

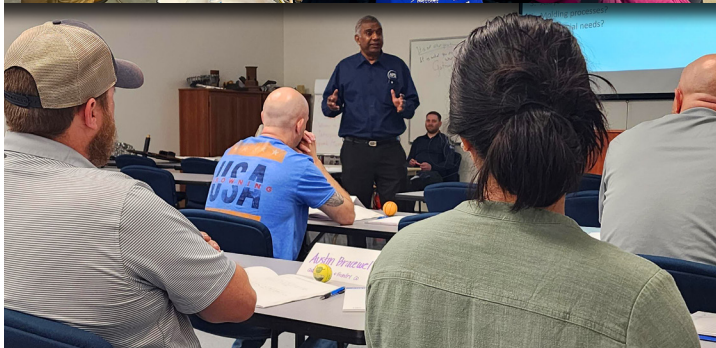


AFS 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Member Success & Sustainability	4
Industry Stewardship	8
Policy Advocacy	11
Promotion of Castings	14
Talent Development	16
Technical Innovation	19
Mission & Vision	22
By the Numbers	23
FY 2023 Financials	24
Membership	25
FY 2023 Officers & Board Members	26
Professional Staff	27



Dear AFS Members and Friends,

As we look back on the significant progress of the past year, we are pleased to present the American Foundry Society's 2023 Annual Report. In keeping with our steadfast dedication to industry excellence and member advancement, this report highlights our achievements across the six pillars of our mission.

Member Success and Sustainability:

Our Society thrives when our members succeed. Through targeted programs and resources, we continue to foster an environment where every AFS member finds support and opportunities for sustainable growth.

Industry Stewardship:

The metalcasting industry plays a vital role in our economy and our communities. With an emphasis on safety and environmental stewardship, manufacturing excellence, and public outreach, we are molding a strong future for our industry.

Policy Advocacy:

Supporting sound public policies is at the forefront of our mission. We are actively engaging with policymakers to ensure that the interests of the metalcasting industry are reflected in public policy outcomes.

Promotion of Castings:

AFS vigorously advocates for the use of metal castings in countless applications. Our efforts in promoting castings contribute to raising awareness about the unique advantages of our essential industry.

Talent Development:

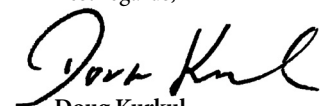
Nurturing a strong workforce is an investment in our future. Through initiatives focused on education, mentorship, and skills development, we are building a robust pipeline of skilled professionals.

Technical Innovation:

Our dedication to technical innovation expands the horizons of what is achievable in metalcasting. Through support of research and the adoption of cutting-edge methods, as well as collaboration with the Defense Logistics Agency, we ensure that our industry continues to lead in advancements.

The journey ahead is exciting, and we remain committed to providing value to our members, fostering collaboration, and propelling the metalcasting industry forward. Thank you for being an integral part of the American Foundry Society.

Best regards,


Doug Kurkul
 CEO, American Foundry Society

AFS Officers



President
Bradford Muller

Vice President of Corporate Communications
 Charlotte Pipe & Foundry



Vice President
Angela Schmeisser

Director
 St. Marys Foundry, Inc.



2nd Vice President
David Gilson

Sales and Marketing Director
 SinterCast



Immediate Past President
Adam San Solo



CEO
Doug Kurkul

CEO
 American Foundry Society

Pillar 1: Member Success & Sustainability

AFS will provide services, information, and networking opportunities that are vital to the success of individual members, as well as Corporate Member metalcasters, suppliers, and casting purchasers.



Metalcasting Congress 2023

Cleveland proved to be a great host for the 127th Metalcasting Congress, which attracted over 2,200 attendees and showcased 230 exhibitors. AFS's annual meeting showcased impactful technical and management-oriented papers and presentations and featured keynotes by actor/author Dwier Brown and John "Chip" Keough, the Hoyt Memorial Lecturer. A debate on additive manufacturing vs. casting vs. forging added a light-hearted touch. The gathering served as a successful platform for networking, knowledge-sharing, and celebrating achievements in the metalcasting industry.



Adam San Solo, then President of AFS, welcomes members at the Volunteer Leadership Awards Luncheon.



Staffers from AFS Corporate Member Grede Castings pose with their well-earned awards during a ceremony at Metalcasting Congress 2023.



AFS student members volunteer in the Foundry-in-a-Box activity area during Metalcasting Congress 2023. More than 150 students attended as AFS's guest.



Gregory Miskinis (retired, Waupaca Foundry) accepts the Whiting Gold Medal at Metalcasting Congress 2023 as AFS officers look on.

Metalcasting Congress 2024: Momentum in Metalcasting

When:
April 23 – 25, 2024

Where:
Baird Center, Milwaukee, WI

For registration, exhibit sales, and more information, visit www.metalcastingcongress.org.

Metalcasting Congress Honor Roll

Metalcasting Congress shines a spotlight on outstanding contributions in the metalcasting industry by presenting awards to individuals and businesses. Here's a glimpse of some of the honors bestowed in 2023.

- **John H. Whiting Gold Medal:**
Gregory Miskinis
Waupaca Foundry — retired
- **William H. McFadden Gold Medal:**
Thomas Slavin
Slavin OSH Group LLC
- **Award of Scientific Merit:**
Steve Dawson
SinterCast
Rafael Gallo
Pyrotek Inc.
- **Women in Metalcasting Excellence Award:**
Susan Bear
Grede
- **AFS Service Citation:**
Kelley Kerns
HA International
- **Howard F. Taylor Award:**
"Mutual B, Ti, N Effects on Phase Transformations in Cast Iron: Thermodynamic Consideration and Experimental Verification (22-134)"
Laura Bartlett, Simon Lekakh, and Suyash Pawaskar
Missouri University of Science and Technology
- **Ray Witt Award:**
"Executive Safety Responsibility (22-025)"
Ted Schorn
Enkei America Inc.
- **Applied Research Award:**
"Turbulent Gating Effect on C89833 (AFS Project 19-20#03)"
Andy Shea
A Y McDonald Mfg. Co.
- **Millionaires Safety Award:**
ASC Engineered Solutions, EJ, Grede Castings-Reedsburg, Grede Castings-Menomonee Falls

Metalcasting Business Solutions



Access to our Metalcasting Solutions program is a key benefit of AFS Corporate Membership, where we collaborate with service providers to enhance and streamline the management of our members' businesses. In 2023, AFS offered the programs listed below and more. Learn more about these and other corporate benefits at www.afsinc.org/growing-your-business-afs.

- **Insurance and Risk Management**
Covers property and casualty, workers' compensation, directors and officers liability (D & O), safety and risk con-

trol, and claims management, offered through our partner, Cottingham & Butler.

- **Energy Program**
APPI Energy provides cost-effective energy solutions, including utility bill auditing, identification of refund opportunities, competitive rate assessments, advanced energy procurement assistance, contract reviews, electric conservation programs, and alternative energy options.

Vital Business Intelligence

Leading the charge for industry business intelligence, AFS delivered market forecasts and workplace insights crucial to the metalcasting supply chain in 2023. Corporate members value these resources in their business planning process.

Metalcasters Quarterly Outlook Survey:

Launched in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 to assess the state of the industry, the Metalcasters Quarterly Outlook Survey continues to provide a forward-looking snapshot of the industry's economic mood by using anonymized data from validated metalcasters.

Metalcasting Forecast & Trends:

The biannual Forecast offers a detailed analysis of the foundry marketplace – including revenue figures, cost and profit benchmarks, and payroll data – by drawing on extensive data sets from AFS surveys and government agencies.

Employment Law Update:

AFS and the law firm of Fisher Phillips collaborate on the Employment Law Update, delivering monthly updates to Corporate Members on must-know workplace topics. These reports address safety regulations, labor laws, recordkeeping, pending employment legislation, and more.



Chapter Engagement

AFS Chapters play a vital role in fostering networking, technical expertise, education, and fellowship across North America and on various college campuses. In 2023, AFS Regional Chapters were very active, organizing chapter-based trainings, scholarship fundraisers, plant tours, technical talks, and more. Simultaneously, AFS Student Chapters at the college level engaged in casting and research competitions, as well as recruiting new students for their metalcasting programs. Notably, Eastern Michigan University (Ypsilanti, Michigan) joined as the newest student chapter in 2023.



AFS Past President Henry Lodge (Lodge Mfg. Co.) and AFS President Bradford Muller (Charlotte Pipe & Foundry) take part in a presentation at the 2023 AFS Southeastern Regional.



Past, current, and future AFS Presidents Adam San Solo, Mike Lenahan, Tom Woehlke, and Dave Gilson were all together for a January 2023 Wisconsin Chapter meeting.



The AFS Western Michigan Chapter teaches high-schoolers the basics of metalcasting through a Foundry-in-a-Box activity.



The AFS Pittsburg State Chapter hosts a high school material science class in November 2023.



The Cleveland-Akron-Canton Chapter takes a group photo during a September 2023 meeting.



The AFS Hawkeye Chapter tours A.Y. McDonald Mfg. Co. in Dubuque, Iowa, in April 2023.



Organized by the Washington Chapter and held at Romac Industries, Gating & Riser Design 101 students gather for a photo in November 2023.



The AFS CAC-Ohio Chapter hears a presentation from Pat O'Connor (Inductotherm Corp.) on the digital transformation of induction melting during a dinner meeting in October 2023.

Find your local chapter and view upcoming events at www.afsinc.org/regional-chapters.

