

ForCAST

The Newsletter of the American Metalcasting Consortium

Fall 2020



ICON Enhancements

The National Tooling & Machining Association (NTMA) has partnered with the Non-Ferrous Founders' Society (NFFS) in cooperation with the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) to help solve the critical shortage of machined defense metal castings and components. Beginning in January 2021, NTMA will provide its members with access to the Integrated Casting Order Network (ICON), a robust e-sourcing solution that filters, organizes, and delivers defense casting business opportunities to capable suppliers by matching part requirements to suppliers' manufacturing capabilities.

Recently, NFFS has made significant improvements to ICON. New tooling search options have been added including finished part number, part description, weapon system designator code, and weapon system name. Results for the tooling search are now interactive and include a comprehensive summary of part and past supplier information. Suppliers can now also categorize their tooling based on tooling ownership and availability. In addition to these enhancements, suppliers have new messaging capabilities. They may upload documentation, submit requests for quotes, store messages in their own profile inbox, and discuss all aspects of parts and solicitations. ICON continues to drive value to DLA and domestic manufacturers by providing innovative defense metalcasting procurement solutions.

To see all the ICON updates, explore the portal at icon.nffs.org.

NEW AWARD

AMC is pleased to announce that DLA has awarded the Online Casting Cost Advisory System (OCCAS) project. OCCAS will utilize the latest casting knowledge and techniques to provide DLA with real-time cost estimates based on cast part design criteria. An interactive user interface will allow entry of important data required to determine "should costs." The "should costs" determined by the system will provide DLA with a benchmark cost for a cast part, allowing for the evaluation and comparison of quotes received from casting suppliers. OCCAS will also allow DLA to understand in real-time how shape/feature complexity, choice of manufacturing process, material, tolerances, surface finish, and quality requirements affect manufacturing costs. OCCAS will include sand and investment casting processes with aluminum, ductile iron, cast iron, and cast and stainless steel alloys and provide outputs of part cost, nondestructive testing cost, and tooling cost.

AMC Attends NADCA Congress and Tabletop – VIRTUALLY

AMC participated with technical presentations and a booth exhibit at the virtual NADCA Die Casting Congress and Tabletop, October 20-22, 2020. Over 645 were in attendance from industry, academia, and government along with 50 exhibitors. AMC had over 100 booth visits. Additionally, there were 24 technical paper presentations, virtual trivia and happy hour as networking events, and an industry awards ceremony. This was an excellent event for technology exchange between AMC's customers, researchers, and partners.



AMC Updates:

- Advanced Casting Research Center (ACRC) relocates to University of California, Irvine (UCI)
- Dr. Charles Monroe has accepted a new position as Associate Professor at the University of Alabama

AMC
AMERICAN METALCASTING CONSORTIUM

Visit AMC:
AFS Virtual Congress April 12-21, 2021
DMC July 12-16, 2021 in Orlando

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

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