Do you want to learn more about what the IMF does?
Do you want to get a better understanding of why members decide to take courses to improve their knowledge of their industry, then spare a few moments to listen to the new IMF Podcast.

Although it is only in its infancy, the aim of the podcast is to talk to members of the IMF, both those taking courses and those who have been in the industry for a long time in order to get their take on the IMF and how it has benefitted them. We will also be talking with previous students who have taken the IMF courses, to explain what they felt were the benefits of completing the course work and examinations and also what knowledge they have gained to help them in their respective careers. We will also be talking to long standing members (Past Presidents etc.) to get an insight on how the IMF has helped their careers and what part they have played in contributing to helping newcomers to the industry.

If you would like to take part in a podcast and feel that you have something to say that might be useful then please contact John Burgess (johnB_IMF@btinternet.com) to discuss.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
7th December 2021

DISTANCE LEARNING START DATES
Friday 10th September 2021

You may enrol up to 30 days in advance of the start date.

Please note that all course fees must be paid in full before any course materials can be released.

Please contact Karen Yates by email karen@materialsfinishing.org

You can find details of courses and qualifications on our website- https://materials-finishing.org/

UPCOMING WEBINARS/SEMINARS
I know they say that as you get older that time goes by so much more quickly, but please tell me where the first five months of 2021 have gone! It only seems like yesterday that we had finally left Europe, and we were worrying about the changes in how we interfaced with them, and here we are still surviving, still exporting and, hopefully, still getting paid!

Again only five months ago, we had just entered our third lockdown, with no obvious end in sight to the Covid pandemic, and yet here we are now going to the pub or out for a meal and, as I write this, with a proposed return to almost total normality less than three weeks away. That is assuming the “Indian” is brought under control!

Those of you who know me will confirm that I’m not a great political person, but I think we have to praise not only our Government for their planning of the vaccine rollout, but particularly special praise must go to the NHS and its vast team of volunteers. To now have over 75% of the adult population having had one dose and now nearly 50% fully vaccinated is in my opinion amazing.

I was in a zoom meeting recently with representatives of coatings associations from around the world, to include Europe, Scandinavia, Australia and New Zealand. Part of the discussion centred on each countries position on the pandemic, and all were surprised at our rate of vaccine rollout. It was interesting during this meeting to hear of the issues facing materials finishing operations in other parts of the world. Recently here in the UK, certainly within the paint industry, we have, and still are, suffering from raw material shortages and quite severe price increases, which cannot be absorbed. Consequently, we have needed to increase prices to the applicators and end users at rates far higher than general inflation. It was interesting to note that both Australia and New Zealand are having identical issues, so this belies the theory that the problem is “Brexit” related.

I’m beginning to get a feeling of increased confidence in the materials finishing industries, and certainly some of our major industries, including automotive and aerospace who are I understand seeing the first shoots of growth. This can only benefit us all as requirements are passed through the supply chain.

As we move out of our restrictions, Helen and Karen will consider initially a partial return to working at Exeter House, but we have agreed to continue to some working from home, which has proved to be so successful during the lockdown periods. Commuting into Birmingham has never been fun, and this allied with the new Birmingham “Clean Air Zone” mean that their daily commute could be more difficult. The Clean Air Zone will also lead us to consider if and how we return to “face to face” meetings of the board and committees as there is no doubt these have worked well over the zoom platform. However, I don’t think there can be a full substitute to a “proper” meeting, especially with one of Helen’s buffet lunches! The June series of examinations will, however, take place at an hotel in Solihull, where ongoing social distancing requirements can be observed.

I cannot close this column without thinking about our dear friend, Nick Johnson, who passed away during May after a short, but vicious battle with lymphoma. Nick had been our treasurer for nearly six years, and had brought the Institutes finances under total control, and refined our view on investments etc. The management board will look to appoint a new treasurer, but at this point, our thoughts must be with Nick’s widow Joy and her family.

Graham Armstrong
June 2021.
We are sorry to report that four of our Members, friends and colleagues have passed away since the last copy of IMFormation. To do justice to these sad events we have chosen to put the full obituaries, as available, onto our website and Transactions as appropriate.