Foundry Leadership Summit

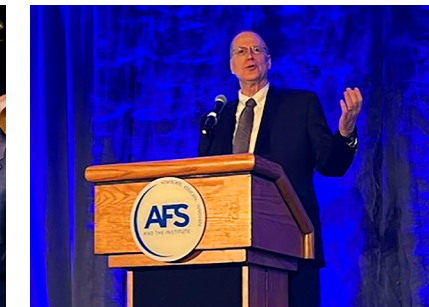
The Foundry Leadership Summit in Asheville, North Carolina, from Sept. 18-20, 2023, saw its largest gathering in at least eight years, hosting nearly 200 industry leaders and guests at the Omni Grove Park Inn. The event featured expert presentations

on economic forecasts, policy updates, discussions on the future of vehicles, and challenges and opportunities for metalcasters in the upcoming year. Charles M. Kurtti (Neenah Foundry Co. – retired) received the William J. Grede Award at the annual

awards banquet, while Joey Leonard (TalentCast HR) and Patrick Ameen (Amsted Rail Company Inc.) were honored with Keating Founders' Freedom Awards.



2023 Foundry Leadership Summit attendees enjoy a reception at the Omni Grove Park Inn.



AFS CEO Doug Kurkul delivers the State of AFS Address at the 2023 Foundry Leadership Summit in September.



Guests listen to an awards presentation at the 2023 Foundry Leadership Summit.



The banquet is one of the highlights of the annual Foundry Leadership Summit.



People enjoy an outdoor reception at the 2023 Foundry Leadership Summit.



Joey Leonard (TalentCast HR) accepts his 2023 Keating Founders' Freedom Award.

2023's Expert Summit Speakers

- Peter Zeihan
Global Futurist and Author of "Disunited Nations"
- Stephen Moore
Distinguished Fellow at The Heritage Foundation and Senior Economic Advisor to the 2016 Trump Campaign
- Charles Blahous, Ph.D.
Senior Research Strategist at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University, and former Deputy Director for President George W. Bush's National Economic Council
- Mark Vitner
Former Senior Economist at Wells Fargo
- Kiley Eck Hayon
President of Eck Industries
- David Blondheim
Director of Global Operations Excellence & Advanced Manufacturing for Mercury Marine
- Matt Hladki
Chief Administrative Officer of Grede Foundry
- Sachin Shivaram
CEO of Wisconsin Aluminum
- Nathan Heisler
President of Bradken Specialty Products
- Paul Eichenberg
Chief Strategist for Paul Eichenberg and Associates
- Brian Leuenhagen
Product Interface Manager – Castings at General Motors
- John Wiesbrock
Executive Vice President of Waupaca Foundry
- Dr. Carsten Kuhlitz
President of the World Foundry Organization
- Bradford Muller
AFS President and Vice President of Marketing at Charlotte Pipe & Foundry
- Angela Schmeisser
AFS Vice President and Director of St. Marys Foundry, Inc.
- David Gilson
AFS Second Vice President and Sales & Marketing Director for Sintercast
- Doug Kurkul
AFS CEO
- Stephanie Salmon
AFS Washington Representative

Pillar 2: Industry Stewardship

AFS will lead outreach activities to enhance the image of the metalcasting industry with target audiences.

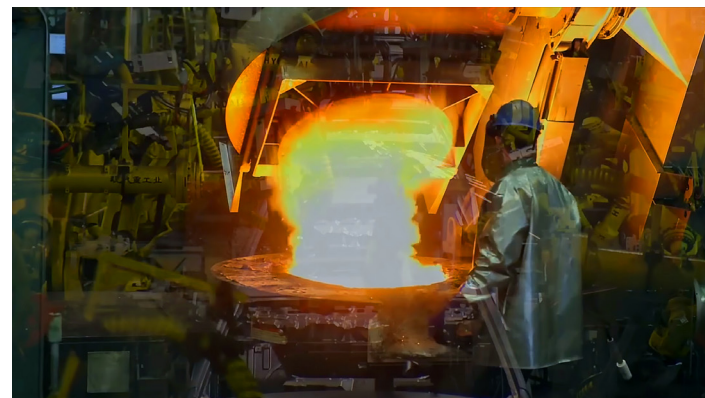
Video: 'Spotlight on the Modern Metalcasting Industry'

Millions of television viewers got an inside look at the dynamic world of metalcasting thanks to a video spearheaded by AFS and the Foundry Educational Foundation in 2023. "Spotlight on the Modern Metalcasting Industry" is currently airing on local PBS affiliates across the U.S. and reached more than 3 million viewers in its first 90 days.

Highlighting our industry's significance, the video underscores the crucial role of castings in daily life, security, national defense, and modern supply chain, and the rewarding careers available in the foundry sector.

AFS is working with Chapters and FEF Key Professors to maximize viewership of the video.

You can watch the video any time on AFS's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/@AFSMCTV) or at www.afsinc.org/about-metalcasting.



Screenshots from "Spotlight on the Modern Metalcasting Industry," a video produced in 2023 and distributed to PBS stations nationwide.

Safety and Environmental Quality

AFS aids members in achieving their safety and environmental goals by providing vital strategies, extensive resources, and events that promote a culture of best practices for a safe and sustainable work environment. Additionally, the Environmental, Health & Safety Division advocates on new regulations, promotes environmental awareness, and helps protect the wellbeing of foundry personnel through education.

Resources

EHS-focused webinars were among the Society's most popular in 2023. These Members-Only Webinars are free to all AFS members and can be viewed on demand at onlive.afsinc.org. 2023 was also a banner year for publications centered on EHS issues. First released in 2022, "Foundry Approaches to Control the Heat Exposure of Workers" was among the top downloads in the AFS Store (www.afsinc.org/store). This report, used to author ASTM Standard E3279 – 21, Standard Guide for Managing Heat Stress and Heat Strain in Foundries, is free for AFS members.

2023 marked the much-anticipated launch of the Foundry Emissions Benchmarking Database. Funded by AFS, this project undertaken by Craig Schmeisser (Mad River Strategies) represents actual stack testing results from foundry-specific operations, enabling foundries to benchmark their emissions against those from other foundries with similar operations. The database is available to members in the Peters-Robison AFS Metalcasting Library. Additionally, in June 2023, Schmeisser presented a webinar where he demonstrated how to navigate the database. This webinar is archived at onlive.afsinc.org.

The EHS Division also provides a webpage of resources dedicated to worker safety and environmental best practices. Hosted at www.afsinc.org/environmental-health-safety, the page includes information on EPA risk assessments, OSHA training, and topics like heat stress/illness, silica exposure, respiratory protection, and more. Additionally, it covers environmental aspects such as air quality regulations, water-related matters, waste and byproducts management, recycling initiatives, and sustainability in metalcasting.

Events

Held in Chicago in October 2023, the 35th EHS Conference attracted more than 100 foundry professionals for three days of

informative sessions, panels, discussions, and more. Each day focused on a particular theme – environmental topics, regulatory updates from Washington, and health and safety. Preceding that, the EHS Division hosted two special seminars for metalcasters in the spring. Introduction to Foundry Environmental Compliance was for newcomers to the industry, while the Advanced Air Seminar was for more experienced professionals.

2023 EHS Award Recipients

- Jonathan Stone Outstanding EHS Contribution Award:**
 Kay Rowntree
Industrial Hygiene Sciences LLC
- AFS EHS Service Awards:**
 Mary Kay Crowley
John Deere Foundry
 Kathy Moore
KERAMIDA
 Mickey Hannum
McWane
- Gary Mosher New Committee Member Award:**
 Curtis Veit
Waupaca Foundry
- AFS Safe Year Awards:**
 BRP US, Inc.
Spruce Pine, NC
 Buck Company LLC
Quarryville, PA
 Clow Valve Metalcasting Facility
Oskaloosa, IA
 MH Valve Company
Anniston, AL
 Metal Technologies -
 Auburn Casting Center
Auburn, IN
 Wisconsin Precision Casting
 Corporation - East Troy Division
East Troy, WI
 Novis Works, LLC
Canton, OH
- AFS Safety & Insight Awards:**
 Clow Valve Metalcasting Facility
 Deere & Company
 McWane Inc. - Kennedy Valve
 M&H Valve Company
- AFS Green Foundry Award:**
 Waupaca Foundry

Top EHS Members-Only Webinars of 2023

Foundry Safety Data:
A Deeper Dive
Top 5 OSHA Enforcement Issues
GHG Emissions Calculations
Benchmarking Emissions Database



Attendees get answers to their questions during the 35th EHS Conference in Chicago.



Attendees pose for a photo during the 35th EHS Conference in Chicago.



Kay Rowntree (Industrial Hygiene Sciences LLC) accepts the 2023 Jonathan Stone Outstanding EHS Contribution Award from Greg Kramer (AFS) during the 35th EHS Conference in Chicago.



EHS Division Chair Craig Schmeisser (Mad River Strategies LLC) and Ryan Burke (Osco Industries) enjoy a chat during the 35th EHS Conference in October 2023.



"Foundry Approaches to Control the Heat Exposure of Workers" is a report generated by the AFS Safety & Health Committee.

World Foundry Organization Involvement

As a member of the World Foundry Organization, AFS collaborates with foundry associations from around the world to improve the quality and sustainability of metal castings. The International Journal of Metalcasting, AFS's award-winning peer-reviewed journal, is the official research publication of the WFO. Additionally, in 2023, it was announced that the 2025 World Foundry Technical Forum will co-locate

with CastExpo 2025 in Atlanta, Georgia. This collaboration between the WFO and AFS will bring global metalcasting industry leaders together.

Chris Norch (Denison Industries) is the AFS representative to the WFO Executive Committee. Doug Kurkul (AFS) is the representative to the WFO General Assembly.



