected the new Vice-President of the DIS for the next 2 years. John Davies of Lethbridge Iron was elected the new President of the DIS for the next 2 years replacing the retiring Mike Galvin of Buck Company. A huge thanks go out to Mike for everything he did for the DIS over the last 2 years as President.

On Thursday morning the technical session was very busy with 5 presentations. In the afternoon we started with a panel on, "Molten Metal Handling/Maintenance/ Slag Control". We concluded the technical session with 3 speakers following the panel.
You can find more about the presentations attached to this newsletter. If not available, you can contact Jim Wood, the DIS Executive Director at jwood@ductile.org.

At the luncheon on Thursday, June 7th, the President of the DIS, Mike Galvin of Buck Company proceeded to hold the Annual Meeting for the members who were there in attendance.

Mike Galvin-DIS President

Here are the notes from Mike’s presentation;

At this time I will recap the Society’s activities during this past year before proceeding with the annual business meeting and the election of new officers.

On April 3 to 5, 2018 we exhibited at the AFS Metalcasting Congress at the Fort Worth Convention Center in Fort Worth, Texas. Thanks go out to Jim Wood of the DIS, Jim McMinn of Allied Mineral Products, Liz Medina of Neenah Foundry, Pete Guidi of and Lyle Heberling of ICRI for working the booth.
We are striving to make our library available to the members through the website. There is now a link to the Lyle Jenkins library under the Members Only area. These books were a collection of Art Spangler, Lyle Jenkins, P. H. Mani and Keith Millis.

In this current fiscal year, we have gained 4 new members.

Meritor, Inc. (Research Patron)
Impact NDT (Associate Member)
Customized Energy Solutions (Associate Member)
SP Foundry (Foundry Member)

We lost 3 foundry members, 1 research patron and 4 associate members.

For the first time ever we have a waiting list of associate members that would like to join the DIS. In case most of you don’t know, under the bylaws of the society the associate member companies cannot exceed the number of foundry companies. This is why we have a waiting list to join.

During this past year we held two general meetings. The first one was our annual meeting held in Chattanooga, TN at the Chattanooga Downtown Marriott Hotel in conjunction with a tour of Waupaca Plant 6 in Etowah, TN with 155 attending including 13 guests.

The second meeting held last October was at the Swan Lake Resort in Plymouth, IN in conjunction with a tour of Rochester Metal Products in Rochester, IN with 118 attending including 12 guests. We also had 1 university student attend from the University of Northern Iowa.
Then in January 2018 we held the annual Ductile Iron Production Seminar where we had 44 attend with 24 students attending from five universities. This was the first time that we tried this and it was a great success. All the expenses for the students to attend were paid for by the DIS. This was arranged by the DIS University and College Relations Committee. The seminar was held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Des Plaines, IL at O'Hare airport. Thanks also go out to the instructors who include Jim Csonka and Brian Johnson of Hickman, Williams & Company, Dave Gilson of Sintercast, Kathy Hayrynen of Applied Process, Dan Coyle of Magma Foundry Technologies, Inc. and Andy Adams of Foseco.

Four Keith D. Millis scholarships were awarded at the 2017 FEF College Industry Conference held on November 16 & 17, 2017 at the Westin Hotel in Chicago. I would like to thank John Keough of Joyworks LLC and Jim Csonka from Hickman, Williams & Company for selecting the students. They were David Jaramillo of Northern Iowa, Julia Scruton of Michigan Tech, Austin Partin of Purdue and Nicolas Smith of Penn State Behrend. Each student received $3000.

Once again this year’s CIC Conference is November 15 & 16, 2018 at the Westin Downtown Chicago and we will again hand out $12,000 in scholarships to 4 deserving students.

Your society continues to make a donation to the Keith Millis Scholarship Fund every year so it will continue to grow. This past year we made a one time donation of $20,000 to bring our total giving to $395,080.

Jim Wood and Pete Guidi attended this past year’s awards luncheon. We also had a table top booth for the industry information session where we distributed the “Ductile Iron - Zero Shades of Gray” t-shirts.
Also we would like to thank those members who sponsored these t-shirts. They were ASI International, ASK Chemicals, Allied Mineral Products, Applied Process, Betz Industries, Buck Company, Elkem Foundry Products, FerroGlobe, Foseco, Glidewell Specialities Foundry, Green Packaging, Hickman, Williams & Company, Impact NDT, Inductotherm, Kohler Company, Neenah Foundry, OmniSource, Prohimsa Foundry, Rochester Metal Products, and Superior Graphite. Also I should mention the hard work by your University Relations committee members. Thanks go out to Brian Lewis and Pam Lechner for their invitation to attend this important conference.

