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

Please contact Karen Yates by email
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You can find details of courses and qualifications on our website- <https://materials-finishing.org/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fischer Instrumentation / IMF Presentation

FISCHERSCOPE® XAN® LIQUID ANALYZER

Date: Wednesday 22nd May 2024 Time: 10-12
(refreshments provided) Location: Fischer office,
Persore, Worcestershire, WR10 2JL

For further information please contact jGeorgina
McWhirter Email: gmcwhirter@fischergb.co.uk

So, Easter has been and gone in a flash and it's back to work with a bang! I don't know if it's just me, but the hours, days and weeks just disappear. As you may know, I'm now supposed to be semi-retired and now work just three days a week, but no sooner has the alarm sounded at 5.00am on a Tuesday morning, I'm driving home on the Thursday evening after three very full days of meetings and virtual conferences.

I've been pretty involved with the issue of data gathering on measurements of operators, tanks, spraying and exhaust systems where surface treatments containing Chromium Trioxide are used.



Whilst I think most of us are aware, the UK HSE have said that they will grant a re-authorisation for continued specific uses of Chromium Trioxide, and we are told that this order will be signed by the UK Secretary of State before the September 2024 end of current authorisation deadline. I'm aware of the RICEP proposed guidelines on changes to the handling of chrome flake, but at present these are only suggestions. These guidelines do however make some sense and promote some serious thought on working practices.

In Europe, however, it's a different scenario. No recommendations have yet been issued by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) to the European Commission as to whether or not a re-authorisation will be the recommendation.

The Aerospace and Defence Chrome Re-authorisation (ADCR) grouping, and their consultants have instigated a Spring Data Collection regime, and really do need responses on monitoring information. A very tight deadline of the end of April has needed to be set to enable a full report to be compiled for submission to ECHA. ADCR are concerned that a lack of or minimal data will impact negatively on the recommendation. If you receive one of data collection excel spreadsheets, please do your best to complete and return.

On a more hopeful note, even though some analysts are still predicting doom and gloom, in my experience things in surface engineering and materials finishing certainly appear to be on the up! I'm involved in several new coatings projects that really bode well for the future; I hope you are all seeing some growth and new exciting projects coming forward.



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SECRETARY GENERAL'S COLUMN (ii)

On the social front, there are several exciting activities coming in the near future. Don't miss out on the joint IMF/OCCA golf day planned for Wednesday May 22nd, to be held at the Windmill Village hotel, golf club and spa on the outskirts of Coventry. Teams of up to four golfers are invited from both individuals and member companies. Bacon baps will be served on arrival, and after the golf competition there will be a late lunch and prize presentation. Last year proved to be a great day, with perhaps a little too much alcohol in the evening!

Now less than a year away, the Institute will be celebrating their 100th anniversary in 2025. The year of celebration kicks off with a celebratory dinner on the middle night of the 2025 Surface World Live exhibition on Wednesday 26th February. Helen is already well into the planning of this very special event, so please get in touch with her to book your table! Other events will be planned for throughout 2025 so keep watching announcements in IMFormation and on the web site.

For those of you not aware of the history, the Institute was founded in 1925 as the Electrodepositors Society. The name was firstly changed to the Institute of Metal Finishing during the 1950's and to the Institute of Materials Finishing more recently in 2012, better to reflect the much wider range of coatings systems we now support! Personally, it was a great pleasure and honour to be the first President under the new banner!

So, here's looking forward to starting our second centenary with continued success with our education programmes continuing to educate our youngsters in the chemistry of surface finishing!

Graham Armstrong
April 2024.





Distance learning

Next Enrolment 7th June 2024

Please contact

Karen@materialsfinishing.org

for more information



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SURFACE ENGINEERING DAY

IOM3 CWMS is pleased to announce a Surface Engineering Day on June 6th.

It will involve presentations by leading experts in the field of Surface Treatments and Coatings as well as exhibitions of the latest equipment for scientific investigation of surfaces. The event will take place in the Boardroom of the International Institute for Product and Service Innovation at the University of Warwick. It is scheduled to follow the Surfex conference taking place in Coventry on the previous two days ([2024 Conference Programme - Surfex](#)) so if you are attending the Surfex conference, please consider extending your stay in the area.

The overall programme is planned to be as follows:

09:30: Arrival and registration

10:00: Presentations (with 0.5h break for refreshments)

12:30: Lunch and networking

13:30: Presentations (with 0.5h break for refreshments)

16:30: Close

Exhibitors equipment will be available for examination and demonstration during all breaks.