The World Foundry Organization

Modern Casting Accolades

Modern Casting magazine was honored with a gold award in the Q&A category at the American Society of Business Publication Editors (ASBPE) Upper Midwest Region awards banquet in Chicago on April 13. The ASBPE, known as the "AZBEES," acknowledges outstanding journalistic reporting in business-to-business and trade publications. Kim Phelan, contributing editor, received the award for her interview-based article titled "Who Will Be the Next Owner of Your Business," and her submission was also among the top-scoring entries nationally in this category.



Automation Solutions 2023



2024 May Issue



2024 March Issue



2024 Buyer's Guide

All members receive a complimentary subscription, available at www.moderncasting.com/subscribe.

Modern Casting, available in print and online at www.moderncasting.com, is the Society's flagship magazine focused on the metalcasting industry. In addition to 12 regular issues, the magazine also produced three special editions in the past year: "2023 Metalcasting Equipment, Products, and Services," "'23 - '24 Supplier Prospectus," and "Automation Solutions 2023."

A 2023 survey of readers found 91 percent of respondents said *Modern Casting* is their favorite magazine serving the North American Foundry Market.

Honoring Industry Excellence

AFS is proud to recognize metalcasting merit through a wide array of industry awards, acknowledging notable achievements in areas such as health and safety, service, management expertise, and technical quality.

Beyond recognition within the metalcasting sector, this commitment to honoring excellence resonates across the broader manufacturing sector and in the local communities in which the honorees operate.

2023 marked the debut of a new online nomination system for awards, which helped to facilitate a smoother submission process. It was well-received by members.

AFS remains steadfast in its dedication to promoting and celebrating these amazing achievements. Look for many of 2023's award-winners throughout this Annual Report or check out www.afsinc.org/history to view many honorees past and present!



AFS Applied Research Award



Pillar 3: Policy Advocacy

AFS will proactively advocate for public policies that benefit U.S. metalcasters, encourage a strong U.S. industrial base, and support national defense.

Agenda for a Strong Metalcasting Economy

AFS is the only association working full-time to advocate for a positive business climate for the \$48 billion metalcasting economy. The Society's policy objectives are reflected in by the AFS Agenda for a Strong Metalcasting Economy, focusing on legislation and rulemakings that enhance competitiveness for metalcasters, drive economic growth, and encourage job creation. Annually, AFS compiles a targeted list of priorities to steer our advocacy initiatives in Washington.

2023-2024 Priority Issues

Energy and Permitting Reform. Highlights the crucial role of energy in U.S. national and economic security, and calls for comprehensive energy strategies, streamlined permitting processes for infrastructure projects, and investment incentives to modernize the aging energy grid.

Competitive Tax Policy

Calls for a pro-growth tax environment, emphasizing the positive impact of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) on foundries. Urges Congress to make full and immediate expensing for capital equipment permanent, expand the 20% deduction for pass-through businesses, restore R&D tax credits, repeal the Federal Excise Tax on heavy-duty

trucks, eliminate the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT), and make the estate tax repeal permanent to support family-owned foundries for future generations.

Environmental Quality

Advocates for policies based on sound science, feasibility studies, and rigorous cost-benefit analysis. Calls for flexibility in achieving standards considering the unique nature of the metalcasting process and addresses specific concerns such as PM2.5 standards, climate change strategies, environmental justice initiatives, stormwater discharge controls, national recycling goals, and emissions benchmarking.

International Trade

Demands a transparent and fair global marketplace for U.S. metalcasters, emphasizing the enforcement of U.S. trade laws and international agreements. Calls for the retention of Section 232 and 301 tariffs on China, U.S. Customs modernization, voluntary reshoring initiatives, and the enforcement of Buy-America requirements.

American Security and Domestic Supply Chain

Addresses the heavy reliance on imported minerals and metals, particularly those crucial for defense, electric vehicles, and

renewable energy. Advocates for the implementation of the CHIPS and Science Act to boost domestic semiconductor production, permitting reform to expedite mining, incentivizing domestic investments in critical mineral supply chains, and promoting recycling and reuse to enhance the availability of minerals.

Workforce Development

Focuses on addressing the shortage of qualified workers in the U.S. metalcasting industry. Advocates for increased funding and support for Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs, including the JOBS Act, and initiatives to tackle the truck driver shortage, such as the SHIP IT Act.

Safety and Health

Underscores AFS members' commitment to workplace safety and health in the metalcasting industry. Advocates for workplace safety policies that are technologically attainable, based on risk assessments, practical, cost-effective, and provide flexibility for employers, emphasizing collaborative enforcement approaches over adversarial ones.

Find more information at www.afsinc.org/afs-agenda-strong-metalcasting-economy.

Fighting for Metalcasters in Washington

AFS Submits Dozens of Comments and Letters as Administration Moves Forward on Significant Rulemakings that will Impact Bottom Line of U.S. Metalcasters

U.S. metalcasters are facing a barrage of regulations from a variety of agencies including but not limited to the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). During the June AFS Government Affairs Fly-In, AFS members spoke out on the impact of a number of upcoming rulemakings could potentially impact on their ability to hire, invest in new equipment, and expand their facilities. AFS has been particularly busy in the past 12 months preparing comments on these key rulemakings and their impact on domestic metalcasters.

AFS Strongly Opposes DOE's Overtime Proposed Rule

AFS joined onto the Partnership to Protect Workplace Opportunity (PPWO) coalition letter with 170 organizations highlighting key concerns with the Department of Labor's proposal to alter the "white collar" overtime exemption regulations applicable to executive, administrative and professional employees. Specifically, the proposal would significantly raise the minimum salary level needed to qualify as exempt. AFS also discussed concerns about the proposal with the House Education and the Workforce Committee staff. (Nov. 2023)

OSHA Walkaround Rule

AFS and the Coalition of Workplace Safety (CWS) comments filed opposing OSHA's **Worker Walkaround Representative Designation Process** proposed rule. The proposed rule changes the existing language that has limited employee representation during an OSHA inspection to employees of the employer being inspected, to allow non-employee third parties to act as representatives. It also expands the types of third parties such as union leaders and community activists. AFS also discussed concerns about the proposal with the Small Business Administration's office of Advocacy and House Education and the Workforce Committee staff.

AFS Testifies on Heat Stress Rule

In September, AFS corporate member Earl Miller, Accurate Castings, represented the association, as the only foundry panelist on OSHA's small business heat illness panel,



James M. Proctor II (Senior VP and General Counsel for AFS Corporate Member McWane) testifies at a September 2023 hearing of the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee on the Clean Water.

where they received feedback from a variety of sectors on the impact of a new standard on small businesses. Earl highlighted the need for a federal standard to be flexible and feasible for small foundries to comply, as well as several other key concerns. OSHA is expected to issue a formal proposed rule in 2024. AFS continues to closely monitor the advancement of the potential new standard and will provide additional comments to OSHA. Consult AFS resources on heat stress.

AFS Organized Meetings with the Commerce Department Concerning Shortages of Components for Water Infrastructure Projects

AFS was contacted by the DOC's International Trade Administration regarding concerns raised by water utilities over shortages and wait times for American-made components/castings for lead service lines that run from the curbside main to internal plumbing. The utilities claimed the following shortages: service saddles, curbstop valves, fittings, check valves, ductile pipe, and water meters.

The Biden administration requested that DOC investigate these claims and how manufacturers are working to meet the increased demand given the significant federal funding of \$15 billion set aside in the bipartisan infrastructure bill for lead service line replacement projects over the next five years. AFS arranged conference calls with DOC staff and foundries producing the key castings where they discussed the millions of dollars of investments they were making in their facilities, including expansion of lines, new equipment, adding third shifts and new employees, and in some cases building new foundries. As a follow-up, two AFS member companies participated in a meeting with White House officials,



Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX) speaks at the recent AFS Government Affairs Fly-In with Stan Bass (Fort Worth Aluminum), his wife, and Owen Daniel (Midland Mfg). Both companies are Corporate Members of AFS.

including the head of EPA's office of water, in June where these new foundry builds were spotlighted.

DOE's Preliminary Draft Report Includes Copper in its Critical Materials Assessment

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is recommending a designation for copper of near-critical in the medium term (2025-2035). AFS discussed the importance of copper to energy technologies with DOE staff. This is the first time a U.S. federal agency is characterizing copper as critical. AFS continues to advocate for copper's inclusion on the official US Geological Survey (USGS) Critical Minerals list, since it is critical to overall U.S. economic and national security.

AFS Weighs-In on Two Cal/OSHA Safety & Health Rulemakings

California was mandated by the state legislature to complete separate rules on workplace exposure to lead and another on indoor heat illness. These California proposed rulemakings could be the basis of the rules federal OSHA AFS filed comments is currently working on and significantly impact foundries nationwide.

Lead Rule

In March, the Cal/OSHA Standards Board published a **notice of proposed revised regulations pertaining to workplace exposure to lead** for general industry and construction. They are seeking to finalize the nation's toughest lead regulations. AFS formed a working group which developed foundry specific comments that were submitted to Cal/OSHA on April 20. In addition, AFS joined onto comments led by an ad-hoc group of stakeholders. Cal/OSHA anticipates finalizing its rule in the first or second quarter of 2024. AFS will be held a session

on the Cal/OSHA lead rule during the EHS Conference in October 2023.

AFS Rallies Against EPA's Misguided Particulate Matter Proposal

AFS strongly opposes a 2023 proposal from EPA to change a National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) which had previously been reviewed in 2020. In comments filed in March, AFS said EPA's plan to lower the PM2.5 emissions threshold is scientifically unsound, premature (the next legal review is not required until 2025) and would punish the many metalcasters who have already invested in new control technology to cut their emissions to the 2020 standard. Nearly half of the counties in the U.S. could become non-attainment areas under the new standard, bringing plant modernization to a halt and thwarting reshoring efforts. AFS provided members with regular updates about the status of the proposal, and also produced a ready-to-use letter for members to personalize and send to their lawmakers, urging them to push EPA for withdrawal of the rule.