The Research Committee met three times during the past year. Our new Chairman effective July 1, 2017 is Vadim Pikhovich of Magma Technologies. We completed one project and it will be posted on the DIS website very soon. It was Project #56 on "Atom Probe Tomography Study of Magnesium in Ductile Iron by Jingjing Qing of the Missouri University of Science & Technology". Last June the board approved 2 new projects. They are Project #57 on "Investigation of Heat Treatment to Develop High-strength Ferritic Ductile Iron" for $20,000 and Project #59 on "Solid Solution Strengthened Ferritic Ductile Iron (SSFDI) Effects and Limitations of Residual Alloying Elements" for $31,950. This project is being fully funded by the joint effort of the DIS and AFS.

The Research Committee has requested that the board approve $50,000.00 for 1 new project and some discretionary funds for small college projects for the next fiscal year 2018/19.

We will now proceed with the annual business meeting.

I will be retiring from the position of President, we have 1 associate member retiring, 1 foundry member retiring and 1 foundry member
moving to the Vice-President position. Retiring from the Board of Directors as of June 30th are Jim McMinn of Allied Mineral Products and Liz Medina of Neenah Foundry.

If there is anyone that might be interested in volunteering their time to join the DIS Board of Directors, please let Jim Wood know.

The Nominating Committee and the Board of Directors have recommended that John Davies of Lethbridge Iron replace Mike Galvin of Buck Company as your new President for the next 2 years. To fill that position as Vice-President Matt Meyer of Kohler Company has been nominated to serve for the next 2 years.

To replace those retiring board members, the Nominating Committee recommends the following slate to serve on the board of directors for a 3 year term effective July 1, 2018;

GREG MISKINIS - WAUPACA FOUNDRY (FOUNDRY MEMBER)
JIM MCMINN - ALLIED MINERAL PROD. (ASSOCIATE MEMBER)
LIZ MEDINA - NEENAH FOUNDRY (FOUNDRY MEMBER)

The attendees voted unanimously to approve the slate. I declare that this annual meeting is now adjourned.

Thanks,
Mike Galvin
June 7, 2018
At the banquet on Thursday evening, Mike Galvin hosted what will be his last official duty as the outgoing President. Mike will be retiring as DIS President on June 30, 2018.

Mike introduced the guests who were attending this meeting and they were Frank Headington of the AFS, Mark Aepelbacher, Chris Kelly and Austin Depottey of East Jordan Foundry. Mike then presented membership certificates to the following new members of the DIS since the 2017 October meeting and the representative from the company attending the meeting.

**SP Foundry** - no one was in attendance to receive their certificate.

Mike then introduced Jim Csonka of Hickman, Williams & Company, the Thursday morning Technical Chair, to come to the front for presentations of the DIS tokens of appreciation to the speakers.

Mike then asked the afternoon chair Kathy Hayrynen of Applied Process to come to the front and assist in handing out the DIS tokens of appreciation.
Mike then asked the following Board of Directors, who were retiring, to come to the front to receive their certificates of service for serving on the Board for the last 3 years and they were Jim McMinn of Allied Mineral Products, Lizeth Medina of Neenah Foundry. Mike also introduced the new directors as mentioned earlier in this article.

Jim McMinn & Mike Galvin
Lizeth Medina-Neenah Foundry

Mike introduced the new Vice-President for the next 2 years and that is Matt Meyer of Kohler Foundry.

Matt Meyer
Next, Mike introduced the new president of the DIS for the next two years and that is John Davies of Lethbridge Iron in Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada.

As a tradition over the years, at the DIS Spring Annual Meeting, the incoming President, John Davies introduces and presents the outgoing President with a service certificate.
DIS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The "Lifetime Achievement Award" is awarded to a DIS Member who has shown over the years their service and dedication to the Society. This year's award goes to Andy Adams of Foseco in Cleveland, Ohio. Mike Galvin asked Trevor Tackaberry of Foseco to introduce Andy.