Full details of speakers and exhibitors will be released when the programme is fully defined over the next weeks, together with details of registration for the free-to-attend event, but if you are interested in this technology be sure to keep the date free!

INDESTRUCTIBLE PAINT

Indestructible Paint participated in a parliamentary reception at the House of Commons recently as part of the launch of a new report published by the British Coatings Federation, highlighting the £4 billion the industry contributes to the UK economy and the £1 billion of products exported annually.

The event, which took place on 5th December, was attended by 100 guests including leaders from the coatings sector, representatives from other trade associations, MPs and Peers. Representing Indestructible Paint was long-standing employee, Graham Armstrong, who also chairs the Aerospace and Defence committee for the BCF. He was joined by his local MP, Sir Bill Wiggin, who has also supported him previously with his charity work.



The new report, titled “Essential Coatings”, includes five key ‘asks’ of Government to enable the coatings sector to thrive and maximise its contribution to the UK economy. This includes a call for regulatory and policy clarity; a long-term industrial strategy for manufacturing; support for businesses transitioning to net zero; a long-term focus on skills and training; and a greater focus on improving post-Brexit trade, to drive growth and success for the industry.

Indestructible Paint, where Graham has worked for over 23 years, is encouraged by the report and backs BCF’s calls, as they align with the company’s decades of investment in skills and growth in the UK. This has resulted in increasing demand across the world for the company’s products, 50% of which are exported internationally. New jobs have been created as well as new technical training programmes, particularly for laboratory apprentices.

Indestructible Paint is also leading the industry by developing multiple projects to make coatings more environmentally sustainable. In particular, the company has invested heavily in R&D over the last decade to develop revolutionary chrome-free products which can withstand temperatures up to an incredible 1000°C, for use in aircraft engines, for example.

“After over 55 years in the industrial coatings industry, it’s great to see the importance of the sector to the UK economy continuing to be recognised,” said Graham. “It was an honour to be part of the event and to see such a clear outline for what will be required to ensure the industry has what it needs to succeed, grow, create more jobs, be more sustainable and have a bright future.”



HMG PAINTS

Manchester based; HMG Paints' range of coatings will once again be taking to the track on race circuits across the world. But this year it'll be on the spectacular new Aston Martin Vantage GT3. As Technical Partners with Prodrive, one of the world's largest and most successful motorsport and technology businesses, HMG will provide its paints for a number of cars throughout the upcoming season.



The Vantage GT3 is a comprehensive evolution of the ultra-successful and recently retired Vantage GTE and GT3 cars, which made their debuts in 2018. Sharing their mechanical architecture – and that of the new Vantage road car – the Vantage GT3 is built around Aston Martin's proven bonded aluminium chassis structure and powered by its fearsome twin-turbo 4.0-litre V8 engine. Boasting a dramatic, all-new nose-to-tail aerodynamic package, comprehensively revised suspension and state-of-the-art electronics, together they endow this latest-generation Aston Martin GT racer with world-beating potential.

Built to comply with all FIA GT3 class regulations, including the new-for-2024 LMGT3 category, the new Vantage GT3 is a truly global competitor. The Vantage GT3 will be fighting for victory at the Nürburgring 24 Hours, Spa-Francorchamps 24 Hours and - most iconic of all – the 24 Hours of Le Mans later this year. The Vantage GT3 will also see action in a host of national GT championships around the globe – including the Japanese Super GT Championship and British GT Championship – underlining Aston Martin's leading role in world motorsport.

HMG's partnership with Prodrive dates back to 2013, and has seen HMG's range of paints and coatings appear on a number of iconic cars built and run by Prodrive in several global racing series.

If you require further information on the press release, please contact:

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HMG Paints Communications
sdyson@hmgpaint.com
0161 205 7631



Do you have a specification for cleanliness within your process?

No? But, clean is clean...right?



Fraser Technologies Managing Director, Graham Fraser, would disagree.

"There is no such concept as completely clean! So, we need to determine, what is clean enough?"

At Fraser Technologies we regularly encounter customers who are unaware of the level of cleanliness they require. While this may seem a simple and obvious question, truly understanding the answer is critical. The implications of getting the answer wrong can have a lasting impact on your business, from a financial perspective and most importantly, the quality of your final products.