Manufacturers for Sensible Regulations

This summer AFS joined a broad-based coalition composed of over 200 associations and companies being spearheaded by the NAM. In a letter, the coalition urged the administration to curb the wave of regulations which "puts manufacturers in the U.S. at a competitive disadvantage with countries such as China, threatening America's global leadership." AFS is collecting examples of how regulations impede metalcasters from hiring and growing their businesses. AFS has met with congressional offices to highlight the number of regulations expected to be finalized by the end of 2024 and their impact on U.S. metalcasters.

Keeping Members Informed

A crucial aspect of AFS's policy engagement is ensuring members are well-informed about proposed legislation, regulatory shifts, and important updates from Washington and statehouses throughout the U.S. In 2023, this commitment was reinforced with the introduction of a new series of AFS Members-Only Webinars titled "Policy Issues Affecting Metalcasters." These quarterly webinars provided updates on ongoing policy changes at EPA, OSHA, and other entities.

Fly-In and Foundry Tours

The 2023 AFS Government Affairs Fly-In marked the debut of AFS Metalcasters Week in D.C. on June 19 – 23. Professionals in the industry and legislators demonstrated their support for the U.S. metalcasting sector, with AFS members engaging in numerous advocacy meetings on Capitol Hill to address industry-specific concerns. Political strategist Kellyanne Conway provided the keynote, while Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-WI) gave the annual View from the Hill address. The week was capped off with an official proclamation in Congress, read into the Congressional Record on June 23 by Rep. Rudy Yakym (IN-2), highlighting the foundational role of metalcasting in the nation's manufacturing economy.



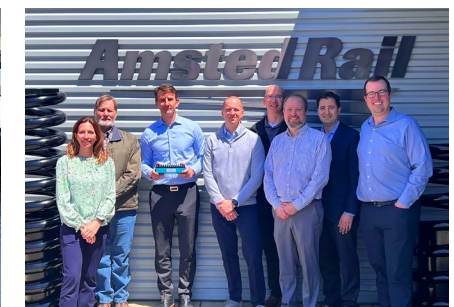
Government Affairs Division Chair Eric Meyers (Oil City Iron Works), Kellyanne Conway, and Rep. Jake Ellzey smile for the cameras at the 2023 AFS Government Affairs Fly-In.



Metalcasters from Indiana meet with Sen. Todd Young in June.



AFS Board Member Kiley Eck Hayon (Eck Industries) hosts a tour for Rep. Glenn Grothmann (R-WI-6) in December 2023.



AFS Corporate Member Amsted Rail welcomes Rep. Frank Mrvan (D-IN-1) to its Hammond, Indiana, facility on May 3, 2023. Mrvan toured the facility where Amsted Rail produces hot coil springs for freight cars and locomotives.

2023 Metalcasting Industry Congressional Champions

As honored at the Capitol Hill Club during the 2023 AFS Government Affairs Fly-In:

Sen. Todd Young (IN-R)

Rep. Kay Granger (TX-R)

You're invited to the 2024 AFS Government Affairs Fly-In!

When: June 11 – 12, 2024

Where: Washington, D.C.

Information: www.afsinc.org/conferences

Pillar 4: Promotion of Castings

AFS will advocate for increased use of castings through development of new parts and materials, conversions, exports, reshoring, and resources to help buyers make wise purchasing decisions.



Shining a Light on Casting Applications

Dave Charbauski, a columnist at *Casting Source* magazine, received the prestigious Gold Award from the American Society of Business Publication Editors (ASBPE) during the Upper Midwest Region awards banquet in Chicago. This recognition specifically honored his outstanding "Industry Insider" column.

Casting Source, AFS's magazine tailored for casting buyers and designers, is published six times per year in addition to its highly popular *Casting Source Directory* and *Metalcaster Prospectus*. This distinctive magazine serves as a valuable resource, providing

essential insights into customer/foundry relationships, cost competitiveness, casting conversions, real-world casting applications, and more. Its primary goal is to educate potential foundry customers about the many advantages associated with metal castings. *Casting Source* further solidifies its commitment to the industry by sponsoring the annual Casting Designers and Buyers Track at Metalcasting Congress. Check out more Casting Source content at www.castingsource.com.

Right: Jan/Feb 2023, Nov/Dec 2023, and Casting Source Directory 2023 issues of "Casting Source"



AFS promotes North American Castings at GIFA

In June 2023, AFS traveled to Düsseldorf for the GIFA trade fair, where our staff proudly showcased the contributions of North American metalcasters on the global foundry industry. This included featuring recent finalists and winners of the Casting of the Year award.

Additionally, AFS took the opportunity to spotlight the advantages of AFS member-

ship, ongoing research initiatives, and a range of technical books. Participation in the USA-Japan-Germany Young Professionals event further underscored our commitment to fostering connections and knowledge-sharing.

Right: AFS wall charts were a popular item at the 2023 GIFA Trade Fair in Dusseldorf, Germany, in June.



For Casting Customers: Education & Exhibits

At Metalcasting Congress 2023, AFS provided valuable resources through the Casting Designers & Buyers Track and the Cast in North America exhibits pavilion. The track offered educational presentations to showcase the benefits of metal castings and guide casting buyers in making informed decisions. The CINA exhibits pavilion allowed North American foundries to exhibit their products, capabilities, and advantages, aiding casting designers and buyers in understanding why partnering with these foundries is advantageous for their parts needs. Together, these offerings empowered attendees to see the real-world advantages of working with North American foundries and make informed decisions when buying parts.



Cleveland's Huntington Convention Center hosted a packed Metalcasting Congress 2023 in April.

2023 Casting Designers & Buyers Track Presentations

- "Case Study from the 2022 Casting of the Year Winner: Waupaca Foundry"
Nick Kern and Tim Hill
Waupaca Foundry
- "Evaluating When to Reshore"
Tom Kayser
Osco Industries
- "Using the AFS Casting Alloy Data Search for Casting Design"
Jiten Shah
PDA LLC
- "Tensile Bar Castings"
Mark White
Impro Industries

Castings. Wherever You Are.

AFS's web campaign for castings got a major upgrade in 2023. "Castings. Wherever You Are" is a series of educational and promotional tools touting the everyday applications of all sorts of metal castings, from aerospace and agriculture to national defense and transportation. The newly redesigned social media ads are pre-sized for easy sharing on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and X/Twitter. In 2023, the campaign was expanded to include 40 images encompassing a wide range of casting applications. You can find "Castings. Wherever You Are" at www.afsinc.org/castings-wherever-you-are. Please feel free to download and share them!



Examples of Castings. Wherever You Are Ads

Casting of the Year



2023 Casting of the Year

The AFS/Casting Source Casting of the Year Award is about more than bragging rights — it's about highlighting the incredible things castings can do. This annual award draws the attention of parts buyers and OEMs around the world, bolstering the industry's reputation for quality and innovative manufacturing solutions.

AFS Corporate Member Tooling & Equipment International (TEI) clinched the 2023 AFS/Casting Source Casting of the Year Award for its rear rail underbody casting in Cadillac's Celestiq sedan. The award recognized TEI's groundbreaking approach, combining a proprietary sand cast alloy, low-pressure precision sand casting, and 3D-printed cores to create a highly ductile and structurally superior part.

2023 AFS/Casting Source Casting Competition

- Casting of the Year:**
Tooling & Equipment International, rear rail underbody
- Outstanding Achievement:**
O'Fallon Casting, engine mount; Meridian Lightweight Technologies, rear support bracket
- Newcomer of the Year:**
K&H Precision Products, sensor pod
- Best Example of a Casting Conversion:**
Metal Technologies Inc., burner box
- Achievement By a Small Business:**
Morris Bean & Co., ground turbine air inlet
- Best Prototype or Innovation:**
Virginia Tech - Kroeling Advanced Materials Foundry and Eck Industries, metal-ceramic lattice structure

Pillar 5: Talent Development

AFS and the Institute will lead workforce development initiatives and provide innovative education programs that meet customer needs and enhance the skill levels of metalcasting industry workers.

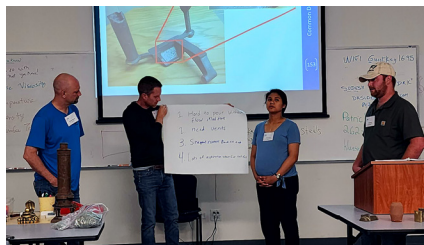


Foundry Skills Training

More than 400 students from 155 companies expanded their metalcasting knowledge by enrolling in AFS Institute courses in 2023. Held in person at AFS HQ, online via Zoom, and in plants across the country, these expert-led classes covered everything from the basics of metalcasting to advanced, highly technical topics. Additionally, students all around the world enrolled in an impressive 5,496 Foundry E-Learning modules from Jan. 1 – Dec. 1, 2023. The AFS Institute is the educational arm of AFS and has trained nearly 91,000 people since its inception in 1957.



Industrial students get into the action during a chapter-based Gating & Riser Design AFS Institute class in Washington in November 2023.



Students give a presentation as part of Gating and Riser Design 101 in June 2023.



Students team up on work during a Casting Design class at AFS HQ.



Students collaborate on a project during Green Sand Molding 201 at AFS HQ in August 2023.

