

# ForCAST

The Newsletter of the American Metalcasting Consortium

Fall/Winter 2017/18



## THE INTEGRATED CASTING ORDER NETWORK (ICON)

The Non-Ferrous Founders' Society (NFFS) is working on the ICON project as part of the American Metalcasting Consortium (AMC). The objective is to address the lack of visibility and responses regarding metalcastings in the Defense Logistics Agency's (DLA's) supply chain. Castings represent a significant portion of backordered parts in the current procurement system according to DLA supply centers. The result is increased leadtimes, higher costs, creation of unnecessary duplicate tooling, and a reduction in supply-chain readiness. ICON was designed to address these issues and provide solutions using the following functionalities in one convenient internet portal:

- **Automated Solicitation Matching and Distribution** – a customizable inbox for ICON users containing DLA solicitations that match the users Bid-Matching Settings
- **Bid-Matching Settings** – allows ICON users to input their company's manufacturing capabilities and update their defense-related tooling records within the ICON portal
- **Defense Tooling Locator** – an online-searchable database which enables a buyer or contractor to identify and locate tooling
- **Defense Casting Supplier Database** – a comprehensive database of qualified metalcasters



As of September 2017, there were over 350 metalcasters enrolled in the ICON portal possessing more than 23,000 pieces of tooling of confirmed national stock numbers for defense and military components. On average, approximately 390 DLA bid solicitations containing cast metal components are directed to capable metal casters per month, valued at over \$6,200,000 in total. Actual contract awards made to ICON users average more than \$1,000,000 per month, and continue to increase in number and value.

## INNOVATIVE CASTING TECHNOLOGIES (ICT) AWARD

AMC was awarded a new program from DLA on September 30, 2017. ICT will utilize a portfolio approach to address DLA's metalcasting R&D areas of interest. AMC consists of the four major industry associations (American Foundry Society (AFS), the Non-Ferrous Founders' Society (NFFS), the North American Die Casting Association (NADCA), and the Steel Founders' Society of America (SFSA)), their members, and the nation's premier metalcasting research universities. ATI leads AMC and will be the prime contractor for the ICT program. Over the years, ATI's AMC casting programs have delivered \$162M in savings, improved 3,780 cast parts, enhanced 170 weapon systems, and provided workforce development opportunities to 2,894 government personnel.



## AMC REPRESENTED AT THE NADCA DIE CASTING CONGRESS & TABLETOP

AMC participated in the North American Die Casting Association's Die Casting Congress & Tabletop held on September 18-20, 2017 at the Westin Peachtree Plaza, Atlanta, GA. AMC researchers presented their results at this go-to event for the industry. Additionally, over 100 companies showcased the latest technology and services available to the die casting industry. This venue continues to grow, attracting attendees from all over the world, and had an impressive total of 920 attendees from industry and academia.



Visit the AMC booth at the 122<sup>nd</sup> Metalcasting Congress  
Fort Worth Convention Center  
Fort Worth, Texas



For more information about AMC go to: <https://amc.ati.org> or call 843-760-3483.

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