**NICK JOHNSON**
Treasurer for the IMF, architect of improved fiscal control and remembered as a previous work colleague at Atotech.

**JOE EDWARDS**
A long-time Fellow and Past President of the Institute. He was a holder of a number of the IMF’s prestigious medals.

**SHARAD KULKANI**
A leading light in the Metal Finishing Association of India and a well remembered friend of the IMF. He completed his Masters Degree in the UK.

**PAUL JOHNSON**
Former Managing Director of our Sustaining Member Phoenix County Metals Ltd. He completed 38 years at the company.
INDESTRUCTIBLE PAINT LTD.

INDESTRUCTIBLE PAINT KEEPS PACE WITH COMPOSITE MATERIAL DEVELOPMENT

While developing technologies so often bring greater efficiency, safety and environmentally improved performance, their emergence is invariably accompanied by the need to ensure associated production considerations are focussed upon. Repeatedly, high performance paints and coatings come under the spotlight in this context, particularly where the use of new materials is a key factor.

“The greater take-up of composites is a prime example and one where we have worked closely with a number of customers to address the issues that arise,” says Brian Norton, Managing Director of Birmingham-based Indestructible Paint Ltd., who specialise in the performance coating field. “Such material is continually developing, and being used evermore widely, so it is a constant challenge to ensure coatings not only contribute to component performance but also, importantly, help to address vital factors such as safety.”

By way of illustration, Brian Norton draws attention to the aerospace sector as a major field in which the company works with many of the industry’s leading international names. Here, the use of composite materials can be widely noted – from operational components to aircraft structures and interiors. “Clearly safety is paramount in this field, not least the need to minimise risks from fire, so our development of intumescent and thermal barrier coatings for composite material is highly relevant,” continues Brian Norton.

Perhaps, more recently, the emergence of hybrid and electric vehicles brings these same principles to the fore. “The choice of materials within which batteries are located in a vehicle is an important consideration with, once again, composites being a widespread solution,” adds Brian Norton. “Similar risks need to be addressed, particularly as such material fires can often create toxic smoke and fumes – which in an enclosed environment such as a car is of particular concern. It is particularly crucial, therefore, that the material benefits from a retardant coating.”

As a result, Indestructible Paint has developed a range of products – from thermal barrier and intumescent coatings to non-burn and no-smoke release top coats – that meet this crucial need. The company’s IP2430 and IP9189, for example, are able to meet a range of performance tests such as the ability to withstand temperatures of 180°C for 100 hours. The two-pack, low VOC brush or spray applied coatings are air drying and, importantly, can resist high velocity air movement.

In all cases, these key products have been developed as a direct result of Indestructible Paint’s operational methods. “Close working relationships with customers and the maintenance of a highly innovative research and development capability are at the heart of this,” concludes Brian Norton. “As a result, not only are we confident of keeping pace with the growing use of composites in engineering and manufacturing, but also of being able to respond rapidly to new material needs when they arise.”
Everything you wanted to know about CPD but were afraid to ask

So what is CPD?

Continuing Professional Development is the term that describes how professionals maintain their own competence in the workplace. CPD comprises updating particular areas of competence, developing personal and managerial skills and broadening experience leading to new experiences.

I've got a degree - I'm a Professional

You have a degree (or several degrees) but you probably got them a number of years ago. They show you have an understanding of your subject; they don’t show you have kept up to date with all the developments.

Is CPD important?

Any true professional must keep up to date with the latest developments in their field in order to remain competitive and employable. Many employers and Institutions require their employees/members to maintain their competence.

What is involved in all this CPD?

It is not prescriptive about the number or hours of activity needed to maintain an individual's competence. CPD is about setting yourself objectives and monitoring your progress against them. A key part of this is the requirement to undertake reflective analysis of what you have done.

This must all be very time consuming - I'm very busy

Most people in employment are very busy and there is never enough time to do everything. But CPD is not about how much time you spend doing something or sitting in the lecture room, it is about how much value you capture and take from what you do and the lessons you learn as a result.

S what do I have to do for this CPD?

Most activities both within and outside the workplace are relevant to your professional development and learning. It is for you to extract and use the experiences to further yourself and your profession.

