Seize the opportunities at Metalcasting Congress

Cleveland hosts industry showcase for first time since 1974

It’s the biggest state in metalcasting, so it’s only fitting that Ohio should host the biggest event in metalcasting. Home to more foundries than anywhere in the U.S., Ohio is an ideal backdrop for Metalcasting Congress 2020, April 21-23 at the Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland.

It’s the 14th time in Metalcasting Congress’ 124-year history that Cleveland will play host, but the first since 1974.

“More than 2,000 attendees from foundries, suppliers, OEMs and university metalcasting programs are expected to attend this year’s Congress,” said Doug Kurkul, CEO of AFS.

As the industry’s leading educational and networking event in North America, this year’s theme, “Seize the opportunities,” speaks to the extensive possibilities on the horizon for the metalcasting industry. Attendees will have lots of opportunities at Metalcasting Congress, including the chance to take three courses from the AFS Institute – Metalcasting Process Basics, Employee Retention, and Identifying the Correct Casting Defect – which are included with Education Pass admission.

Experts from across the metalcasting supply chain will be on hand to present the latest in cutting-edge technical and management papers and sessions. A busy show floor will highlight the best in industry suppliers, and leading North American foundries will showcase their capabilities to designers and buyers in the Cast in North America exhibit.

Downtown Cleveland will host Metalcasting Congress 2020 in April. This year’s theme is "Seize the opportunities."

Peer into future with Foundry 4.0 workshop

You can ask voice-automated systems like Alexa to tell you the weather, turn on the lights – and even crack a joke. But in the not-so-far future, this technology could direct the production of your casting or tell you when a worker is experiencing heat stress.

Technology is evolving at a rapid pace, fueling industry leaders to ask, “What will a foundry look like in 10 years?”

Foundry 4.0, June 9-10 in Itasca, Illinois, is a two-day workshop focusing on how digital manufacturing affects all areas of the foundry process today, and what this means for the future.

Expert speakers will address data collection and management, data-driven decision-making, artificial intelligence,
Making the most of uncertain times

A longtime business curmudgeon used to half-jokingly say that he could plan for prosperity and he could navigate a recession, but it was slow-growth economic times that presented the most difficult business decisions. That business leader is now happily retired, but the new year seems to illustrate his point.

Today, the United States has something of two economies. The consumer economy is relatively strong, with unemployment at 50-year lows, wages showing signs of rising, and consumer confidence at healthy levels. Conversely, the manufacturing economy has been stagnant, with the Institute for Supply Management Manufacturing Index having declined for five straight months. Manufacturing jobs, which increased by an average of 22,000 per month in 2018, actually dropped by 12,000 in December 2019. Many foundries that were operating at near full capacity in 2018 saw a slowdown in the latter part of 2019.

Another gauge of the health of the manufacturing economy is the transportation sector. In 2019, nearly 800 trucking companies failed, according to Broughton Capital, 2.5 times the number the previous year. Moreover, the major U.S. railways have large numbers of engines and rolling stock idled.

Most economists project moderate economic growth, at levels between 1.8% and 2.3%, in 2020. Happily, the Conference Board foresees increasing capital investment in the second half of the year, and most economists do not foresee a recession on the immediate horizon.

Complicating matters are several sources of uncertainty. One is the upcoming presidential and congressional elections. Depending on the outcome, the public-policy climate could look very similar or very different compared to the current situation.

Another source of uncertainty concerns the internal combustion engine. In a column titled, “Twenty Ideas that Will Shape the 2020s” in the January issue of Fortune, a former United Nations climate-change administrator predicts the beginning of the end of the internal combustion engine. Indeed, several automakers will be introducing large numbers of electric vehicle models in the next few years.

In most parts of the world, this change is less a market-driven transition than a politically led transformation based on climate concerns. Interestingly, electric vehicle sales in China were robust – until government subsidies were scaled back, after which demand declined.

Metalcasting leaders in North America nonetheless need to be refining their business plans to reflect the impact this eventual shift will have on their foundry. Paul Eichenberg, an expert on this topic, will deliver a Keynote Address at the Metalcasting Congress in Cleveland on April 23. I encourage you to stay for the third day of the Congress to hear Paul’s message.

In this slow growth, uncertain climate, many foundry leaders that we speak with advocate getting back to basics. With interest rates low, many are continuing to judiciously invest in their plant and equipment. Investments in automation can improve efficiency and reduce the need to staff difficult-to-fill positions. Investments in Internet-of-Things connectivity can make the foundry more productive, a theme that will be explored at the first-ever AFS Foundry Industry 4.0 Workshop, June 9-10 in Itasca, Illinois.