Andy Adams

Education: Bachelor of Science in Metallurgy from Case Western Reserve University in 1975.

External Activities: Member of the AFS Division Council; Past Chairman of AFS Iron Production and Processing Committee (5P); DIS Research Committee member; Past Director for DIS; Instructor at DIS Production Seminar; Instructor at CMI course on Effective Use of Filtration in the Foundry; Instructor at AFS Cleveland Chapter course on Gating and Risering; Member of Case Western Reserve University Metals Laboratory advisory board; Past chairman of AFS Iron Gating and Risering Committee (5-G); Past member of the AFS Thin Wall Iron Group; Past member of the Machinable Iron Consortium; Northeast Ohio Chapter Past Advertising Chairman.

Papers and Articles:

- “Principles of Metal Casting” textbook revision editor of iron chapter, An Examination of Runner System Design in Vertically Parted Molding;
- Ceramic Filters for Ductile Iron Filtration, Part 1 &2;
- KALSERT Sleeves and CELTEX Filter Application to Disamatic Molding;
• KALPUR Direct Pouring Systems, Investing in Your Bottom Line;
  You Got the Job, Now Make It!; Take Another Look at Your Iron Gating System Design and Filtration for Increased Profit;
• Lean Manufacturing Cost Reduction Goals Achieved Through Direct Pouring;
• Direct Pouring Achieves Lean Manufacturing Cost Reduction Goals;
• Utilizing Direct Pouring to Attain Manufacturing Cost Reduction Goals;
• Computer And Fluid Flow Modeling Of Filtration Mechanisms In Foam Filters; Enhancing Filtration Knowledge To Improve Foundry Performance;
• Evaluating Iron Filter Print Designs–30 Years Later.

Andy Adams

From Left, Trevor Tackaberry, Andy Adams & Mike Galvin
CONGRATULATIONS to Andy!!

DIS MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Member of the Year Award is given out once a year during the Spring Annual Meeting. This award is presented to a member of the DIS who goes out of their way to assist the many committees and support the Society in its everyday operation. This year the award goes to Dave Williams of ASI International in Cleveland, Ohio. Mike asked Jim Wood, the DIS Executive Director, to step to the front and introduce Dave.

![Dave Williams - ASI, Int’l](image)

**Jim Wood**

Dave Williams – ASI, Int’l

40 years experience in the foundry industry; 6 years in practicing metallurgist in two different steel foundries, 21 years as worldwide troubleshooter of Refractory melt-related issues at Allied Mineral Products and currently 13 years at ASI International, an alloy and flux manufacturing company.
Past AFS National Board Institute Chairman and served on AFS National Board of Directors for 3 years.
An active member of the AFS for 39 years. He has been an active member of AFS DIVISION 8 Melting Methods division for over 38 years, especially in Induction Melting and Pouring.
Key organizer of recent AFS International Ferrous Melting Conferences.
Past certified Instructor for the AFS Cast Metals Institute for 30 years. He firmly supports continuous education for our foundry industry.
Active author and presenter of melt/refractory-related, Metallurgical topics for the Ductile Iron Society, and AFS. Metalcasting Societies and Conferences including AFS Casting Congresses, Ductile Iron Society, ASM/TSM T&O conference, GIFA, Metal China, FundiExpo Mexico.
An active member of the DIS for 12 years. Past member of DIS Board of Directors
CONGRATULATIONS to Dave!!!

On Friday, June 8th the group went on a tour of Cadillac Castings in Cadillac, MI. The DIS wants to thank Dan Minor, President & CEO and the many other employees of Cadillac Castings for their hospitality in hosting this tour.

Cadillac Casting Inc. has a long and rich history in beautiful Northern Michigan. It was originally built in 1922 as Cadillac Malleable Iron. The facility used crude iron produced by a neighboring plant known
then as Cummer & Diggins. The foundry changed hands in 1972 and was purchased by Cast Metal Industries (CMI).

In 1999, the CMI International group of companies was purchased by Hayes Lemmerz International, Inc. The company changed hands again in 2005, purchased by a group of investors. The acquisition was led by long time CMI & Hayes Lemmerz executive Daniel Minor. Dan began his career at the foundry as a high school co-op student, and worked his way to CEO. He is very passionate about the people employed at CCI and the local Cadillac community.