2023's New Courses

The AFS Institute officially unveiled two brand-new courses and relaunched two popular classes in 2023:

New

Introduction to Supervisor Development

Fundamentals of SPC and Process Capability

Relaunched

Problem-Solving and Process Improvement (formerly Foundry Process Improvement)

Introduction to Cast Alloys

Foundry E-Learning Growth

More than ever, foundries are turning to online tools to bolster their employees' skills. Nowhere is this more evident than in the recent explosion in Foundry E-Learning subscriptions and usage by AFS Corporate Members. These web-based modules offer a convenient solution to talent development, teaching everything from metalcasting basics to safety and casting design.

In 2023, the number of facilities subscribing to Foundry E-Learning jumped to a high of 85.

In total, metalcasters launched an impressive E-Learning 5,496 modules over the past year. The AFS Institute's Foundry E-Learning catalog includes a total of 110 individual titles — 89 in English and 21 in Spanish.



AFS Institute Instructor Ted Schorn (Enkei America Inc.) demonstrates an interactive visual inspection activity during a class in August 2023.



AFS Institute e-Learning module.



Missouri S&T hosts an AFS Institute course in its campus foundry in Rolla, Missouri, in July 2023.

AFS Young Professionals



AFS Young Professionals gather in front of Kohler during an October 2023 tour of the company's cast iron foundry.

An AFS shared-interest group formerly known as Future Leaders of Metalcasting rebranded in 2023 as AFS Young Professionals. The new name reflects a broader emphasis, acknowledging that many young AFS members are already leaders but can benefit from the networking and activities offered by the group.



Youngsters at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, get hands-on during a Foundry-in-a-Box demonstration led by members of AFS Young Professionals in October 20.

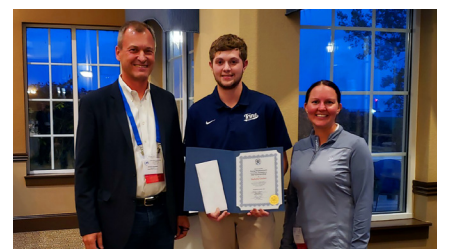
AFS Young Professionals supports industry employees ages 20 to 45 aspiring to or currently in managerial roles within their organizations. The new name was announced at the group's annual meeting in October. AFS Young Professionals hosts various events, including executive skill development and community outreach, playing a vital role in developing leaders in the metalcasting supply chain.

Additionally, in 2024, a group of AFS Young Professionals will travel to Japan for the 2024 Young Foundry Professionals Summit.

More information is available at www.afsinc.org/afs-young-professionals.

Biennial Workforce Survey

The AFS Institute conducted a biennial workforce survey in September 2023. The data gathered will inform AFS's event planning and shape future course offerings, as well as provide information for the Foundry Educational Foundation. Areas of inquiry included respondents' opinions on industry training through the Institute, technical conferences and workshops, the annual management summit, and FEF apprenticeships and hiring programs. The findings indicated that the most prominent workforce topics of interest include the development of supervisory skills, fostering a positive work environment, and gaining insights into industry trends. The next survey is scheduled for late summer 2025.



Sinto-AFS Young Professionals Educational Scholarship

Dakota Carter, a mechanical engineering student at Trine University, was the recipient of the 2023 Sinto-AFS Young Professionals Educational Scholarship. The award was presented on Oct. 24, 2023, at the AFS Young Professionals Annual Meeting in Wisconsin. The scholarship, made possible by a generous donation from AFS Corporate Member Sinto, supports the education of metalcasting students and emerging industry leaders.

Women in Metalcasting

Susan Bear, Chief Technology Officer at AFS Corporate Member Grede Castings, received the 2023 Women in Metalcasting Award for Excellence. This prestigious annual award acknowledges individuals who exhibit outstanding leadership, advocacy, mentoring, and role modeling for women in the metalcasting industry. The recognition took place during the Women in Metalcasting Breakfast, held in conjunction with Metalcasting Congress 2023. Women in Metalcasting (WIM), an AFS shared-interest group, provides a platform for networking, mentorship, and idea-sharing among women in the industry through webinars, group events, and other programs.



Susan Bear (Grede Castings) was honored with the 2023 Women in Metalcasting Award for Excellence.

For more information or to subscribe to the WIM quarterly newsletter, visit www.afsinc.org/women-metalcasting.

Talent Development Division

In 2023, the AFS Management Council introduced a revamped division with a new name a broader membership, and a fresh perspective. The Talent Development Division, formerly known as the Human Resources Division, underwent a transformation in the past year to better align with the diverse needs of today's metalcasting workforces. Beyond conventional HR subjects, the division now actively engages in initiatives aimed at building employee skills, attracting and retaining talent, optimizing organizational efficiency, and addressing various people- and talent-related challenges within the industry. Learn more at www.afsinc.org/talent-development-division.

Engaging AFS Student Members

The next generation of metalcasting talent is already heavily involved in AFS! Our AFS Student Chapters operate on 45 college campuses in the United States, Mexico, and Canada. In 2023, we welcomed our newest chapter, Eastern Michigan University (Ypsilanti, Michigan). Student chapters host outreach events to attract new students to their departments, compete in casting competitions and other contests, and are integral to building excitement on campuses for metallurgy and metalcasting-related fields.



AFS Student Members pose with cast iron pans at the 2023 Southeastern Regional.

Additionally, AFS is proud to collaborate with the Foundry Educational Foundation on many collegiate offerings, including the IJMC-FEF Student Research Competition. This annual contest empowers top undergraduates to showcase their research at Metalcasting Congress. 2023 saw a record number of submissions, with first prize going to University of Wisconsin's Jenna Van Hoogstraten for "The Effect of Cooling Rate on the Microstructure and Physical Properties of Hypereutectic Al-Ce Alloys." Joint second-place honors went to Keaton Allen (Missouri S&T) for "Loss of Kinetic Zone Pressure Causes Mold Wall Collapse During Filling Across a Glue Joint in Lost Foam Casting," and Jacob O'Dell and Josh Kowalsky (University of Northern Iowa) for "Measuring Curing Effectiveness of Chemically Bonded Sand Molds." Winners earn scholarships and are published in AFS's International Journal of Metalcasting.



Metalcasting students pose for a photo near the AFS booth at FEF's 2023 College Industry Conference in Chicago.



Students present their work in the IJMC-FEF Student Research Competition at Metalcasting Congress 2023. Jenna Van Hoogstraten (UW-Milwaukee) took first prize.

Metalcasting Congress: Student Members Attend for Free

AFS provided nearly 150 complimentary passes for AFS student members and FEF Key Professors to attend Metalcasting Congress 2023. Students enjoyed visiting exhibits and attending educational sessions, as well as the IJMC-FEF Student Research Competition and the Steel Founders Society of America's Cast in Steel event, of which AFS was Presenting Sponsor. AFS will offer the same benefits to student members and educators in 2024! To qualify for your complimentary student pass, simply log in with your membership credentials when registering at www.metalcastingcongress.org.



Pillar 6: Technical Innovation

AFS will exercise technical leadership in the areas of technology transfer, scholarly publication, cutting-edge research, and technical assistance to drive innovation in the metalcasting industry.

Technical Conferences

AFS was at the forefront of technical knowledge transfer in 2023, providing an array of conferences for the metalcasting supply chain:

2023 Cast Iron Production Conference Feb. 27-28, Charlotte, NC

Sessions covered a broad range of topics including melting practice and charge makeup, inoculation, treatment, gating and risering, quality control, and finishing considerations.

Introduction to Foundry Environmental Compliance March 21-22, Schaumburg, IL

Made for people who were new to the environmental and/or metalcasting fields, this seminar explained routine environmental issues encountered in a metalcasting facility.

2023 Advanced Air Seminar May 9-10, Schaumburg, IL

Built on basic knowledge with advanced practical knowledge, tools, and techniques needed to address relatively complex foundry air emission issues.

2023 Copper Alloys Workshop Sept. 27-28, Schaumburg, IL

Session topics included green sand systems, gating and risering, metallurgy, additive manufacturing, quality inspection, foundry safety, and a panel on casting defects.

35th EHS Conference Oct. 3-5, Chicago, IL

Combined current must-know environmental, health and safety content with up-and-coming information for foundry EHS personnel.

2023 Cupola Workshop: Practical & Advanced Concepts Oct. 10-11, Cadillac, MI

Explored the fundamentals of foundry cupola operation, covering basics as well as moderately technical information.

2023 Additive Manufacturing Conference Nov. 7-8, Dearborn, MI

Aimed at foundry operators, casting designers and buyers, and industry suppliers, this conference prepared attendees for the additive revolution in metalcasting.



Dr. Kumar Sadayappan (CanmetMATERIALS), left, and Jeff Sorenson (Lee Brass) pause for a break at the 2023 Copper Alloys Workshop.



In September 2023, the Copper Alloys Workshop at AFS HQ was a sold-out event bringing tremendous value to copper foundries.



Attendees of the 2023 Cupola Workshop listen to a presentation in Cadillac, Michigan.

AFS-Funded Research

At the core of the Society's dedication to industry innovation lies AFS-funded research. In 2023, there were 10 ongoing research projects in different developmental stages. The objective of all AFS research is to enhance the efficiency, quality, and profitability of the foundry industry. To guarantee alignment with critical technical requirements, industry experts within the AFS technical division structure actively monitor and oversee each research project.

Effect of Ceramic Sand on Cast Iron Mechanical Properties (19-20#02)

Principal Investigators:

Dr. Scott Giese

University of Northern Iowa

Steering Committee Chair:

Brandon Reneau

Caterpillar

LFC Molds Produced Using Additive Manufacturing (19-20#07)

Principal Investigator:

Marshall Miller

3D Systems

Steering Committee Chair:

Jeff Prickett

Metals Alloys & Refractories

LFC Molds Produced Using Polymer FDM & SLA Additive Manufacturing (19-20#08)

Principal Investigator:

Marshall Miller

3D Systems

Steering Committee Chair:

Jeff Prickett

Metals Alloys & Refractories

Quantifying Aluminum Casting Quality

Through H Gas - (Phase 2)(20-21#02)

Principal Investigators:

Daniel Hoefert

Eck Industries, Inc.

