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Since the event was last organised in 2018, there have been a lot of changes to our industry, with new challenges to overcome, as well as more opportunities to be found. This year’s event will be a fantastic opportunity to meet and network with your industry peers and to reignite old connections. The event is free to attend and registration is simple and easy to complete. Register now using the QR code.

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www.materials-finishing.org
DISTANCE LEARNING START DATES

3rd June 2022

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/](https://materials-finishing.org/)

UPCOMING WEBINARS/SEMINARS

**Electroless Plating**

*a Webinar*

10th May 2022 14.00

**Optical Coatings for Space Applications**

*a Zoom session*

17th May 2022 19-15

Everyone is invited and if you wish to attend any webinar or seminar please contact John Burgess by email:

JohnB_IMF@btinternet.com
It seems hardly possible that we are a third through 2022; where have the first four months of the year gone?

It probably is the fact that businesses have really picked up in the last 2-3 months, due in some small measure to the almost total ending of Covid measures. It has been really great to be able to move around without always having to wear a face mask, although I must admit to continuing to wear one in shops and supermarkets. I recently took a trip to Germany where it was still a requirement to wear a face mask on the flight.

I think we now have to accept that we will have to live with Covid and treat it like we now look at either flu or the common cold. I know of many friends and colleagues who have contracted the virus over recent weeks without feeling really ill. There is no doubt that the vaccination programme was very successful, and I’m now looking forward to the 4th jab!

Business has really taken off in the first part of this year, with many companies seeing activity back almost to pre-pandemic levels. This is a really welcoming news and bodes well for the future of our industry. I do hope that the conflict now taking place in Ukraine will not cause this growth to slow down or stop.

For me seeing what is happening in Ukraine is so upsetting, and I do hope that a peaceful resolution can soon be found.

There is little to update on UK REACH following the decision by DEFRA to review the timescales on chemical registration; we still await news of any revised decision, but we are maintaining our watch on what is happening through our involvement with the Cross-Sector group and our links with other technical societies and Institutes.

It was good to have the break from work over the Easter holidays, and to be able to look forward to some long weekends with the upcoming bank holidays, and the platinum jubilee of the Queen. I think with the increased pressures of work these days off are really important!

Please remember our IMFormation publication is really for you, our members, so please let Helen know if you have any news that would interest our members for use in future issues.

Graham Armstrong
Fraser Technologies unveils new aqueous cleaning machine from Miele

Specialist supplier to the component cleaning market, Fraser Technologies, has unveiled its newest piece of cleaning equipment from Miele.

The SlimLine PLW 6011 & PLW 6111 aqueous cleaning machine is single chamber aqueous cleaning system and is only 65cm wide, providing a large internal capacity within a small footprint. It offers a flexible chamber space, allowing a wide range of components to be cleaned quickly at the same time.

The machine provides a smart load system, flexible and intelligent controls, a highly efficient cleaning process, a wide range of load carriers and accessories, and it allows for visual monitoring of the chamber via a glass window with internal lighting.

The machines are especially effective for flux removal from electronic PCB assemblies but are ideally suited for many other specialist cleaning applications as well. Roy Goshawk, Sales Manager at Fraser Technologies, said: “This is an innovative aqueous cleaning machine from a high-end manufacturer with a reputation for excellent reliability and strong customer support.

“The machine is suitable for customers from multiple industries, such as aerospace, automotive, electronics and medical devices. Manufacturers can use aqueous cleaning solutions for a variety of metals, including stainless steel, copper and brass, to remove grease, cutting fluids and general particulate. These systems are also commonly used for flux removal in the electronics sector.

“Initial trials of the new process with a number of our customers have been extremely positive. The efficiency of the single chamber system can save time and operating costs, while still providing high-level results. It’s an exciting new option for aqueous component cleaning, and we’re looking forward to rolling it out to new and existing customers over the coming months.”

Fraser Technologies provides expert advice and a wide range of world-leading chemistries and equipment solutions for component cleaning, electronics soldering, and heat transfer and carrier fluids. Working closely with customers to understand their individual challenges, Fraser Technologies can help extend the life of existing processes and equipment; recommend and install new equipment; or help to improve efficiency and significantly reduce environmental impact.

Over the last 50 years, Fraser Technologies has built its expertise around meeting technological advances, adapting to legislative changes, and solving environmental challenges for companies in the aerospace, defence, electronics, medical, optics and automotive industries. The company offers a one-stop-shop, including: expert knowledge; an independent range of new generation products; comprehensive after-sales service; and a commitment to improving performance, productivity, environmental performance and operator safety. It uses its expertise to offer best-in-class solutions.

For more information please contact us:
Tel: 01506 443058 | E-mail: sales@frasertech.co.uk | www.frasertech.co.uk
Upcoming IMF Webinar

Please see below information on our upcoming webinar.

Date: 10th May 2022       Time: 14:00

“Electroless Plating”

To Register:
https://exeterhouse.clickmeeting.com/electroless-plating/register

If you are interested in joining the webinar, please register using the information above.
The course will be designed to be interactive and it is advisable to have paper and pencil to hand.
If you would like a formal Clickmeeting invitation (which will supply you with all the above) please contact John Burgess,
JohnB_IMF@btinternet.com

We have had issues with attendees not being able to hear the webinar. For the best results please ensure that your browser is either: Safari, Firefox, Google Chrome, (Google Chrome being the preferred technology)
The technology should support WebRTC.