The foundry is a major supplier of engineered ductile iron, including high silicon molybdenum cast components. Molds are made with a high-speed green sand horizontal Combustion Engineering (CE) SpoMatic process. CCI also uses a custom automated Resin Bonded Sand (RBS) process, for difficult and “rangy” products.

CCI is committed to continuous improvement in all areas of the business. The foundry is IATF 16949 Quality Certified, ISO 14001 Environmentally Certified, and has been Ford Q1 certified since 1992. Cadillac Casting Inc. is a privately-owned foundry operated by metal casting professionals. They currently employs over 400 dedicated team members.
This concluded the 2018 Spring Annual Meeting in Cadillac, MI. There were 120 in attendance and we wish to thank every one of them and their companies for allowing them to attend.

We hope to see everyone at the 6th Keith Millis Symposium 2018 at the Sonesta Resort in Hilton Head, SC from October 23rd to 26th. There is more information available on the DIS website at www.ductile.org.

This will be a true International Symposium with speakers coming from France, Romania, Germany, England, Spain, Sweden, Argentina, Norway, and the USA. In case some of you are not aware, Keith Millis wanted the proceeds from this every five year special Symposium to go to his scholarship fund at the Foundry Education Foundation. So please tell all your colleagues about this special conference and the good that will come from it for our future students.

Jim Wood
DIS Executive Director
August 26, 2018

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Greg Miskinis

Greg graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Bachelor of Science - Metallurgical Engineering in 1981 and then his Masters of Science in Metallurgical Engineering in 1983.


In 2006 he became the Manager of Brake Engineering and then in 2008 became the Director of Research & Process Development which he holds this position today.
Aaron Conner

Aaron was born, raised and attended college in the state of Michigan. He has more than 25 years experience in product development, both with parts suppliers and vehicle OEM’s. Throughout his career, Aaron has worked extensively on the design of castings and forgings. For the past 14 years he has been with Hitachi Metals, currently as Vice President of Engineering in Novi, Michigan.

The DIS welcomes Greg and Aaron who are here to talk about "Ductile Cast Iron for Intelligent Lightweight Design" (not included)
Ed Boyd

The DIS welcomes Ed who is here to talk about "Golden's Foundry & Machine Company: Cane Mills to Cookers" (not included)

Mike Galvin (l), Ray Monroe (c), and Jim Csonka (r)

Raymond Monroe

Raymond W. Monroe joined the Steel Founders' Society of America as Executive Vice President. He holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Auburn University and an M.S. in Engineering Science from the University of Alabama (Birmingham) in 1980.

Raymond is with the American Metalcasting Consortium working with the U.S. Defense Logistics Agency, U.S. Department of Defense as a panelist for the Joint Defense Manufacturing Technology Panel-Metals Sub-panel and serves on the industrial advisory board for trade in ferrous materials (ITAC 12) for the Department of Commerce.

Link - "Ductile Iron Castings and the Future"
Randy graduated from the University of Washington in Business Administration. Randy started his service in the metalcasting industry with Atlas Foundry as their Sand and Lab Supervisor from 1979 to 1986. In 1986 he moved to Bremerton WA Naval Base Foundry as Project Manager. He then moved to Southwest Flux in Arizona in 1987 as the Operations Manager. In 1989 he moved to Capital Castings in Magotteaux Arizona as the Production Superintendent. He then moved to Ashland Inc. Casting Solutions in 1997 as their Technical Service Manager. Then became the Regional Director Technical Services for ASK Chemicals in 2011 to present. Randy has a total of 39 years in the Metal Casting Industry. Randy also served on the AFS Board of Directors from 2013 to 2018.

Link - "Critical Factors Affecting Chemically Bonded Sand"
Al Jacobson

Al received his BS degree in Industrial Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in 1989. He began his working career in the Metal Casting Industry with Grede-Reedsburg as an engineer then production supervisor. He then transferred to Grede Foundry-St. Cloud, MN in 1996 and worked as a production superintendent and process control engineer.

His primary responsibilities as Senior Process Control Engineer at AAM Casting are green sand control and scrap reduction. Al is currently the President of the AFS Twin Cities Chapter and member of the AFS 4M Sand Testing Committee.