Steering Committee Chair:

Adam Kopper

Mercury Marine

Machinability of Solution Strengthened Ferritic Ductile Iron (20-21#06)

Principal Investigators:

Dave Labyak and Paul Sanders

Michigan Technological University

Steering Committee Chair:

Mark Osborne

Wabtec

Multi-axial Measurement of Casting Wall Movement During SGI Solidification and Cooling in In-Molding (21-22#03)

Principal Investigators:

Dr. Mingzhi Xu,

Georgia Southern University

Dr. Simon Lekakh

Missouri University of

Science and Technology

Steering Committee Chair:

Jiten Shah

PDA LLC

Refining Austenite in Gray Irons (22-23#01)

Principal Investigators:

Jingjing Qing

Georgia Southern University

Steering Committee Chair:

Leonard Winardi

Charlotte Pipe

Effects of Si in High-Cr White Cast Irons (22-23#03)

Principal Investigators:

Richard Gundlach

Gundlach Consulting Services

Steering Committee Chair:

Brian Bendig

Penticton Foundry

Biobased Polymer Foam Pattern for Lost Foam Casting (22-23#04)

Principal Investigators:

Jacob Belke

Mercury Marine

Steering Committee Chair:

Marshall Miller

3D Systems

Understanding and Mitigating the Effect of Boron in Ductile Iron (22-23#06)

Principal Investigators:

Laura Bartlett

Missouri University of

Science and Technology

Steering Committee Chair:

Kramer Pursell

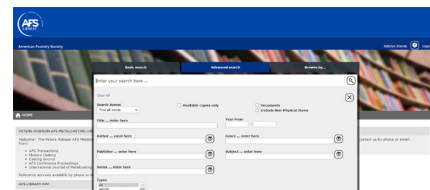
Metal Technologies Inc.

Generative AI Subcommittee

The AFS Engineering and Smart Manufacturing Division launched a new subcommittee focused on generative artificial intelligence in 2023. With AI technology rapidly evolving, members of the Generative AI Subcommittee have been discussing the various ways in which metalcasters can and should use this powerful new tech, from basic tools like ChatGPT to much more advanced tools. The subcommittee anticipates proposing AFS-funded research to help determine the best ways this technology can be used by the foundry industry.

AFS Peters-Robison Metalcasting Library & App

At 17,423 articles and counting, it's easy to see how AFS can boast the world's largest metalcasting library. As of Dec. 1, 2023, a total of 21,500 resources had been downloaded in the calendar year from the AFS Peters-Robison Metalcasting Library, which is available for free to all members. Also in December 2023, AFS launched a mobile library app for iPhone and Android devices. Called Liberty Link, the app allows members to search, reserve, borrow, and return library resources directly on their phones. Find the app by searching for Liberty Link in the Apple or Android stores. To explore the library on a desktop, visit www.afsinc.org/library.



AMC Research

AFS is an original founding partner of the American Metalcasting Consortium, a research partnership that promotes cast metals research and infrastructure improvements to benefit U.S. military and defense needs. March 2023 marked the start of a 5-year AMC program in which AFS will di-

rectly manage three projects while working closely with Defense Logistics Agency.

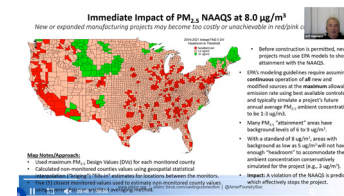
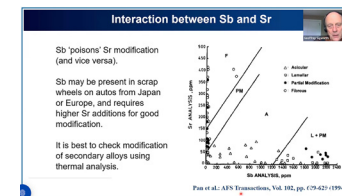
The first AMC project focuses on investment casting, the second will develop digital capabilities to more rapidly transfer metalcasting technology and best practice

knowledge, and the third will model the relationship between surface defects on cast metal components and casting process variables and parameters. AFS will offer technical oversight for a fourth project on nano-reinforcing aluminum alloys led by an external investigator.

Members-Only Webinars

AFS Members-Only Webinars delve into an array of metalcasting subjects, encompassing alloy-specific technical insights, updates on public policy, and much more. Complementary for all members, AFS conducted 26 live webinars in 2023, with the most viewed being "The Supply Chain is Not Going to Get Better: What Metalcasters Need to Know," a presentation by attorney, noted supply chain expert, and frequent CNBC commentator Dennis Unkovic. Beyond the live presentations, members can access

these webinars on demand via AFS OnLive at www.onlive.afsinc.org.



Screenshots from AFS Members-Only Webinars. Members save \$25 each time they attend an AFS webinar.

Volunteer Leaders

2023-2025 Technical Council Officers

Chair:

Adam Kopper

Mercury Marine

Vice Chair:

Tim Hoyt

Allied Mineral Products

Secretary:

Mark Osborne

Wabtec- GE Transportation

Secretary-Elect:

Eric Nelson

Eric Nelson Consulting LLC

2023-2024 Management Council Officers

Chair:

Alexandria Trusov

Alpha Resources, Inc.

Vice Chair:

Jason Gutierrez

Soundcast

Secretary:

TJ Costello

Charlotte Pipe & Foundry Co.

Secretary-Elect:

Tom Bye

Dotson Iron Castings

2023 Division Chairs:

Additive Manufacturing Division

Chair:

Dave Rittmeyer

Mathews Additive Technologies

Aluminum & Light Metals Division

Chair:

Herbert Doty

General Motors

Cast Iron Division

Chair:

Lizeth Medina-Balliet

Neenah Foundry Co.

Copper Alloy Division

Chair:

Jim Valentine

Neptune Technology Group, Inc.

Engineering & Smart Manufacturing Division

Chair:

Greg Bray

Electric Controls & Systems, Inc.

Environmental, Health & Safety Division

Chair:

Craig Schmeisser

Mad River Strategies LLC

Lost Foam Division

Chair:

Tedd Sheets

Betz Industries

Melting Methods & Materials Division

Chair:

Pete Satre

Allied Mineral Products

Molding Methods & Materials Division

Chair:

Scott Giese

University of Northern Iowa

Steel Division

Chair:

Robert Tuttle

Western Michigan University

Marketing Division

Chair:

Cara Lynch

Inductotherm Corp.

Government Affairs

Chair:

Eric Meyers

Oil City Iron Works, Inc.

Talent Development Division

Chair:

Amanda Groves

Lodge Mfg. Co.

Women in Metalcasting

Chair:

Michelle Ring

Norican Group

AFS Young Professionals

Chair:

Jordan Brown

BCI Solutions, Inc.

America Makes IMPACT Research

AFS is actively involved in a federally funded research initiative under the America Makes IMPACT program. The two-year project started in October 2023 and aims to

boost manufacturing productivity by using 3D printed sand molds and cores for aerospace aluminum and magnesium castings. With support from various AFS Corporate

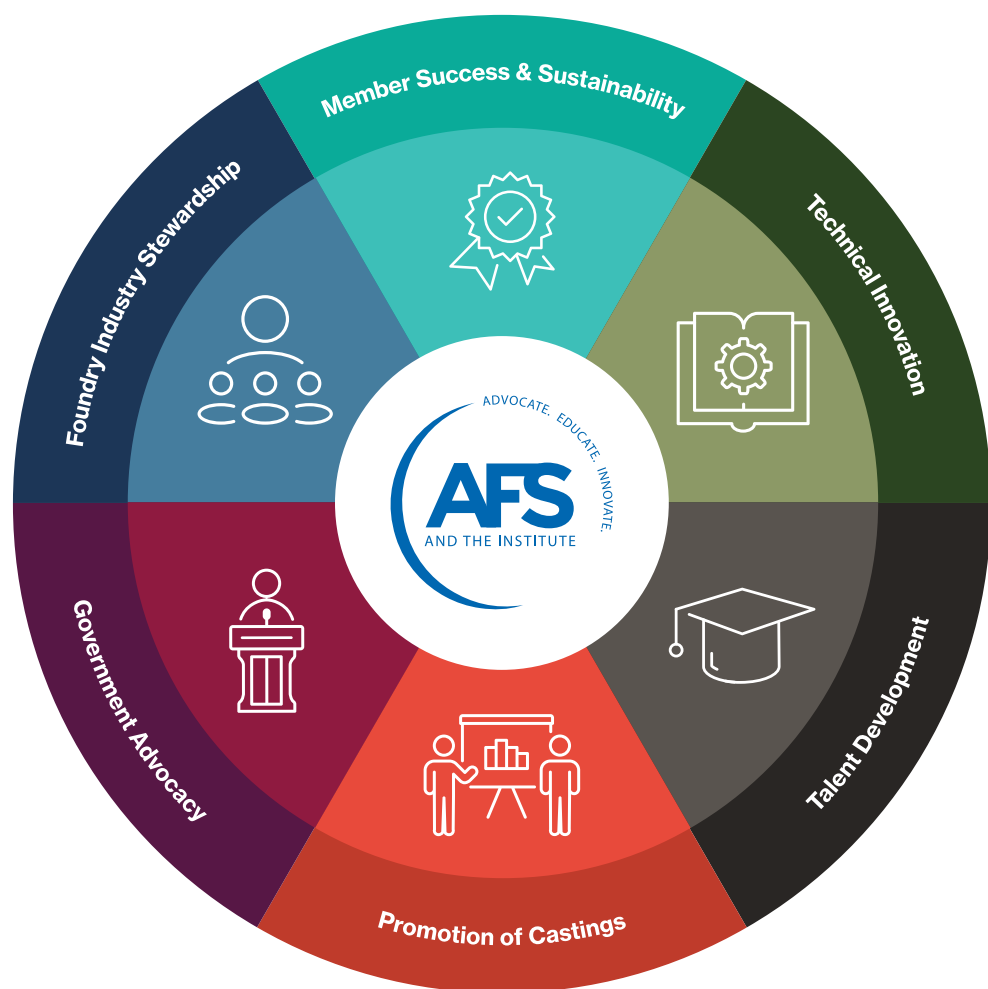
Members and funding from the Department of Defense, the initiative seeks to advance additive manufacturing, ensuring a competitive casting supply chain.