Why is reflection important?

Reflection allows you to take responsibility for your personal growth and helps you
identify the benefits of a particular activity. Reflection should be a normal part of your working life. Those who regularly plan, do, record and reflect on their learning tend to be better at identifying opportunities for personal development.

Why should I keep a record?

As a professional member it is up to you to keep your skills and knowledge both relevant and up to date. Whilst this may sound daunting, see it as an opportunity to identify and work towards achieving your career objectives.

We recommend that at least once a year you review the learning you have achieved throughout the year and then set professional development objectives for the coming year. You may well have an annual appraisal process as part of your job but CPD complements this.

My employer insists on CPD

If your employer has a recognised CPD scheme, then IMF activities are complementary to this.

What format do I have to use?

You can record your CPD manually, in a word processing document, a spreadsheet or using an online system.

This is all very well for beginners but I’m eminent in my field

Well done! Without you and people like you where would we be? But we can all be better and encourage younger colleagues to be better. By undertaking CPD you may find an opportunity that had occurred to you before and you will be setting an example to others to ensure they follow CPD. Perhaps you will be retiring soon; you can use the opportunity of CPD to think about your future.

Ah yes, I’m retired, so I don’t have to do it, correct?

No, retirement is a great opportunity to give back something to the profession which you helped to create and mould. Younger professionals need help and encouragement and through IMF you can do just that for example, by mentoring someone.

How can IMF help with CPD?

Attending regional branch meetings, webinars, exhibitions, and conferences IMF are associated with. Reading the publications, giving lectures, writing journal articles and volunteering on various committees. External volunteer activities? Yes, you may be school governor, local councillor, treasurer of a local charity or many other things. These all-demand skills that you may bring from or take to the workplace.
Quantum Design UK and Ireland are proud to represent J A Woollam. We offer the alpha-SE ellipsometer for routine measurements of thin-film thickness and refractive index, with results in seconds.
ACIDVAC – A SIEBEC Innovation: Thermoplastic industrial vacuum designed to help you remove efficiently and safely, corrosive liquids and sludge from chemical processing tanks, sumps, drains and spills.

The ACIDVAC is fitted with a patented pneumatic powered, high performance venturi system, designed for a pressure supply of 6-8 bar. This enables the suction of both liquids and sludge up to 3.5 m high (for liquids of specific gravity of 1). When the 70 liters ACIDVAC storage tank is full of liquids and/or slurry, the vacuum automatically stops. Emptying it is quick as achieved through a large port at the bottom of the pressurised chamber, ensuring a quick discharge of both liquids and sludge into any recipient, without any retention.

The mobile, pneumatic driven ACIDVAC Industrial vacuum has been designed so that the noise level is only 72 dB (A).

A consideration during the design phase of the ACIDVAC was to protect the operator from potentially noxious fumes. This function was achieved thanks to the possibility to connect a Ø80 mm flexible duct that can be connected into an existing facility extraction system or simply piped to evacuate the fumes.

**Specification**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Vacuum specification</th>
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<td>Capacity</td>
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<td>Noise level</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dimensions (LxWxH)</td>
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</tbody>
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SIEBEC has a comprehensive range of proven products available for filtering, pumping, eductor agitating, dosing, filter media, precious metal recovery, ion exchange, organics removal, effluent treatment and vacuuming of process chemistry and waste water. Many products are stocked and typically available for next day delivery from our Stafford factory.

Please take a look at our website to see details of SIEBEC’s range of equipment and technologies – [www.siebec.com](http://www.siebec.com)
An Exciting opportunity has become available within South West Metal Finishing for a Process Engineer based in sunny Devon at the Main Exeter facility.