Numerous industry leaders are also investing in training because they understand that producing quality castings at a reasonable price requires a responsive, skilled team. Excellent training programs are available through the AFS Institute and other training providers.

Finally, many savvy foundry leaders are seeking new customers. AFS offers several resources to help foundries generate more business. First, by virtue of being a Corporate Member, a foundry is listed in the online and printed Casting Source Directory. The print version is mailed to nearly 12,000 casting buyers and designers each year. Second, there will be a Buyers & Designers track at the Metalcasting Congress in April, and some foundries are exhibiting in the “Cast in North America” part of the show in order to interact with those attendees. Third, the newly launched Casting Source magazine and website – as well as AFS Foundry Video Central – offer terrific ways to deliver a foundry’s marketing message to potential new customers.

All of us at AFS wish you and your team a prosperous year in 2020. We look forward to seeing you at industry events.

Doug Kurkul
CEO
American Foundry Society
dkurkul@afsinc.org

In this slow growth, uncertain climate, many foundry leaders that we speak with advocate getting back to basics.
Charlie Cook to give political insight to metalcasters

It’s an extremely busy year heading into the 2020 elections, but a familiar face will help navigate the noise. Veteran political analyst Charlie Cook is the keynote speaker of the AFS Government Affairs Fly-In this spring, offering a road map to the 2020 elections and insight for metalcasters who want to make their foundry’s priorities heard.

Cook works for the National Journal Group, NBC, and oversees his own non-partisan, online publication, the Cook Political Report. He launched the newsletter in 1984 – the same year former President Reagan was re-elected. Since then, Cook has been featured on various television networks to provide election night commentary.

Cook recently teamed up with the Kaiser Family Foundation to examine attitudes and experiences of voters in several key battleground states for the 2020 presidential election. The economy was identified as a key issue among interviewees, which is also vital to success in the U.S. metalcasting industry.

AFS calls all metalcasters to Capitol Hill May 19-20 to stand for the industry. The Fly-In, hosted at the Hyatt Regency Washington, will connect metalcasters with their lawmakers and give them the tools to make their voices heard, including access to new data on the economic impact of the metalcasting industry.

Resources to advocate for foundries will be there, and we hope you are too.

AFS GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS FLY-IN
May 19-20
Washington, D.C.
To register, visit www.afsinc.org/conferences

AFS 2020 Government Policy Priorities

AFS works full-time to advocate for public policies that strengthen the foundry industry. Below are the top policy areas where AFS will focus its advocacy efforts this year:

- **Infrastructure** – Metalcasters play a critical role in our nation’s infrastructure network. Congress should look to long-term solutions and enact various reforms to provide for increased, long-term funding for improvements to the nation’s transportation, water, energy and other critical infrastructure.
- **Trade** – AFS supports vigorous enforcement of U.S. trade laws. Press China and other nations to end government subsidies and other market-distorting practices, which result in an uneven playing field for U.S. metalcasters.
- **Safety** – AFS members share the critical goal of ensuring the safety and health of their employees as top priorities in the workplace. For 2020, AFS will submit comments on several OSHA proposals, including the Mechanical Power Press Rule (which hasn’t been revised in 40 years), Blood Lead Level for Medical Removal and post-incident drug testing and safety incentive programs.
- **Tax** – AFS supports tax policy that encourages manufacturing activity in the United States and promotes domestic capital investment. AFS will advocate for permanence of key pieces of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.
- **Energy and Environment** – Metalcasting is inherently energy-intensive. The availability and reliability of U.S. energy sources is essential to the industry’s competitiveness. Metalcasters are committed to energy efficiency to lower costs and lessen environmental impact. Metalcasters continue to make environmental improvements to reduce pollution and increase sustainability. Congress and the administration should enact policy measures to facilitate investment in our national energy infrastructure, including production, distribution, transmission and storage projects.
The foundry industry has been in a state of transformation for over 2,600 years. From shapes carved into stone, to topologically optimized and additive manufacture-facilitated creations, the evolution of metalcasting is easily witnessed. Whether this change has come about by man, method, material or market is debatable. With the gradual shift from internal combustion engine personal vehicles to semi or fully-autonomous electric vehicles, competing in these shrinking markets will likely require agile and novel foundry solutions. This year’s Hoyt Lecture will examine how foundries have been transformed primarily by shifts in the workforce, market pressures brought by global flattening (competition), environmental, health and safety, and even by disaster.