Link - "Green Sand Foundry Practices to Improve Quality & Productivity"
PANEL - "Molten Metal Handling/Maintenance/Slag Control"

Trevor Beach of Betz Industries
"Processing of Ductile Iron"

Trevor Beach

Trevor graduated from the Michigan Tech University with a BS degree in Metallurgical Engineering, Material Science. Trevor started his metalcasting career with Kelsey Hayes Fremont Foundry. He then moved on to Dayton Walther Carrollton Castings, ArvinMeritor Franklin, Federal Mogul Century Foundry, Grede Biscoe, Grede Omaha, Hiler Industries and finally at his current employer Betz Industries. He is currently the Senior Metallurgist at Betz Industries. He previously served on the AFS Gray and Ductile Iron Research Committees. Trevor has also been a long time member of the DIS Research Committee and actively attends the semi-annual DIS Meetings.

Link - "Processing of Ductile Iron"
Dan Weiskopf of Neenah Foundry
"Save Energy & Money with the Correct Furnace Lining"

Dan Weiskopf

Dan graduated from the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee with a BS degree in Materials Engineering in 1991. Dan started his career with Kohler Company for 4 years as the Technical Support Supervisor.

He then moved on to Griffin Pipe Products (Division of Amsted) for the next 14 years as the Process Control Engineer, Production Manager, Manager of Maintenance and Engineering. Dan then moved to his current employer Neenah Foundry and is the Director of Metallurgy and Melt. He has been at Neenah for the last 10 years.

The DIS welcomes Dan who is here to talk about "Save Energy and Money with the Correct Furnace Lining" (not included)
Linked - "Kohler's Coreless Furnace Cold Start Procedure"

John Oneson of Kohler Foundry
"Kohler's Coreless Furnace Cold Start Procedure"

John Oneson

John graduated with his Bachelor Degree in Education from Southern Illinois. He then went into the US Navy for 20 years and retired. He then joined Kohler Company and has been there for 16 years where he did 3 years in Maintenance and 13 years in Operations. He is currently the General Supervisor of Electric Melting Operations. He is currently the AFS Chairman of the Electric Melting Committee.

Link - "Kohler's Coreless Furnace Cold Start Procedure"

Rick May of Cadillac Castings
"Mechanical Iron Pouring (MIP) with Induction Heating"
Rick May

Rick is a degreed Metallurgist from Michigan Technological University. He has worked for Cadillac Casting Inc. for 23 years in a variety of roles. He is there Senior Metallurgist and has held that position since 2010. He is an FEF alumni and an AFS member for the last 25 years and is currently on the DIS Board of Directors and FEF (MTU) Board. Rick has also been very active on the DIS Research Committee.

Link - "Mechanical Iron Pouring (MIP) with Induction Heating"

From the left, Mike Galvin, Dan Weiskopf, Rick May and Trevor Beach

The other Speakers in the afternoon were;
Matt studied Chemistry at the University of Michigan and Saginaw Valley State University.

Matt started his career at Auburn Analytical Labs as an Associate Tech in 1998 and has slowly worked his way to Technical Manager/President in 2009 and part owner of Auburn Labs in 2012. He also is partnered in B&K Consultants since 2009 as a Slag Consultant.

The DIS welcomes Matt back to talk about "Slag Analysis" (not included)
Marc graduated with his BS in Metallurgical Engineering and Material Science from the Michigan Technological University in 1996. He is a FEF graduate. Marc has been in the metalcasting industry for the last 16 years as a Foundry Metallurgist, Melt and sand Control expert in Ductile Iron, Gray Iron, Gray and Ductile Ni-Resist, Ni-Hard, White Iron CADI, Steel, and Stainless Steel. He was a metallurgist at Dalton Foundry, Bosch Breaking Systems Foundry, Bremen Castings, Frazier and Frazier, May Foundry and Hiler Industries. In 2012 Marc joined FerroGlobe in their Technical Sales group.

Marc is active in the Northern Indiana AFS Chapter, Vice-Chair of the AFS Ferrous Charge Materials Committee, AFS Executive Melting Committee and AFS Cast Iron Research Committee. Marc is very active on the DIS Research Committee, Chair of the RC Applications Subcommittee and the DIS Marketing Committee.