Please look in your junk/spam file in case your email system thinks that the reply is spam as we have had issues over this in the past.

There is no cost for the webinar.
Southern Branch Evening Seminar by Zoom

Date: Tuesday 17th May 2022
Time: 19-15 – 21-15
Subject: Optical Coatings for Space Applications
Speaker: Dr John Arnold

For the amateur as well as the professional, it is now a ‘golden age’ in Astronomy. Enthusiasts can now readily obtain views from their back garden and produce images that are superior to those from professional observatories of a generation ago.

Much of this progress has relied on optical coatings and this presentation will outline what this has meant with illustrative examples

Surface of the sun

Galaxy in M101 Region

International Space Station

If you would like to find out more about this fascinating subject and join us for our seminar then please contact:

Helen@materialsfinishing.org who will send you a zoom link.

We look forward to seeing you there and there is no charge for this seminar.
Looking back over 50 years
J Burgess

I was with my fellow Southern Branch committee members last night and we were discussing when the Southern Branch began.

It was thought that it was around 50 years ago so that would have made it 1972 so I decided to see if I could find anything in the archive of Transactions.

I managed to download the March issue of Transactions and although I found nothing relating to the Southern Branch, an article caught my eye which I found very interesting.

The introduction page was written by the then new president Frank C. Porter and he entitled his subject “Communication”.

Frank managed to write 6 pages on the subject and while I am not going to write it word for word, it did emphasise many areas how the need to communicate is so important.

Frank broke the subject down into 6 areas.

Why Communicate?
What are the Priorities in Metal Finishing Communications?
The Mechanism for Communications
The Content of Communication
When to Communicate
Who is Responsible for Spreading Metal Finishing Knowledge?

Communication is beneficial to both to the donor and the recipient and at its simplest level the opportunity to ‘get it off your chest’ and voice embryo ideas and thoughts clears the mind says Frank and he suggests that the major role of the Institute is to develop good communication not only within its membership but also with other on subjects where there should be a mutual interest.

The Priorities of Metal Finishing Communications is important in order to keep our profession up to date. This can be by information passed on by a representative on new products or in terms of the Institute can be by Webinars, Seminars and Educational studies.

The mechanism of communication back in 1972 was not internet/computer based and definitely not social media but by typewritten information and presentations using photographic slides. The opportunity to go to seminars to listen to professional people speak and to ask questions was something that was always welcome and these were always well attended.

Who is Responsible for Spreading Metal Finishing Knowledge?

The Content of Communication can be seen to be important, but it does depend on the person who is reading it.
A subject of the use of different types of additives and its effect on the substrate would be very useful for R&D but in the commercial environment the mechanism of pre-
treatment prior to plating would be more important.

So ‘When do we need to Communicate?’ Often it may be just to ask what requires to be plated but other times it could be why has the part plated not plated correctly.

Failure to communicate at the right time can lead to difficult situations but the communication must be constructive in order to obtain the result required.

Every member of our industry needs to be able to talk clearly about metal finishing and to discuss intelligently the impingement of metal finishing on his organization’s business. This is catered for in our examinations scheme, which embraces an understanding of some of the basic principles of management and some specific techniques such as cost estimating.

The Institute also has a strong corporate membership whose support and activity is most valuable and essential in bringing home to governmental, industrial and educational bodies the importance of metal finishing both in terms of the size and expansion of the industry.

Obviously this is a very brief resume of the article and if you would like to see the full article (which I thoroughly recommend then please visit the website www.materials-finishing.org and go to News Items and follow the links.

John Burgess FIMF
APRIL 2022
Spitfire AA810 Restoration secures important services support.

Spitfire AA810 Restoration are pleased to announce the generous support of Robert Stuart Ltd of Harlow who will be assisting the project with ongoing Non-Destructive Testing and surface treatment services of both our recovered original components as well as new manufacture machine fittings. As we continue to recover parts from the wreck of AA810, NDT inspections are critical for the safe restoration of Sandy’s Spitfire. Robert Stuart Ltd, who provide such services to major manufacturers, will be bringing their 77 years of aerospace experience to our project.

Speaking of the recent agreement, Spitfire AA810 Restoration Director Tony Hoskins said: “Being able to establish the complete integrity of the original parts we are reusing from Sandy’s Spitfire is essential as we progress the restoration. In period, wartime parts were not subject to the level of scrutiny we accept as standard today and, therefore, it is vital that we establish that the quality of the items we use going forwards will be good for 80 more years at least. Being able to work with experts in the field of inspection and surface treatments as part of the restoration effort ensures the highest level of confidence in all the components within AA810 when it flies.”
As well as NDT services, Spitfire AA810 will be using both cadmium and anodising services for our original and newly manufactured steel and aluminium parts to both conserve and preserve Sandy’s Spitfire in the best way possible for future generations against the rigours of our maritime environment. Robert Stuart Ltd has also recently made a significant investment into the business which has seen the installation of state-of-the-art spraying facilities that will enable the perfect external surface etching of the major sub-assemblies of Sandy’s Spitfire, protecting the aircraft’s skin during the remainder of the restoration process.

For more information contact-
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EXHIBITIONS

THE Advanced Materials Show

29th & 30th June 2022    NEC, Birmingham, UK

Co-located with

CERAMICS UK

Mach 2024

15-19 April    NEC Birmingham UK

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