Paul Eichenberg
Chief Strategist, Paul Eichenberg Strategic Consulting
The Automotive Supply Chain: An Era of Innovation and Disruption, 10:30 a.m. April 23
As electric cars and autonomous vehicles gain prevalence, what strategies and options are available to the supply base to deal with this looming disruption? Paul Eichenberg will provide insights into these changes and explain how top automotive suppliers are deploying strategies such as divesting, transforming, diversifying, and consolidating to scale up opportunities in the face of global competition. Eichenberg has 25 years of experience working with Fortune 500 automotive suppliers, including eight years as Global VP of Corporate Development and Strategy for Magna Powertrain and Magna Electronics. Eichenberg oversaw all strategic planning, product management, as well as M&A activities at Magna, and successfully repositioned the business to focus on technologies for the optimization of the internal combustion engine, EV/hybrid technologies, and autonomous vehicles. Eichenberg will field questions from the audience.

Dwier Brown
“Field of Dreams” actor and author
Fathers, Fate and Field of Dreams, 10:30 a.m. April 21
Dwier Brown played Kevin Costner’s father for five minutes at the end of the baseball movie “Field of Dreams.” Despite being an actor for 35 years and appearing in films, TV and stage productions, it was those five minutes that changed his life. Since the movie’s release, people have shared with Brown poignant stories of how seeing the movie changed their lives. He captured some of those stories in the funny and moving memoir, “Build It and They Will Come: Fathers, Fate and Field of Dreams.” Film critic Michael Phillips calls Brown “an engaging, truthful speaker who can take an audience to unexpected places.”
Send Casting Source to customers, leads

Metalcasters have a new resource to share with their customers and prospects. Casting Source is a magazine for casting end-users, and metalcasters can send it to their clients at no cost.

Casting Source, which debuted in November 2019, was previously published by AFS as Metal Casting Design & Purchasing. The magazine features a new design, new columns and articles, and more content from contributing authors who work in the industry. Casting capabilities, conversions, research and development and supply chain management are among the topics covered in this issue.

Show casting buyers what you can do in Metalcaster Prospectus

Customers and prospects might know your name, but do they really know what you have to offer?

The best way to share your foundry’s whole story – your capabilities, your expertise, your history, and your people – is in Metalcaster Prospectus. Distributed with Casting Source magazine, online, and at trade shows including Metalcasting Congress, the Prospectus is where buyers turn when sourcing their castings.

To secure your profile and/or ad space, or for more information, contact David Kathe at 800-537-4237 or dkathe@afsinc.org. The deadline to reserve space is March 6.

AFS releases Forecast & Trends

Reshoring, hiring, and electric vehicles are part of the focus of the newest edition of the AFS Forecast & Trends, published in January by AFS.

The yearly Forecast & Trends provides vital production data to metalcasters, and also explores topics that will shape their businesses in the future. This year’s edition takes an in-depth look at how the growth of the electric vehicle market will affect foundries. The Forecast also includes:

• The results of the 2019 Foundry Survey, including a separation of results by two metal groups
• “Hiring is Still a Challenge for Metalcasters”

To send a free subscription, or to subscribe yourself, visit castingsource.com/subscribe.

International Journal of Metalcasting publishes 50th issue

The International Journal of Metalcasting, the American Foundry Society’s technical and research publication, released its 50th issue in January.

IJMC is a peer-reviewed quarterly journal that publishes the latest advancements in metalcasting research and technology. It is the official research journal of the World Foundry Organization. With an international audience of scientific and technical leaders in metalcasting, IJMC leads the way in the transfer of research and technology for the global foundry industry.

“This issue continues to showcase the outstanding research and technical advancements in a cited journal by one of the most highly regarded publishers, Springer-Nature,” said editor-in-chief Thomas Prucha. “This 50th issue also recognizes the hard work of our community of volunteer reviewers and also the AFS professional staff to maintain the highest quality.”

Every AFS Corporate Member receives a subscription to the IJMC as a Corporate Member benefit. Individual members can purchase a subscription through AFS. For individual member subscriptions, or to update or renew Corporate Member subscriptions to IJMC, email cusserv@afsinc.org. Non-members can subscribe at springer.com/journal/40962. See the contents of the latest issue at rd.springer.com/journal/40962/14/1.

IJMC is published by AFS in partnership with Springer Nature Publications.

Read the AFS Annual Report

2019 was a memorable year for AFS. We had new projects, policy victories, innovative research, Corporate Membership growth, an exciting CastExpo in Atlanta, and so much more. You can read all about it in the 2019 AFS Annual Report, where you’ll find information and data on initiatives:

• Member Success and Sustainability
• Industry Stewardship
• Policy Advocacy
• Promotion of Castings
• Workforce Development
• Technical Innovation
• 2019 AFS Financials and Facts

To view this and recent reports from AFS, visit afsinc.org/annual-reports.
AFS Chapter Directory and Updates

AFS provides the means for you to network with metalcasters in your area. Reach out to a chapter leader to get involved today, or visit www.AFSinc.org/get-involved.

