



INFORMATION

JUNE 2020

Well, what has been happening at your Institute since the April 2020 edition?

It is truly amazing what can be achieved on-line and we have been as busy as ever; the administration of courses has been difficult but achievable even under the current coronavirus issues.



Online activity has been significant and webinars and zoom technical sessions have been well attended. The anodising and electroplating of aluminium (see pictures either side) has been



well covered by these sessions and can be revisited at our YouTube site ; the address is on p.2





INDUSTRIAL PROCESS HEATING EQUIPMENT

braude

The Neptune MI Electric Immersion heater is the newest addition to the Polaris range of Heaters



- STAINLESS STEEL, TEFLON OR TITANIUM
- LOW WATT DENSITY • SINGLE OR THREE PHASE

Contact our Sales team on:
01252 876123 • sales@braude.co.uk

MODULAR POPULAR CYLINDRICAL NEPTUNE

www.braude.co.uk



Schloetter

Surface Technology

The latest technology in Plating and Lacquer Processes

Contact Paul Griffiths
Schloetter Co. Ltd
New Road Pershore, Worcs, UK WR10 1BY
T: +44(0)1386 552331 F: +44 (0)1386 556864
Email: sales@schloetter.co.uk

www.schloetter.co.uk

**For Salt Spray Corrosion Testing
& Chemical Analysis**

by UKAS and Nadcap Accredited Laboratory



Corporate, ASTM and BS / ISO specification

Contact: Mark Ricketts
Unit 20, Mercia Business Village
Westwood Business Park
Coventry CV4 8HX
Tel: (024) 7647 4474
support@aerotechlabs.co.uk



Aerotech
LABORATORIES



YouTube



https://youtube.com/channel/UCGAPqt37unEQaUHn8dSu5A?view_as=subscriber

IMF DIARY

4th SEPTEMBER 2020

Distance Learning Start Date
(but you can enrol from **1st AUGUST**)

karen@materialsfinishing.org

UPCOMING WEBINARS

14th July 2020

Sacrificial Coatings

18th August 2020

Zinc, Zinc Alloy & Cadmium Plating

22nd September 2020

Plant & Equipment

20th October 2020

SURFACE WORLD LIVE

SUPPORTED BY THE INSTITUTE OF MATERIALS FINISHING - we have everything covered

Revised dates: 24th & 25th February 2021, NEC, Birmingham

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR FREE ENTRY TODAY



SURFEX

The complete event for surface & coatings technology

EXHIBITION Ricoh Arena, Coventry, UK
INDUSTRY INSIGHT 20-21 October
SURFACING SCIENCE
TECHFOCUS
THE CUTTING EDGE **2020**

NEW DATES

MACH
25-28 January 2021
NEC Birmingham UK
machexhibition.com

Secretary General's Column, June 2020

What a strange past 2 months we have lived through; I hope everyone has managed to stay fit and well and coped with whatever version of "self-isolation" they have imposed upon themselves.

Here in a rural village in Herefordshire, life has been a little lonely, but we seem to have escaped the worse that Covid-19 could have thrown at us. We now have the "Two Metre Distance" dance in the local shops, which I'm sure could become a new discipline on "Strictly"!

Adaption to working from home was not as hard as thought, but the "curse of Zoom" is amongst us; up to six a day is getting a bit much!

I do hope the recent easing of both work and social gatherings will help our economy get back on its feet. I think a bit of a "well done" should be extended to the Government, for their willingness to put money into the furlough scheme and to help the self-employed. I appreciate it has been hard for many of us to maintain our financial position, but when you look at how the American people have suffered financially in comparison, I am sure we can be very grateful!

What is needed now is a push to get our manufacturing industries back up and running, hopefully towards where we were at the turn of the year. I know this will take a lot of effort on everyone's behalf, but I am sure we all want this to succeed without the need for too many job losses.

You will be pleased to know that Exeter House has now "re-opened" for business, with both Helen and Karen now working there for 4 days a week. They obviously are respecting social distancing and have put together a working regime to take account of all Government guidelines and conducted the necessary risk assessment! The office does however still stay closed to visitors at this time; we must wait and see what new instructions are issued by the Government before we can consider changes to this rule. Board meetings, and committee meetings will continue through the dreaded zoom, and it is pleasing to note that our Southern Branch colleagues continue to organise both their webinars, and a virtual seminar.

It is of great joy to note that our sales of training courses have continued, almost unabated, through these strange days, with a much greater return than anyone was expecting. So well done Karen for your sterling efforts!