AFS Mission Statement

The mission of the American Foundry Society is to advance the success of its members and the metalcasting industry through advocacy, education, and innovation.

AFS Vision Statement

AFS will be recognized worldwide by industry stakeholders as the leading voice and resource on technical, management, and advocacy priorities pertaining to the metalcasting industry.



BY THE NUMBERS

84

AFS Regional

- & -

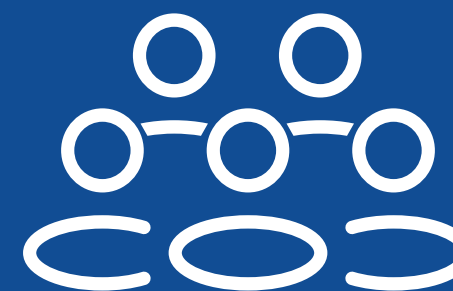
Student Chapters



26 live
webinars
presented
in 2023

5,626

Individual
Members



1,014

Corporate
Members

15

AFS Divisions

45

AFS Committees

12

Task Groups

Four

Working Groups

Two

Shared Interest
Groups

42

courses
offered by the
AFS Institute



230

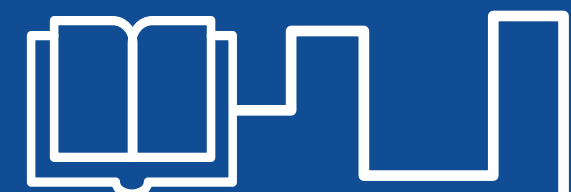
exhibitors at
Metalcasting
Congress 2023