*Include your chapter news in the AFS Chapter Directory!* Please send chapter updates, events, meeting schedules and other news to Katelyn Stanek, AFS Marketing & Communications Specialist, at kstanek@afsinc.org.

**UNITED STATES**

**Alabama**
- **Birmingham District**
  - jjohnson@ajaxtocoo.co
  - Jody Johnson
  - The Birmingham Chapter co-presented an Open Foundry Day at University of Alabama at Birmingham on Nov. 9 and a chapter meeting on Nov. 11. The chapter’s Holiday Spouse Night was Dec. 5. They will hold a technical session and dinner meeting in Meridian, Mississippi, on Feb. 20. To register, visit afsbirmingham.com.

**California**
- **Northern California**
  - detria.mixon@afibfoundry.com
  - Detria Mixon
  - The Northern California Chapter’s 2020 Vendors Night will be March 5 at Rio Hondo Golf Club & Event Center, Downey, California. To register, visit https://californiametalscoalition.formstack.com/forms/vendorsnight.

**Connecticut**
- **New England**
  - admin@newenglandafs.com
  - Drew Weaver
  - The New England Chapter held its holiday party in the box seats at a Providence Bruins game in Rhode Island on Nov. 22. All profits from the event were put toward establishing a scholarship endowment for foundry students in the New England region.

**Georgia**
- **Piedmont**
  - shawn.mckinney@Saint-Gobain.com
  - Shawn McKinney
  - The Piedmont Chapter held a meeting with a charge materials meeting in Columbus, Georgia, which featured a tour of Wheelabrator. On March 11-13, the chapter will co-host the AFS Southeast Regional in Chattanooga.

**Illinois**
- **Central Illinois**
  - stecklein_catherine@cat.com
  - Catherine Stecklein
  - Norwin Merens
  - The Chicago Chapter held a dinner meeting on Nov. 20 in Schaumburg, Illinois. The speaker, Joey Leonard of The H.S. Group, discussed employee recruitment and retention.

**Indiana**
- **Central Indiana**
  - mking@ferroglobe.com
  - Marc King
  - The Northern Indiana Chapter held a meeting on Nov. 18. The speaker was author John Laurence Busch, who presented “Foundry Presentation: Building the First ‘Steamship’ in History.” At their Jan. 13 meeting, the chapter hosted a foundry technical panel presentation. On Feb. 15, the chapter will hold a Valentine’s Day event with a dinner and comedy night at the Wagon Wheel Theatre in Warsaw, Indiana. RSVP to rsvp@afsfn.org.

**Iowa**
- **Hawkeye**
  - alexb@senecafoundry.com
  - Alex Brown
  - The Hawkeye Chapter held a meeting Nov. 12 in Waterloo, Iowa. The presenter was Doug Bender of Bender Foundry Service. On Jan. 21, AFS Director David Gilson of SinterCast was the featured speaker.

**Kansas**
- **Plains States**
  - ron@kansascastings.com
  - Ronald Pomeroy
  - Charles Prater
  - The Central Michigan Chapter held a meeting with a speaker from OmniSource Jan. 16.

**Louisiana**
- **Central Louisiana**
  - nmerens@liliangroupmarketing.com

**Michigan**
- **Southern Michigan**
  - jason@smccast.com
  - Michael Fanz-Huster from Inductotherm will speak.

**Minnesota**
- **Twin Cities**
  - travis.bodick@carleyfoundry.com
  - Travis Bodick
  - On Nov. 12, the Twin Cities Chapter welcomed State Sen. Michelle Benson for her address, “The State of the Industry: Metalcasting in Minnesota.” The chapter also honored FEF and UW-Stout scholarship recipients. Matt Hartman of ASK Chemicals spoke at the Jan. 14 meeting in Plymouth, Minnesota. The chapter’s next meeting is Feb. 11 in Minneapolis. To RSVP, visit afstwincities.org. The chapter will hold a Casting Defect Analysis Half-Day Seminar on March 10 in Plymouth, Minnesota.

**Missouri**
- **Mo Kan**
  - vbrock@canfieldjoseph.com
  - Vicki Brock
  - The Mo-Kan Chapter welcomed Mitch Patterson of HA International as the speaker at their Jan. 16 meeting in Kansas City, Missouri.