So, it's great to be able to report that our Institute continues to thrive through these very weird times. Please continue to support the Institute by promptly paying your subscriptions for membership when the letter pops through your door early next month!

Keep well; stay safe!

Graham Armstrong

Innovative Measurement Technology

Fischer Instruments; for when trueness, precision and reliability are essential.

For more information,
call 01590 684100
www.fischergb.co.uk
info@fischergb.co.uk

Coating Thickness
Microhardness

Material Analysis
Material Testing

fischer





During the current COVID 19 lockdown many of us have turned to sorting out areas that we have perhaps avoided for many years in favour of higher priority demands, I like many have been one of those people.

My most recent and pleasing find were the items below which were originally coated by some of my customers more than 30 years ago and taken from their production lines for us to exhibit at IWEX, the major Water utilities and supply chain exhibition at the NEC Birmingham.

I was then the coating powder supplier and remember explaining how when applied correctly it would meet the WIS 4-52-01 standard and the Euro norm of 25 years buried life without failure.



These items have not been buried BUT have been in the garage buried under lots of tools and all manner of DIY remnants. It is clear to see that they are just the same as the day they were coated, the fasteners all run freely down the threads and in fact the small backing ring at the front had an adhesion test cross hatch done at the exhibition and it still passes the test today.

So what does this show us?

1. When working with coatings SPECIFY the Quality you want, don't simply say 'coat this'
2. Always work to the QC program and inspect, inspect, inspect and TEST.
3. Ensure your staff are well trained and supported, not JUST following procedures.
4. Select your coating with the very best advice and to suit the required life duration.
5. Let your success be your company development and marketing strategy

All articles coated in Rilsan® Polyamide 11 from ARKEMA

In the last 30 years many coatings have developed and grown with regards to performance and the selection available is now quite considerable, this makes it incredibly important for both specifiers and coaters to have access to the latest information and advice BEFORE putting the design to manufacture, designing for the coating operation can be as important as the design itself if the all the final properties are to be met.

Ken Griffiths FIMF, MICorr, C Dip AF.

The clock is ticking for nPB

With less than a month to go until the use of nPB is banned, business are required to act now.



What is nPB?

Short for normal Propyl Bromide, nPB is also known as solvent 1-bromopropane is a solvent commonly used in the cleaning and degreasing process for the aerospace, precision engineering, medical, optical and electronic industries.

Why do I need to stop using nPB?

nPB is as a hazardous substance, which can damage fertility and harm unborn children which is identified in the risk section of the MSDS sheet. As such, it has been registered as a Substance of Very High Concern (SVHC) under REACH which regulates the supply and use of chemicals in Europe.

Any substance meeting the criteria for SVCH may be placed on the 'Candidate List' and/or the 'Authorisation List' (Annex XIV), which invites companies wishing to use these substances to seek an 'authorisation' from the European Commission (EC).

nPB has been placed on Annex XIV, so a 'sunset date' of **4 July 2020** has been set. After this date, its use is banned, unless an authorisation has been granted for a specific use and no alternative is available.

In most cases, there are suitable, safer alternatives to nPB, so unless they have a permit, the majority of businesses will be prohibited from using the substance from July 2020.

What do I need to do?

If you're still using nPB, do not panic, you still have time to find a replacement, but you must act quickly.

The first step is to find an alternative solvent. The good news is, there's a range of new generation solvents which are much safer, and also more environmentally friendly.

For solvent cleaning, the Opteon™ range from Chemours™ is an extremely safe, ultra-low environmental impact and cost-effective option.

The newest product in our portfolio is Opteon™ SF80, which is a non-flammable, and environmentally friendly solvent with no ozone depletion potential, an ultra-low global warming potential (<2) and does not contain any products regulated under F-gas regulations. SF80 is an effective replacement for nPB, TCE, HCFCs, PFCs, HFCs and HFEs solvents, and is becoming the replacement solvent of choice for many of our customers including leading aerospace manufacturer, BAE Systems.

Things to consider

- Don't replace one harmful substance with another
- Make sure you comply with F-gas regulations

For more information on how the nPB ban could affect you and your business please contact Fraser Technologies today!

For more information please contact us:

Tel: 01506 443058 | E-mail: sales@frasertech.co.uk | www.frasertech.co.uk

COMMITTEES and GROUPS (i)

IMF Science Committee

Surface engineering underpins over 50% of the UK's total manufacturing sector and the IMF is the only professional body embracing its associated technologies.

