

The Best of 2015 and Looking Ahead to 2016

THE 2015 ANNUAL WORKSHOP in California was successful for many reasons and perhaps its most gratifying aspect was the acceptance speech by Sylvain Forgues for the 2015 **Shot Peener of the Year** award. His story about attending the International Conference on Shot Peening in San Francisco in 1996 and how he became interested in the shot peening process was very interesting.

He shared his memories on attending a dinner party during the conference and making new friends in the shot peening community. His continued studies and applications has led him to many innovations including the FlapSpeed® PRO. Sylvain joins a long list of important contributors to the shot peening industry. Read more about Sylvain on page six.

2016 will mark the 25th anniversary of the US Shot Peening Workshop. Has it really been that long? The 2016 workshop in Indianapolis is going to be a great event—watch for more information in future issues of *The Shot Peener*.

I was pleased that Dr. Kirk wrote an article on a problem that besets shot peeners: Wear. In “Wear and Its Reduction” on page 26, Dr. Kirk reviews how material selection and component design can reduce wear rates. He even offers a suggested modification of blast wheel design. He says it’s a “purely an academic exercise” and it’s very interesting how he approaches product re-design.

I’ve already reviewed Dr. Kirk’s article for the spring magazine where he reveals often overlooked concepts on shot peening coverage. Stay tuned.

The Purdue Center for Surface Engineering and Enhancement (C-SEE) reports that several companies have indicated interest in their program. The treatment of welds for structural integrity is already being studied by the Civil Engineering School at Purdue and additional research may be sought from the C-SEE. One application receiving early interest is the performance of nozzles for increased efficiency. This could lead to the understanding of boundary conditions of media flow rate and air pressure ranges. And another prospective project is the investigation of technologies for inspecting and grading media sizes using both sieve analysis and computer-aided image analysis. If you would like more information on C-SEE, please contact:

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In closing, I hope 2016 is off to a great start for all of you. Best wishes for happy, healthy and prosperous year. ●



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