**Pennsylvania**
- **Philadelphia**
  - joelwyates@gmail.com
  - Joel Yates
  - State Sen. Jon Burmstead spoke at the Western Michigan Chapter’s meeting on Nov. 12. On Nov. 22, the chapter took part in Family Fun Night: Foundries at Lakeshore Museum Center in Muskegon, Michigan. AFS CEO Doug Kurkul spoke at the meeting on Dec. 10. Top Management Night was Jan. 14. The chapter will hold a meeting on the topic “Nitriding and the Heat Treatment of Firearms” on Feb. 11 in Norton Shores, Michigan.

**Wisconsin**
- **2020 Wisconsin Regional**
  - sfyins@icloud.com
  - Shaofong Yin
  - The Detroit Windsor Chapter welcomed Dr. Qigui Wang of General Motors to present on the topic of the Integrated Computational Materials Engineering during its Jan. 23 chapter dinner.

**Wyoming**
- **Western Wyoming**
  - jg@ascentfoundry.com
  - Jonathan Giove
  - The St. Louis Chapter will hold a dinner and tour of Alpha Foundry on March 5.
AFS welcomes new Mid-Atlantic Chapter

Chapter covers PA, MD, DE, NJ, VA, DC and WV

The AFS Keystone and Chesapeake chapters were no strangers to one another. So when they decided to combine their strengths to become AFS’ newest regional chapter, the Mid-Atlantic, it was an easy transition. After all, the two groups had been working together for years.

New York
Central New York
Brad Wiler
brad.wiler@itt.com
The Central New York Chapter typically meets on the second Wednesday of the month from September to June. Contact Brad Wiler (brad.wiler@itt.com) to confirm event details.

Ohio
Central Ohio
eric@keenersand.com
Eric Weifenbach
The Central Ohio Chapter’s Scholarship Night was Jan. 16 in Hilliard, Ohio. The chapter’s “Let’s Make a Deal” Winter Party will be Feb. 15 at Makoy Center in Hilliard.

Cleveland-Akron Canton
jazalar@bwxt.com
Tony Zalar
The CACChapter held meetings on Nov. 14, Dec. 12 and Jan. 9 in Wadsworth, Ohio. The November speaker was Deborah Solomon of Merrill Lynch Wealth Management. The next meeting is Feb. 13 in Wadsworth. To register, visit www.cacohioafs.org.

Southwestern Ohio
dwelsh@hillandgriffith.com
Dale Welsh

Todolo
pcarlin@saalloys.com
Patrick Carlin

Oklahoma
Tri-State
rhall@spfoundry.com
Robert Hall

Pennsylvania
Mid-Atlantic Chapter
dusty@boosealum.com
Dustin Finefrock
The new Mid-Atlantic Chapter recently launched following the merger of the Keystone and Chesapeake Chapters. The chapter’s Shrimp, Bull & Oyster Feast is set for Feb. 15 at Columbus Gardens in Baltimore. Email Tracy Siegel for tickets at tsiegel@pennmarcastings.com.

Northwestern Pennsylvania
greg@onexnet.com
Greg Trohoske
The NWPS’s monthly dinner meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month. John Carano, AFS Business Development Manager, was the presenter at the NWPA Chapter’s meeting on Nov. 19. The chapter held a holiday gathering on Dec. 17 in Erie. On Jan. 21, the chapter welcomed presenter Robert Keshecki of Inductotherm.

Pittsburgh
romank@duraloy.com
Roman Pankiw
Members of the Pittsburgh Chapter gave Foundry-in-a-Box demonstrations at Norwin High School on Nov. 12. The chapter’s 2020 planning meeting was Jan. 6 in Irwin, Pennsylvania. They will co-host a combined meeting with the Association for Iron & Steel Technology on Feb. 10 at the Omni William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh. Email Henry Kemp at hkemp@duraloy.com to make your reservation.

Tennessee
Tennessee
afstnboard@gmail.com
Scott Lakey
The Tennessee Chapter hosted a technical dinner meeting on Nov. 4 in Chattanooga. The program was “Engaging with the Next Generation of Foundry Persons” with presenter Alyssa Howe. The chapter held a trivia night on Dec. 2, and a technical dinner meeting on Jan. 6. On Feb. 11, the chapter will host a meeting at Tennessee Technological University, which includes presentations of senior projects and a tour of the student labs and foundry. On March 11-13, they will co-host the 87th Southeast Regional at the Read House Hotel in Chattanooga. For more information, visit afstn.org.

Texas
Texas
mloerwald@martinsprocket.com
Matthew Loerwald
The Texas Chapter will hold a board meeting and general meeting Feb. 7 at Sam Houston Race Park in Houston. The speaker will be Brent Mullinks of HydroTech Solution. To register, visit afstexas.org.