The role of the IMF Science Committee is to promote and encourage both technical and scientific innovation in surface engineering that will enhance both their status and that of our industry. We help our members seek funding, as well as support and, if necessary, prospective partners. We also encourage dissemination, exploitation and commercialisation of any new technologies developed by our members.

Through the Science Committee, the Institute is at the heart of UK Government and we actively promote surface engineering at the highest political levels. We are an Associate Member of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee and our representative sits on one of its standing committees.

We also help our membership seek Government backed funding for their R&D activities and if necessary, will help prepare funding applications. In recent times, we have also:

- advised our members in developing new surface coating methods;
- matched members to obtain research grants for the development of advanced coatings and membranes;
- assisted our membership pursue and commercialise new processes;
- become a member of an advisory board for an EU funded projects.



ATOTECH
Leading world supplier of
advanced surface treatment
processes and products

ATOTECH UK LTD
William Street
West Bromwich, B70 0BE
Tel: 0121 606 7777 Fax: 0121 606 7200



PHOENIX
COUNTY METALS LTD

**PRECIOUS METAL
RECLAMATION SPECIALISTS**

Contact Paul Johnson
to discuss your requirements
(01327) 260581 • paul@pcm-ltd.co.uk
www.pcm-ltd.co.uk

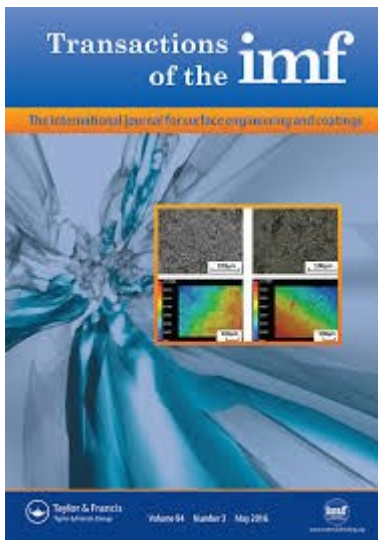
Institute of Materials Finishing Publications Committee

One of the major aims of the Institute is the dissemination of technical information for materials finishing, surface treatment and surface engineering. This is achieved through the publication of the Institute's own official journal, *Transactions*. Published six times a year, *Transactions* holds a pre-eminent position as a source of technical information world-wide. It is divided into two sections, the Bulletin section reports on items of industrial interest to the Institute membership whilst the main section of the journal publishes peer reviewed papers from around the world which reflect the latest research and technological trends in materials finishing.

The Publications Committee's role is to maintain the high standards achieved in *Transactions* and to ensure the effective dissemination of knowledge. The

publication's Editorial Board is responsible to the Honorary Editor-in-Chief for the quality of all papers submitted for publication and helps in attracting quality contributions from world-wide sources.

The committee also helps to establish links with similar organisations from around the world. In recent years the European Academy of Surface Technology (EAST) has begun to use *Transactions* as its preferred route to report news to its membership on a regular basis.





“Virtual” Seminar on Anodising

Given by the Southern Branch of the Institute of Materials Finishing

The Southern Branch of the IMF host two seminars a year, May and October, but because of the Coronavirus situation, the May event was not going to be possible.

With the advent of new computer technology, it was decided to hold our very first “Virtual” Seminar on the subject of anodising.

As you may or may not know, the IMF hold webinars usually on a monthly basis. It was decided to hold the Anodising webinar in conjunction with the Southern Branch Seminar and invite people to attend so that we could test the water on this new technology.

This did bring a good deal of interest for the seminar and gave people the opportunity from all over the UK to attend whereas normally, with the seminars being held in the South, it is often difficult for people to travel especially as it is held in the evening.

The anodising webinar was given as a PowerPoint presentation and covered the understanding of how anodising works, how the porous cell grows during the anodising process and how the capability of colouring the anodised aluminium works.

The second speaker was Phil Alexander who gave a talk on the practical side of anodising, highlighting some of the pitfalls to look out for and also some of the tricks of the trade which are not found in the books on the subject.

The Southern Branch felt that the evening went well and will more than likely repeat the idea in September.

J Burgess (Publicity for the Southern Branch)

 FIRST FOR CHOICE FIRST FOR VALUE	PUMPS AND FILTERS Siebec UK Ltd Unit 3 St Albans Rd, Stafford Staffs ST16 3DR Tel: 01785 227700 Fax: 01785 246006
--	--