Link - "Ductile Iron Casting Defect Evaluation and Identification"
Trevor Heilman

Trevor is a graduate of Temple University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and he currently resides in the Philadelphia area. He was an intern for Inductotherm Corporation during his college days, a Field Service Engineer following graduation and later a Sales Engineer. He is currently a District Manager serving Michigan, Ohio and part of West Virginia. Trevor has 8 years experience in the foundry industry with Inductotherm Corporation.

The DIS welcomes Trevor who is here to talk about "Coreless Induction Furnace Safety" (not included)
3 EVENTS FOR THE FALL - PLAN TO JOIN US!
9/15 - Penn State vs Kent State Football Tailgating
9/27 - Missouri Univ of Science & Tech Advisory/ Scholarship Mtg
10/20 - Pittsburg State Homecoming Football Tailgating

EVENT #1 - SEPTEMBER 15
TAILGATING AT PENN STATE VS KENT STATE FOOTBALL GAME

We want to invite all FEF alumni & friends who attended Kent State or Penn State, or those who graduated from other FEF schools who live in the area to join us for the football game on Saturday, September 15.

Tailgating will begin at 10:00am with snacks and beverages (game begins at noon). Following the game, we will meet back at the RV for sandwiches and other tailgate edibles.

Mo & Kevin Lynn (Penn State) and Corey Jarvis (Kent State) will host the event at the Lynn's RV - look for the FEF Alumni/Ambassador flag flying high above the RV.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the game. If you'd let us know that you are coming we'll be sure to have plenty of food & drinks.
NEWS BRIEFS, Cont’d

EVENT #2 - SEPTEMBER 27

RECEPTION "SOCIAL HOUR" - MISSOURI S&T - ADVISORY MEETING

Join us at Missouri University of Science & Technology for their annual Fall Cast Metals Industrial Advisory Meeting.

Beginning at 3:30pm, there will be a presentation by FEF 1st Vice President, John Grahek (Clow Valve/McWane). At 5:00pm we will have an FEF Social Hour - all AFS St. Louis Chapter members, FEF alumni & friends, and current FEF students are invited. This will be followed by FEF scholarship presentations and hot snacks.

If you are in the Rolla area or have sales calls that you could plan for the area, we would love to have you join us! Please click here to let us know that you will be attending.

EVENT #3 - OCTOBER 20

TAILGATING AT PITTSBURG STATE HOMECOMING GAME

Pittsburg State will play Central Missouri for their homecoming game on October 20 at 2:00pm. FEF will have a tent in the tailgating area beginning at 10:00am - look for the alumni/ambassador flag flying high. Join us at the tent for food, fun, beverages, and reconnecting with past classmates.

Also, during the half time festivities, FEF alum, Steve Sikorski, will be honored as a 2018 Outstanding Alumni. Congratulations, Steve!

If you are able to join us, please click here, so that we can plan accordingly for the food and drink supply. See you there!
NEWS BRIEFS, Cont’d

At ASI International, we supply more than high-performing metals, alloys and fluxes – we support them with outstanding technical support to help you achieve maximum performance.

The Technical Tips section on our website includes everything from quantifiable Case Studies to tips on reducing slag build-up and everything in between.

We constantly update our Technical Tips section. We encourage you to visit www.asialloys.com/tips.php and/or call us at 216.391.9920 with any questions.
NEWS BRIEFS, Cont’d

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ATEK Metal Technologies Expands Northeastern Iowa Plant

NEW HAMPTON, Iowa (June 5, 2018) – ATEK Metal Technologies, a leading permanent mold foundry, is expanding its plant and technical capabilities to keep up with growing demand. ATEK ships thousands of aluminum castings each day and has recently completed a significant expansion of its metal casting, heat treatment and finished machining capabilities.

“We added 40 percent to our low pressure permanent mold casting capacity to keep up with our accelerating growth,” said Tom Christie, President of ATEK Metal Technologies. “We also have added state-of-the-art precision machining capabilities to be able to provide our customers with cast and machined finished components.”

As part of the expansion, ATEK is improving its plant automation program with a major investment in robotic de-gating and deburring of castings. This system will be operational in July 2018.

“We are applying automation where it makes sense for the safety of our people and to provide the best value possible for our customers,” said Christie. Also, ATEK is planning a major building expansion to be completed in December of 2018.

“We need additional plant space to support growth,” said Christie. “The new building will allow us to consolidate our warehousing and shipping areas and make room on the plant floor for ongoing expansion of operations.”