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reed@lfscorporation.com
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Washington
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Chuck McKeever
Wisconsin
Northeastern Wisconsin
jmartin@aarowcast.com
John Martin
The chapter will co-host the 2020 Wisconsin Regional Feb. 12-14 at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino in Milwaukee.

Wisconsin
m.kamin@carpenterbrothersinc.com
Michael Kamin
The Wisconsin Chapter’s 2019 Christmas party was Dec. 6 at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino in Milwaukee. At their Jan. 16 meeting in Waukesha, Wisconsin, Steve Apel of Aceta was the featured speaker. The chapter will co-host the 2020 Wisconsin Regional Feb. 12-14 at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino in Milwaukee.

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José Lobo

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Craig Chamberlain

Eastern Canada
mrejean@hotmail.ca
Rejean Mailhot
The Eastern Canada Chapter co-presented the 4th Smart Metallurgy Symposium on Oct. 31-Nov. 1 in Trois-Rivières, Quebec.

Manitoba
jbrooks@karrich.com
Jason Brooks

Ontario
neals.mccain@gmail.com
Neal McCain

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Get practical environmental guidance for your foundry

Big or small, foundries face unique environmental situations on a daily basis. Metalcasters who handle environmental responsibilities have a lot to keep up with—from laws affecting foundries to waste management and recordkeeping.

An upcoming AFS seminar, Environmental 101, will bring together industry veterans and environmental experts to discuss common hurdles that metalcasters encounter. They will provide workable solutions for various topics, including:

- Waste management
- Air quality
- Pollution control
- Permits
- Stormwater
- Common compliance issues
- Regulatory inspections—do’s and don’ts

Regardless of the challenge, there’s a team ready to work with you. AFS is hosting Environmental 101 March 4-5 in Schaumburg, IL.

A full agenda and registration details can be found at www.afsinc.org/conferences.

Attending the Environmental 101 Seminar? Stick around for EHS Committee meetings on March 5!

- 9 a.m.-noon: Water, Waste, & Byproducts Management Committee
- 9 a.m.-3 p.m.: Safety & Health Committee
- 11 a.m.-3 p.m.: Air Quality Committee

Ongoing committee participation requires an AFS membership, but all are encouraged to participate as visitors.

Questions? Email AFS Senior EHS Technical Director Juliette Garesché at jgaresche@afsinc.org.

FOUNDRY 4.0 continued from Page 1

Augmented reality, virtual reality, wearable technology, robotics, automation and cyber security.

Experts will also tackle related issues of workforce development, recruiting, and training. The seminar will feature foundry case studies on the impact of digital technology, such as 3D scanning an entire foundry facility, and using augmented reality for equipment maintenance and training.

Speakers will look even further to the year 2050, where metalcasters could possibly melt and pour in zero-gravity atmospheres.

Foundry 4.0 is June 9-10 at the Eaglewood Resort in Itasca, Illinois, near O’Hare International Airport. Registration details are available at www.afsinc.org/conferences.

AFS INSTITUTE

Institute holding courses across U.S.

Metalcasters across the U.S. have a great opportunity to get the best in workforce training close to home when the AFS Institute goes on the road.

Some of the Institute’s most popular courses will soon be offered in Pennsylvania, Iowa, North Carolina, Alabama and Michigan. These road classes come in addition to the Institute’s regular classroom courses at AFS HQ in suburban Chicago.

Upcoming Institute road courses include:

- Gating and Riser Design 101, Feb. 5-6, Lancaster, Pennsylvania
- Improving the Effectiveness of Visual Inspection, Feb. 12-13, Charlotte, North Carolina
- Iron Melting 201, Feb. 26-27, Birmingham, Alabama
- Improving the Effectiveness of Visual Inspection, March 4-5, Detroit, Michigan
- Casting Design, March 11-12, Charlotte, North Carolina
- Green Sand Molding 201, March 18-19, Detroit, Michigan
- Introduction to Metalcasting, April 8-9, Detroit, Michigan
- Gating & Riser Design 201, May 5-6, Lancaster, Pennsylvania
- Improving the Effectiveness of Visual Inspection, June 3-4, Waterloo, Iowa

For more information and to register for any of the above, visit afsinc.org/courses.
2019-2020
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David Gilson
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SinterCast

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Vice President of Quality and Technical Assurance,
Badger Mining Corporation

Jeet Radia
Senior Vice President,
McWane, Inc.

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John Lancaster
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General Motors

Angela Dine Schmeisser
President and CEO,
St. Marys Foundry, Inc.

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Recruit employees with 'Careers in Metalcasting'

Is your plant struggling to find enough qualified workers to fill vacancies? You’re not alone. Employee recruitment consistently ranks near the top of the list of concerns for foundry managers and owners.