We are seeking a self-driven and motivated person who is not afraid of getting their hands dirty, has the ability to head up a small team and focus on driving continuous Improvement initiatives across products & processes. If you are passionate about electroplating best practice, enjoy the challenge of stabilising processes and want to be part of shaping the future of our business. Please contact Leighc@eicgroup.co.uk for more information.
It is with great excitement that MacDermid Enthone Industrial Solutions announces the intention to acquire Coventya. This acquisition aligns with our strategic goals and priorities of driving growth through the delivery of innovative solutions, products and services in the plating and surface finishing industries. To read more how the services and solutions provided by both organizations will continue, please click the link below.

https://lnkd.in/eMt66Mv

June 11, 2021

MacDermid Enthone Industrial Solutions Announces Intention to Acquire Coventya Waterbury, CT - June 11, 2021 - MacDermid Enthone Industrial Solutions, a manufacturer of chemical compounds used in surface coating applications, has signed an agreement to acquire Coventya, a privately-held international chemical company specializing in surface finishing products.

Coventya develops, manufactures and distributes specialty chemicals for the surface finishing industry in over 5 continents and 60 countries. The business is headquartered in France and has manufacturing sites in Europe, Asia and the Americas. Its products serve customers globally across a diverse set of end-markets including automotive, fashion, construction, electronic, consumer goods, energy and aerospace / military.

"We are very excited about the opportunity to acquire Coventya. Coventya has a long history of providing innovative and high-quality technical solutions used in the plating and finishing industries. Many of their technologies are complementary to ours, and we are delighted to add to the breadth of capabilities at our disposal to support our customers and theirs. This has long been a logical combination, and we will be pleased to welcome this team on board" said Ben Gliklich, Chief Executive Officer of Element Solutions Inc, the parent of MacDermid Enthone Industrial Solutions.

Richard Lynch, Senior Vice President of MacDermid Enthone Industrial Solutions added, "We believe that Coventya's customer relationships, innovative solutions and broad end-markets will enhance our position in delivering high-quality solutions to our customers. The proposed acquisition will give MacDermid Enthone Industrial Solutions the ability to accelerate its growth in Europe, unlocking tremendous opportunities for the business while the Asia and Americas businesses will be well-situated to benefit from Coventya's complementary operations. We view this acquisition as one of many steps that we are taking to position our industrial business for continued growth as we work with customers to solve the complex challenges associated with plating solutions."

Coventya CEO Erik Weyls said, "This transaction is a great milestone for our company. We expect Element Solutions to provide Coventya and its people with resources and capabilities that will accel-
erate our growth. This has long been a logical combination which we believe will provide customers with a broad suite of enhanced solutions that will be differentiated in our markets. I am incredibly proud of the team that has enabled Coventya's success to date and thankful for their effort to build such an outstanding company. The future is bright for our business and its people, and we are all looking forward to becoming a part of the dynamic company that the team at Element Solutions is building."

This acquisition is aligned with MacDermid Enthone Industrial Solution's strategic goals and priorities of driving growth through the delivery of innovative solutions, products and services in the plating and surface finishing industries. Coventya's leading initiatives will amplify the already strong partnerships in the MacDermid Enthone Industrial Solutions business and will enable continued focus on high-growth segments, such as automotive, construction, industrial, consumer goods and electronics. We expect this acquisition to close by or in the fourth quarter of 2021, subject to receipt of certain regulatory approvals, completion of required employee consultation procedures and satisfaction of other customary closing conditions.

About MacDermid Enthone Industrial Solutions

MacDermid Enthone Industrial Solutions innovates and manufactures chemical compounds for all surface coating applications including cleaning, activating, brightening, electro and electroless plating, phosphating, anti-tarnishing and rust inhibiting. Our products improve the durability and aesthetics of both metal and plastic surfaces. End use applications for our treatments include aerospace, automotive, electronics, luxury goods, oil / gas and sanitary fittings. In these industries, MacDermid Enthone is the supply chain partner who adds value to your business.

www.industrial.macdermidenthone.com. MacDermid Enthone Industrial Solutions is a business unit of Element Solutions Inc (NYSE: ESI). Element Solutions Inc is a leading specialty chemicals company whose businesses supply a broad range of solutions that enhance the products people use every day. www.elementstionsinc.com

About Coventya

Coventya is an international company that develops, manufactures and distributes specialty chemicals for the surface finishing industry in over 5 continents and 60 countries. With a rich and diverse history that dates back to 1927, Coventya is considered a global market leader in both innovation and customer support. www.coventya.com
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