For more than 50 years, ATEK Metal Technologies has delivered superior aluminium castings that meet the specifications of the world’s most demanding industries, from motorsports and recreation to transportation and industrial markets. ATEK specializes in low pressure permanent and semi-permanent mold aluminum castings. It also has Advanced Counter Pressure Castings (ACPC) capabilities.

“Our long-term relationships speak for our commitment to service, responsiveness, solving problems, creating opportunities and achieving excellence for our partners that’s unmatched in the industry,” added Christie. “These strategic investments are key enablers for us to continue to meet and exceed customer expectations.”

The entire plant expansion is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2018. For more information about ATEK Metal Technologies, visit ateKmetaltechnologies.com.

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NEWS BRIEFS, Cont’d

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rachel Kovach, Project Manager
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Email: rkovach@avalon-castings.com

Investment Casting Company Selects Hammerer as VP of Sales & New Product Development

Avalon Precision Metalsmiths creates new position to provide a streamlined process for customers

CLEVELAND (April 11, 2018) – Avalon Precision Metalsmiths is pleased to announce the appointment of Norm Hammerer as vice president of sales and new product development.

“Norm adds both breadth and depth to our sales team,” Avalon President/CEO David Palivec said, citing Hammerer’s experience launching large product development projects and major programs in his 20+ years in the casting industry. The creation of the vice president of sales and new product development position also represents an important step forward for Avalon, Palivec said.

The investment casting company can now offer customers a streamlined process that eliminates the need for multiple meetings with different departments at Avalon, he said. Leveraging Hammerer’s engineering and sales expertise, the manufacturer can provide its customers a single point of contact during the sampling process, eliminating confusion and frustration and accelerating their time to market. “Norm will own the process from part inception through sample approval,” Palivec said.

Citing Avalon’s personal approach to customer interactions, Hammerer said he was excited to join a company that’s also well known for its metal quality and extensive technical know-how.

He outlined his approach to the new position: “My main goal is to create a team with strong engineering and product development skills to streamline the process and reduce our customers’ time to market for any existing and future new parts.”
NEWS BRIEFS, Cont’d

Hammerer’s previous experience includes stints as a project engineer, new product development engineer, engineering manager and new part engineering manager during 19 years in investment casting, as well as process engineering positions at Kohler Company and Briggs & Stratton.

Norm Hammerer

About Avalon Precision Metallsmiths
Operating facilities in Cleveland, Ohio, and Jackson and Markesan, Wis., as well as offshore capabilities in China, Avalon Precision Metallsmiths offers precision investment casting, also known as lost wax casting, for a variety of materials, including stainless steel, carbon steel, aluminum, brass & bronze, and specialty alloys. The company manufactures castings meeting requirements for high quality and durability for the toughest industrial applications in industries such as fluid power, oil & gas, food & dairy, medical, power generation, hardware & locks, military & firearms, agriculture & aerospace. Avalon provides value-added services such as the design and build for all internal tooling, vacuum-assist technology, in-house heat treating, machining, assembly & NDT, rapid prototyping and supply chain management.

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Tupy orders SinterCast Ladle Tracker® technology

Second Ladle Tracker installation reinforces Tupy’s commitment to quality and foundry leadership for automation, process control and Industry 4.0 traceability

[Joinville and Stockholm, 23 May 2018] – Tupy, the world’s largest cast iron cylinder block and head foundry group, has ordered an automated ladle tracking system from the Swedish process control specialist SinterCast. Under the terms of the agreement, the SinterCast Ladle Tracker® technology will be installed at Tupy’s production facility in Joinville, Brazil. The installation is planned to be commissioned during the third quarter of 2018.

Building on more than two years of production experience with the Ladle Tracker technology at the Tupy foundry in Saltillo, Mexico, the Tupy and SinterCast engineers jointly developed a bespoke Ladle Tracking solution for the layout, process flow and production demands in Brazil. The installation is based on the proven Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology, with RFID tags affixed to each ladle and RFID antennae installed at key locations throughout the foundry. For each ladle, the system compiles process data including temperature, weight and chemistry, together with the time that the ladle arrives at, and departs from, every step in the production process. The Ladle Tracker database provides a single source of information for process traceability, while the on-line process control ensures that every ladle reports to every step in the process and that each step is completed within the pre-set process limits and the allocated time.

