



# 2010 Shot Peener of the Year

Herb Tobben, Clemco Industries

**M**ost of us at *The Shot Peener* and Electronics Inc. (publisher of the magazine) have had the pleasure of working with Herb in his many capacities over the years: Workshop instructor, magazine article contributor, equipment vendor, and trusted business associate. So when he was nominated as the 2010 Shot Peener of the Year, everyone on the award committee had reason to vote for him. "Herb deserves the award because he is one of the most authoritative resources on nozzle design and application. His 35+ years of experience have included some unique design approaches to blast cleaning and peening applications. Many examples of Herb's work can be found in the library at [www.shotpeener.com](http://www.shotpeener.com)," said Jack Champaigne, Editor of *The Shot Peener* magazine and President of Electronics Inc. "Herb is generous with his time and is always willing to share his expertise. He consistently gets the highest praise as a workshop instructor in the EI workshop student surveys," said Mr. Champaigne.

Herb Tobben was presented with the Shot Peener of the Year plaque at the 2010 U.S. Shot Peening workshop in St. Louis. Since many of us talk to Herb on a regular basis, it was tough to keep the award a secret but Herb confirms that we did, in fact, surprise him.

## Biography

Herb Tobben is the Technician and Sample Processing Lab Manager of the Technical Services Group with Clemco Industries Corp. in Washington, Missouri. Herb has managed the company's sample processing operations in support of its ZERO engineered manual and automated cabinet product line for more than 35 years.

Herb grew up on a farm and was one of 12 children. Machine shop and welding classes in school and the knowledge he obtained in his first job as an auto mechanic were helpful when later he would be creating part-holding fixtures and prototype setups in the lab. Herb joined Clemco Industries in 1970 and has held several managerial positions in production, research and development, and technical areas. Some of his responsibilities in the Sample Processing Laboratory include working



*Herb Tobben with Clemco Industries received the 2010 Shot Peener of the Year award.*

to develop surface finishing, shot peening, and surface preparation solutions for the company's domestic and international customers. "I enjoy each new project, each new challenge," said Herb. Much of Herb's time is spent on technical support work, both in house and in the field. As mentioned earlier, Herb also conducts training programs and contributes to industry publications.

When Herb isn't at work, he is enjoying life on his farm. "While at home, I enjoy having some cattle around, watching the wildlife and spending time with my two children and two grandchildren," Herb said. "Life is good." ●

Since 1992, *The Shot Peener* magazine has given The Shot Peener of the Year award to individuals in our industry that have made significant contributions to the advancement of shot peening. We've listed the year of the award, the recipient and their place of employment at the time they received the award on page 12.