We believe that 'completely clean' is an unrealistic concept. The art to a good cleaning process is knowing the level of cleanliness required to meet the needs of the end user. This varies greatly by application, industry, and material. Fraser Technologies offer a comprehensive evaluation service that not only identifies the most suitable cleaning process for you, but also at the best value for money.

Underspecified cleaning processes can be detrimental to a business's production

capabilities, impacting their bottom line. Consistency and repeatability are key when determining a cleaning process, and this can only be achieved once a cleanliness specification is in place. Reject rates are a telling KPI linked to cleaning, and an underspecified process will result in high levels of rejected parts.

In a recent case study, by implementing a specification and delivering a bespoke solution converting from aqueous cleaning to solvent cleaning, we were able to reduce the reject rate of a pioneering, well known UK aerospace engine manufacturer by 90%. Conversely, over-specified cleaning processes can impose significant unnecessary financial expenditure.

High costs of equipment, chemical consumption, and energy usage can have significant financial repercussions if cleaning processes are overly aggressive. Therefore, a thorough evaluation service is essential before committing to a process.

To begin, a process audit is necessary to identify construction materials, contamination levels, and types. Understanding the end-product

and its usage informs the analytical methods required. Different applications require varying levels of cleanliness, with some simpler methods like visual inspections being sufficient. Precision cleaning often involves microscopic examination for particulate residue, requiring robust quality management systems and operator training.

Our Tailored approach:

Fraser Technologies defines its core values through three fundamental elements – Evaluate, Supply, and Support. Fraser Technologies offers tailored solutions, aligning with their core values of Evaluate, Supply, and Support. Our full-service commitment includes process audits, analytical tests, and cleaning trials to optimise processes, ensuring quality, and minimising costs. We provide a range of evaluation services, including analytical tests, process audits, and cleaning trials, to help businesses achieve optimal cleanliness standards.

Contact Fraser Technologies today to discuss your cleanliness analysis needs or visit their brand new website www.frasertech.co.uk.

For more information, please contact us:

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



SURFACE WORLD *... we have everything covered*

SURFACE WORLD 2025: Learn, Connect and Shape the Future – Under One Roof, Over Two Days

Surface World 2025 is more than just a typical trade show – it's an event that's all about transforming the surface finishing industry. Set to take place on Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th February, it's a two-day gathering where professionals from the industry come together to learn, connect, and shape the future.

This two-day event is more than just a showcase of products; it's a platform for innovation, learning, and networking. Attendees can expect to see the latest advancements in surface finishing technologies, from state-of-the-art machinery to cutting-edge techniques that are pushing the boundaries of what's possible in the industry.

Surface World 2025 provides the perfect opportunity to get hands-on experience with the newest technologies and ideas shaping the future of surface finishing. From environmentally friendly coatings designed to minimise ecological impact or delving into the intricacies of advanced automation systems streamlining production processes, participants can explore diverse innovations first-hand. With a vast array of specialist experts from within the industry and interactive demonstrations taking place on the exhibitor's stands, attendees will



SURFACE WORLD 2025 (ii)



have the chance to gain valuable insights and knowledge that can help them stay ahead of the curve in this fast-paced industry.

Networking plays a crucial role at Surface World 2025, offering attendees a valuable

opportunity to expand their professional connections within the surface finishing industry. Beyond merely exchanging business cards, this event provides a dynamic platform for forging meaningful partnerships and exploring collaborative ventures. Attendees will have the chance to engage with like-minded professionals, share insights, and cultivate relationships that can lead to new opportunities for growth and innovation. Whether it's discovering potential collaborators for projects or finding mentors to offer guidance, the networking opportunities at Surface World 2025 are bound to leave a lasting impact on attendees' careers and businesses.

Surface World 2025 represents a pivotal moment for the surface finishing industry. It's a chance for professionals to come together, share ideas, and shape the future of the industry. Whether you're a seasoned veteran or just starting out in the industry, there's something for everyone at Surface World 2025.

So mark your calendars and get ready for an unforgettable experience at Surface World 2025. It's sure to be an event that will leave a lasting impact on the surface finishing industry for years to come.

**Surface World 2025 –
Hall 11, NEC,
Birmingham – 26th &
27th February 2025**

**For more information
about Surface World
2025, please contact**

Nigel Bean: nigelbean1@aol.com



IMF & OCCA GOLF DAY

22nd MAY 2024

**At Windmill Village
Hotel**



£50 per Golfer

**Includes Bacon Bap,
Coffee on Arrival and Lunch
To Book Email**

Helen@materialsfinishing.org

26th April for final entries please



www.materials-finishing.org