“The SinterCast Ladle Tracker technology is an important part of our ongoing campaign for growth and to establish Tupy as the cast iron foundry leader for quality, automation, process control and traceability. The automatic lock-outs ensure that all ladles remain within our process limits while the database improves our process optimisation, troubleshooting and traceability. Together, these features provide improved efficiency for Tupy, and improved quality and confidence for our customers” said Mr. Fernando de Rizzo, President and C.E.O. of Tupy. “Our experience with more than two years of Ladle Tracker operation in Mexico has allowed us to identify and implement process improvements and to quantitatively measure the effect of these improvements on our productivity. We will continue to work together with SinterCast to develop and implement new control measurements and traceability solutions for our processes and our products. Everything that is measured improves.”

“Our Ladle Tracker technology measures and controls every step of the process on the liquid metal side of the foundry, while our Cast Tracker technology provides traceability and process control on the moulding and coremaking side of the foundry. Together, these technologies bring Industry 4.0 traceability and connectivity to the foundry industry” said Dr. Steve Dawson, President & CEO of SinterCast. “Our first installation at Tupy was commissioned eighteen years ago. Today, the Ladle Tracker order marks our seventh installation at Tupy.
Repeat business is the strongest endorsement of any technology, and this second order for our Ladle Tracker technology is an important affirmation of the benefits and the value of our Tracking Technologies.”

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Poitras Foundry orders SinterCast Ladle Tracker® Technology

- Ladle Tracker installation for grey and ductile iron automotive foundry
- Improved process control, quality assurance, productivity and traceability
- First stand-alone installation of SinterCast Ladle Tracker® technology

[L’Islet, Quebec and Stockholm, 30 August 2018] – Poitras Foundry, a grey and ductile iron automotive component foundry located in Quebec, Canada, has become the first foundry to order the stand-alone ladle tracking technology developed by the Swedish process control specialist SinterCast. The technology is based on the placement of radio frequency identification (RFID) tags on each ladle and the installation of tag readers at key locations in the foundry. With four melting furnaces, four magnesium treatment tundish ladles, more than ten pouring ladles and two moulding lines, the installation includes twelve different tracking positions to ensure that every ladle has successfully passed each step of the production process. The Poitras installation has been specified to ensure that the magnesium treatment is successfully completed, that the ladle weight and temperature are within pre-set limits and that the pouring time is not exceeded. The installation includes automatic lock-out of the production if any step has not been successfully completed. The Ladle Tracker results will also provide traceability to identify why and where any ladle falls out of the process, allowing corrective actions to be implemented to improve productivity. The installation is planned for autumn 2018.

“The SinterCast Ladle Tracker® technology complements our heritage of investment in innovative technologies and our focus on automation. Our assessment of the technology has identified unique opportunities to improve our process control, our traceability, and our overall efficiency” said Mr. Claude Massé, President and owner of Fonderie Poitras. “As our business has grown, our ladle traffic and our process flow have become more challenging. The installation of the Ladle Tracker technology enables us to automate the process, providing improved control for our foundry, and improved confidence for our customers.”

“The initial development of our Ladle Tracker technology was realised as an extension of our System 3000 process control platform for the production of Compacted Graphite Iron. The Poitras installation now represents our first stand-alone Ladle Tracker installation for grey and ductile iron foundries. It also represents our first order in Canada, marking 14 countries with SinterCast installations” said Dr. Steve Dawson, President & CEO of SinterCast. “We have received unanimously positive feedback from the industry regarding our Ladle Tracker and Cast Tracker...
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technologies, reinforcing our position as a developer and provider of novel precision measurement technologies that improve process control and process efficiency in the metals industry.”

For more information:

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Poitras Foundry is a Tier II supplier to the automotive industry. Located in L'Islet, Quebec, Poitras specialises in the high-volume production of small grey and ductile iron drivetrain components to a wide range of international customers. Poitras has developed its business on the principles of quality, innovation, strategic partnerships with suppliers, and continuous improvement through the investment in state-of-the-art equipment and control technologies. Founded in 1920, Poitras has invested more than CDN 30 million since 2000. For more information: [http://www.fonderiepoitras.com](http://www.fonderiepoitras.com).