

# In This Issue

**IT WAS CELEBRATION TIME.** I was pleased to see so many of our long-time friends at the 25th Annual Shot Peening Workshop. We also had a very large number of first-time attendees, which is a great sign of growth in the shot peening world. This means that the practice of shot peening is expanding into new market areas. I hope you enjoy the photo review of the workshop—I think you'll agree it was an productive and rewarding event for all.

The winter issue of *The Shot Peener* honors the **Shot Peener of the Year**. Voting for Colin as the 2016 recipient of the award was an easy decision. I visited his facility, Sandwell UK, while in the United Kingdom for an EI shot peening training workshop this summer. I quickly saw that he has the equipment and the knowledge to perform very precise shot peening. Our conversation confirmed what I was seeing—Colin is a big-time contributor to the shot peening process. University students frequently apply for internships at Sandwell, primarily because of his stellar reputation in the auto sports industry. Congratulations, Colin.

When I was asked to consider the WA Clean product for inclusion in the magazine, it took me back to my college days working for an electrical panel builder who serviced the abrasive blast cleaning industry. They had developed a device called “Scale-O-Meter” to determine the cleanliness of shot-blasted steel sheet. The operation was quite simple. The operator placed “Scotch” tape onto the surface to be analyzed and removed it and then placed it onto a microscope slide. This was then inserted into a small slot where a light source and photo cell determined the opacity of the slide. A kit with various degrees of dirty/clean slides was used as a comparison. I don't recall that it ever went to market since it could not relate to SPC standards. So when I read about the WA Clean, my reaction was: Well, it's about time! I'm all for products that advance quality control in the blast cleaning industry.

Best wishes to all for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year! ●



**JACK CHAMPAIGNE**

## THE SHOT PEENER

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*It has become a workshop tradition: The attendees wear their workshop t-shirts for the group photo.*