To help the industry reach potential metalcasters who are making career choices, AFS produced a video sharing the exciting story of rewarding careers in metalcasting.

“The Future of Careers in Metalcasting” features interviews with young metalcasting professionals – engineers, shop floor employees, salespeople, and more. These interviewees explain why they think metalcasting is the right career choice.

“If you’re interested in creating something and seeing it all the way through to the finish, then I think the foundry industry is for you,” says Gerald Richard of Magma Foundry Technologies, who appears in the video.

The video has been shared at job fairs and college career days, during Manufacturing Day events, and on social media. The goal is for job-seekers, parents, teachers and career counselors to see the many fulfilling and important jobs available in the metalcasting industry. If your company is hiring new employees, please consider sharing the video online or at your next recruitment event. A link is available at afsinc.org/careers-metalcasting.

AFS offers cost-efficient, high-profile messaging for foundries and suppliers

Has your company produced a promotional video that you’d like more casting buyers and designers to see? Foundry Video Central and Supplier Video Central are web platforms on which to can share your company’s capabilities and expertise with key customers and prospects. You can post your company video online and gain an important additional way for customers to engage with you.

If you have already produced videos, this is how to make sure your content is being seen by your target audience. AFS will promote these videos continuously to ensure steady traffic. You will receive periodic reports from AFS indicating the number of page views for your videos.

Quantity discounts are available for multiple video placements at the time of purchase. Video placements are for a 12-month period. For more information, visit afsinc.org.

AFS Student Chapters

New AFS Student Chapter launches at Worcester Poly

Worcester Polytechnic Institute (Worcester, Massachusetts) is the newest school to established an AFS Student Chapter on campus.

Worcester Polytechnic joins 40 other colleges and universities in hosting its own chapter. The AFS Board of Directors approved the school’s application on Jan. 25.

AFS Student Chapters operate on campuses throughout North America. Run by students under the guidance of faculty and industrial advisors and supported by AFS, Student Chapter members further their metalcasting skills by networking with peers and professionals, manufacturing castings, conducting outreach, competing in casting competitions, and more.
AFS approves lost foam research project

AFS recently approved a research project aligned with its Lost Foam Division’s goal of expanding the marketability of the lost foam casting process. The project, Lost Foam Casting Molds Produced Using Additive Manufacturing,” will demonstrate the production of tools for high-mix/low-volume to high-production-level tools using 3D printed metal.

Currently, lost foam tooling is, in general, prohibitively expensive and requires long lead times associated with the complexity of the tool designs and high-volume production. There is a larger market for lost foam casting if the tooling costs can be brought closer in-line with automated green sand molding.

The study aims to provide the lost foam casting industry with alternative methods to produce tools for short, medium, and long run casting production. The objective is to determine the applicable metal additive manufacturing method and material considering material durability, material costs, cycle time, equipment costs, and skill level required, as compared to conventional methods.

The expected duration for the project is 24 weeks.

MID-ATLANTIC continued from Page 7

have been there or been on the board and have that experience to bring us through the ranks,” she said. “There are a lot of younger people on the board because I feel like some of the tenured members] are wanting others to come in and step up.”

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter is already off to a booming start, launching its website using the AFS Corporate Template and adding new events.

Former chapter traditions won’t be lost, though. They will be merged into Mid-Atlantic events, including Chesapeake’s annual Shrimp, Bull & Oyster Feast fundraiser happening in mid-February.

Finefrock says the Mid-Atlantic Chapter is still working on where to host bigger seminars and conferences, but they’re excited about how far they have come.

“It feels good knowing we’re getting some place,” Finefrock said. “We were struggling there for a while on how to merge, but with the help of AFS, we are moving in the right direction.”

For more information, visit midatlantic. afschaptersites.com.

Members of the new AFS Mid-Atlantic Chapter meet at Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.
**Business Opportunities & Branding**

- **Trade Show/Exhibit Space Discounts** - Save money on exhibits and attendance at CastExpo and Metalcasting Congress (Discounts vary)
- **Sponsorships** - Only corporate members are eligible to sponsor for AFS management events
- **Referrals** - AFS refers customer inquiries to corporate members
- **Logo** - Corporate members can add credibility to their business by using the AFS logo on brochures and websites
- **Premium Casting Source Directory Promotion** - Receive placement in CSD, used by nearly 25,000 casting buyers and design engineers
- **AFS Shipping Solutions** - Take advantage of shipping savings. (Savings vary)
- **Business Development** - Workforce Development Forum

**Government Advocacy**

- **Legislative Influence** - On Capitol Hill, AFS shapes a better business climate for metalcasters

