***AFS Applied Research Award***

***Purpose:***

The goal of the AFS Applied Research Award is to recognize and reward the Principal Investigators and metalcasting organizations involved with AFS funded research projects where the research has been effectively transferred to the metalcasting industry, is being actively applied on the factory floor and providing demonstrated value.

Technology is the key to a competitive future for metalcasting, but only if the technology is practical and commonly used.  The emphasis of this award is on practical research that directly addresses pressing technical problems faced by metalcasting facilities and the speed with which this research is transferred into shop floor applications. It is understood that successful technology transfer requires not only the work of the researcher but also a company that is willing to implement new technology.  Thus the nominee can be the Principal Investigators/Research Organization, an AFS Member Company/Individual who was instrumental in helping to develop and practically apply the technology or both.

***Criteria:***

The AFS Applied Research Award is open to any AFS funded research and development project that has been completed, and the technology made available to the industry. To be considered, projects must have been complete for at least one year to a maximum of 5 years. Project results must have been presented to the industry through various AFS technology transfer venues such as *AFS Transactions,* Metalcasting Congress presentations, AFS sponsored conferences, Cast Metal Institute classes or AFS cooperative ventures with other industry associations.

***Nomination:***

Nominations must be made through the AFS technical committees and should be based on project steering committee recommendations. Official nomination should be submitted from the chair of the sponsoring AFS Technical Division using the official nomination form. Final selection will be made by the AFS Research Board.

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**NOMINATION FORM**

1. Name of AFS Research Project:
2. Date of Project Completion:
3. Principal Investigator and research institution:
4. AFS Nominating Division:
5. What is technical significance of this research?
6. How quickly was this technology implemented in the metalcasting industry?
7. How has this research been applied in the foundry process? If available, cite specific examples of foundries who have utilized this technology for their benefit.
8. Provide some practical results received from application of this research. Has it reduced defects and improved casting quality? Reduced costs? Improved safety or shop environment? Specifically, how has it improved the foundry process?