**Education**

- **In-Plant Training** - Corporate members receive a $2,000-$4,000 discount
- **Classroom Courses** - Receive discounts on classes for new and experienced metalcasters ($200 discount per person)
- **Free AFS Members Only Webinars** - All employees of corporate members participate in technical and management webinars ($250 value per session)
- **E-Learning** - Corporate members are eligible to subscribe for unlimited access to AFS Institute e-Learning in English and Spanish
- **AFS Library** - Receive free online access to the AFS Library, the world's largest collection of metalcasting research papers and articles

**Industry Intelligence**

- **Annual Metalcasting Forecast** - This crucial marketplace outlook is free to corporate members ($1,000 value)
- **Wage and Benefit Survey** - Key compensation information, free to participating corporate members ($1,000 value)
- **World Foundry Organization Annual Census** - A look at the state of the worldwide metalcasting industry is delivered free to corporate members

**Technical, Management, Research Support, & Innovation**

- **Driving Research** - 8% of Corporate dues support AFS research, including 40 projects currently underway
- **Committee Membership** - Individual members engage on AFS committees, which sponsor research and help establish industry standards
- **Technical Assistance** - The AFS technical services team is ready for your calls on technical, metallurgical, and EHS questions, and casting design assistance, with top priority going to corporate members
- **HR Consulting** - AFS provides foundry-specific insights and assistance for your human resources needs
- **Energy Consulting** - AFS can help with questions about energy costs, consumption and efficiency

**Workforce & Career Development**

- **Leadership Training & Sustainability** - AFS trains the current and future leaders of metalcasting
- **Building the Next Generation of Metalcasters** - Student chapters, Institute training, foundry demonstrations, Melting Point magazine and more attract new talent to the industry
- **Regional Chapters** - Individual members may join AFS regional chapters
- **Casting Connection** - Members can ask questions and get answers from peers through this metalcasting social network
- **Industry Job Descriptions** - AFS' complete, detailed list of metalcasting industry job descriptions is available for corporate members to use for recruiting, evaluations, or other workforce needs
- **Metalcasting Job Board** - Save 50% when you post jobs on the AFS Job Board
- **Event Discounts** - Save on registration for AFS educational and networking events AFS (Discounts vary)

**Books & Publications**

- **Modern Casting** - A subscription to one of the industry's leading trade magazines, delivered monthly ($109 value)
- **International Journal of Metalcasting** - A subscription to AFS' metalcasting research journal ($199 value)
- **Member Connections** - A quarterly print publication featuring industry, AFS and chapter news ($40 value)
- **Book Discounts** - Get 50% off on AFS-published technical books
- **AFS Insider News** - Stay up-to-date on industry news and AFS events with this weekly e-newsletter

For more information, contact Ben Yates at 800-537-4237 or byates@afsinc.org.
AFS WELCOMES
NEW CORPORATE MEMBERS

Applied Ceramics Inc.
Boose Quality Castings
Decco Castings Inc.

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General Aluminum
Green Diamond Performance Materials

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Meltlab Systems
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**AFS Events**

- **Feb. 6-7 | Metalcasting Management & Development Summit | New Orleans, LA**
- **March 3-4 | Environmental 101 Seminar | Schaumburg, IL**
- **April 21-23 | Metalcasting Congress 2020 | Cleveland, OH**
- **May 12-13 | Practical Cupola Workshop | Rockford, IL**
- **May 19-20 | Government Affairs Fly-In | Washington, D.C.**
- **June 9-10 | Foundry 4.0 | Itasca, IL**

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- **Feb. 12-13 | Improving the Effectiveness of Visual Inspection | Charlotte, NC**
- **Feb. 19-20 | Introduction to Metalcasting | Schaumburg, IL**
- **Feb. 26-27 | Iron Melting 201 | Birmingham, AL**
- **March 4-5 | Improving the Effectiveness of Visual Inspection | Detroit, MI**
- **Mar. 11-12 | Casting Design | Charlotte, NC**
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**INSTITUTE COURSES**

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**Member Connections**

- **Published by AFS, Schaumburg, IL**
- **Member Connections** is a newsletter for all current AFS members. Send all inquiries to Katelyn Stanek at kstanek@afsinc.org or 847-824-0181 ext. 286.

**Foundry 4.0**

**Digital Manufacturing in the Metalcasting Industry**

**June 9-10, 2020 | Eaglewood Resort & Spa | Itasca, IL**

**What will a foundry look like in 10 years?**

The designation “4.0” is often used in reference to the next phase of the Industrial Revolution (the “Fourth Industrial Revolution”) and generally expresses the impact of smart manufacturing and the implementation of technology in manufacturing.

**Register today at:**

www.afsinc.org/Foundry4.0