91,000+
Students trained
by the AFS Institute
since 1957



5,496+

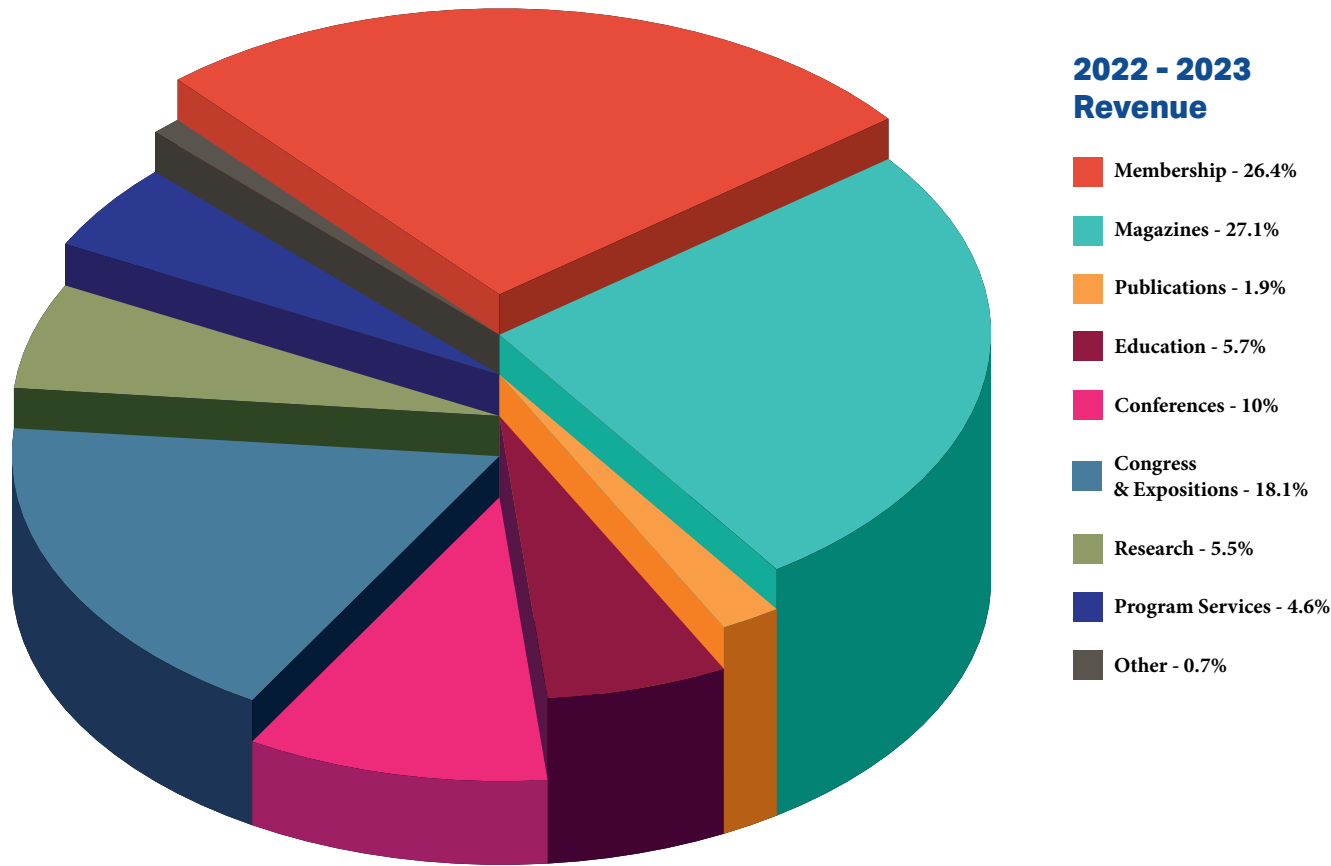
e-Learning
modules
initiated in
2023



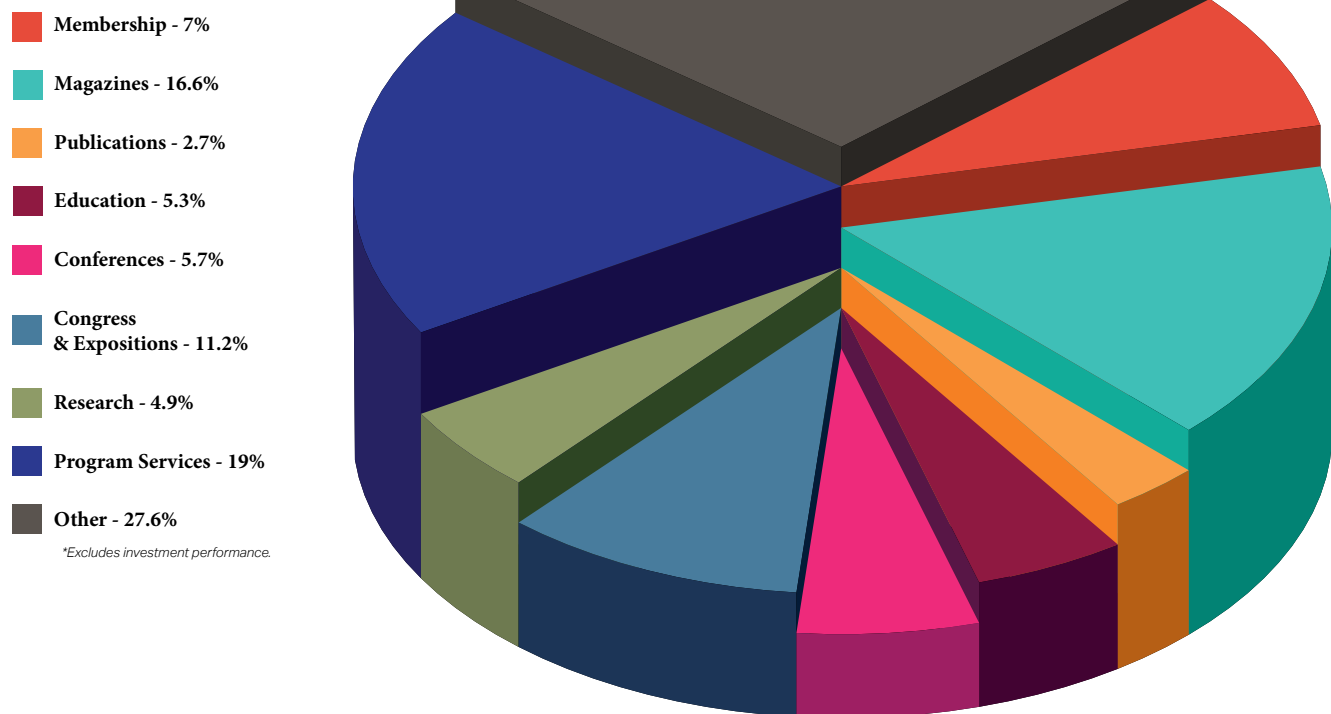
17,423+

Articles in the AFS Peters-Robison
Metalcasting Library

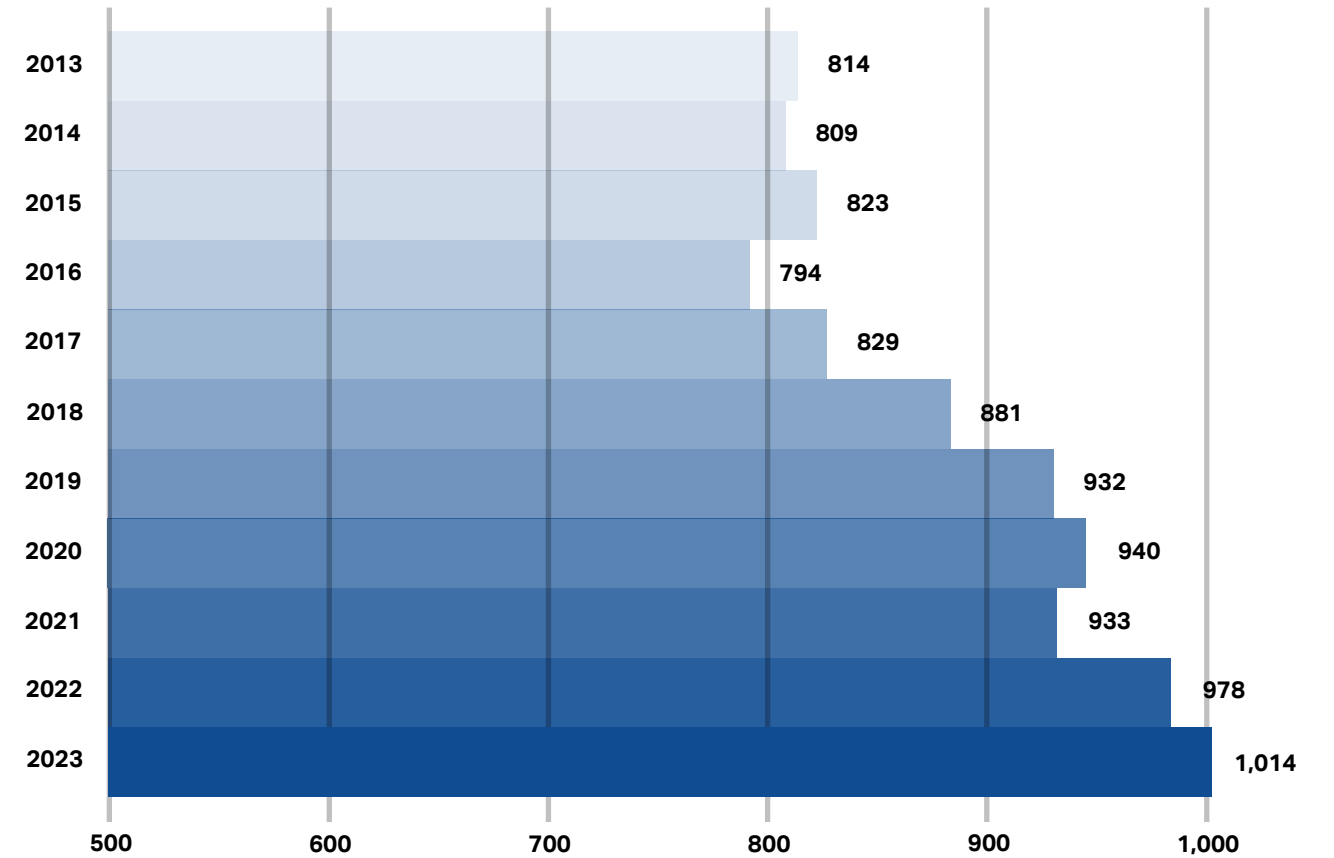
2022 - 2023 AFS and the Institute Financials



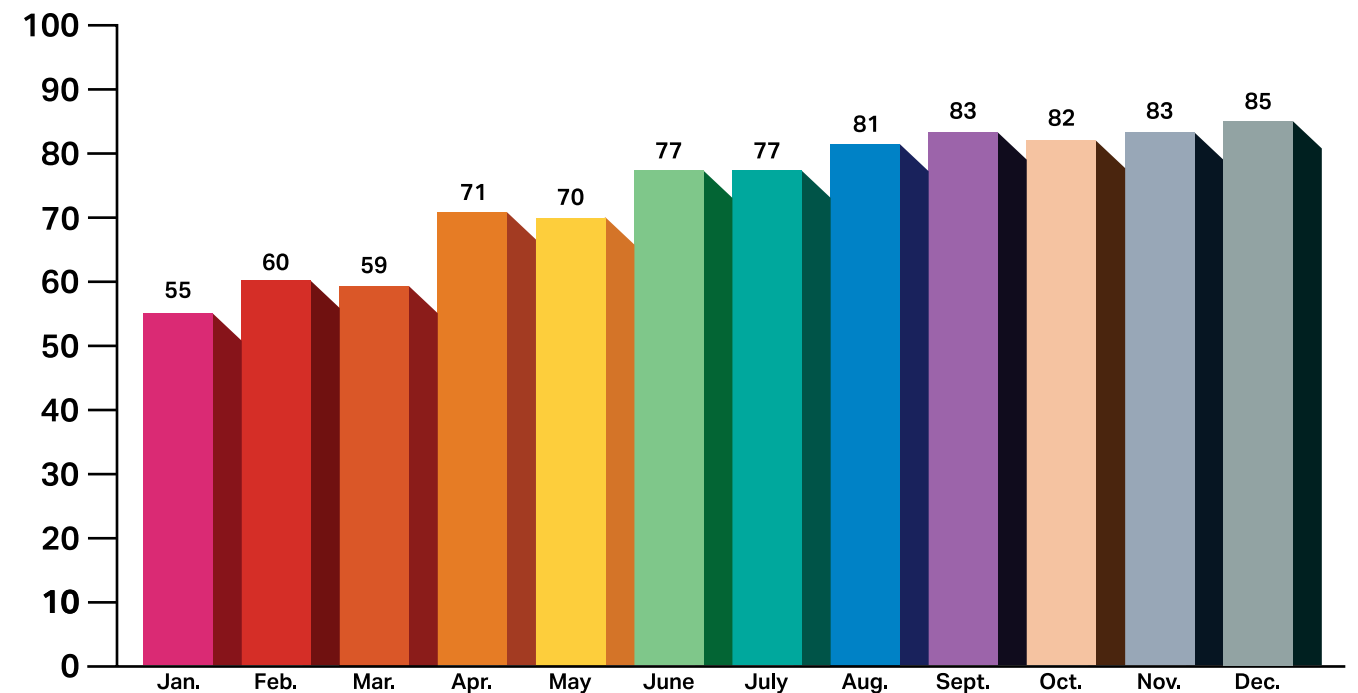
2022 - 2023 Expenses



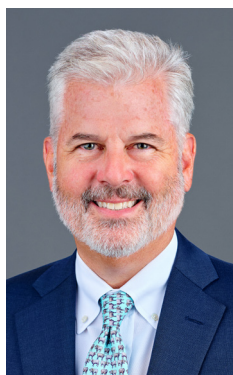
2013 - 2023 AFS Corporate Memberships



Foundry e-Learning Subscriptions by Month



2023 – 2024 Officers & Board Members



President
Bradford Muller
Vice President of Corporate Communications
Charlotte Pipe & Foundry



Vice President
Angela Schmeisser
Director
St. Marys Foundry, Inc.



2nd Vice President
David Gilson
Sales and Marketing Director
SinterCast

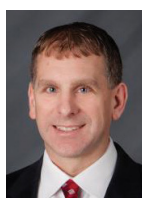


Immediate Past President
Adam San Solo



CEO
Doug Kurkul
CEO
American Foundry Society

Director Class 2020 - 2024



Rob Johnson
Executive Vice President Administration, CFO and Treasurer
Waupaca Foundry



Jim Mancuso
Vice President
Mancuso Chemicals, Ltd.



Andrew C. Renkey
V-Process Foundry Group President
Ligon Industries LLC



Peter Satre
Manager – Corporate Engineering
Allied Mineral Products LLC

Director Class 2021 - 2025



Laura Bartlett, PhD
Wolf Associate Professor of Metallurgical Engineering
Missouri University of Science and Technology



Kiley Eck Hayon
President
Eck Industries, Inc.



Jay M. Morrison
Vice President of Equipment Sales/ Eastern Region Sales Manager
Carpenter Brothers Inc.



Liz Ulman
Vice President
Dotson Iron Castings

Director Class 2022 - 2026



George Boyd, Jr.
Managing Member
Goldens' Foundry & Machine Co.



Alan Brink
President
Spring City Electrical Mfg. Co.



Michael Halsband
President & CEO
Roberts Sinto Corporation



Bill Nestel
Vice President of Manufacturing
Rochester Metals Corp.

Director Class 2023 - 2027



Matt Cook
Chief Operating Officer & Executive Vice President
Amsted Rail



Brett Fisher
President
Foundry Solutions & Design, LLC



Earl Miller
Director of Engineering and Innovation
Hiler Industries



Amanda Torkelson
Vice President
Alu-Bra Foundry, Inc.

Professional Staff

Doug Kurkul
Chief Executive Officer

Accounting & Finance

Chris Oswald
Senior Director of Accounting & Finance

Valerie Stramaglia
Senior Associate Director of Accounting Services

Inga Blistrabas
Staff Accountant

Marketing & Business Development

Ben Yates
Vice President of Business Development

Fabio Cavalieri
Advertising Sales Manager - West

Kimberly Farrugia
Business Development Manager

Katelyn Stanek
Director of Marketing & Communications

Tyler Buchenot
Senior Manager of Creative Services

Bill Finn
Marketing and Communications Specialist

Larry Nigh
Graphic Designer

Kim Phelan
Interim Magazine Editor

Human Resources & Administrative Services

Cathy Potts
Senior Director of Human Resources & Administrative Services

Government Affairs

Jeff Hannapel
The Policy Group

Stephanie Salmon
Vice President Government Affairs

Information Technology & Operations

Mike Lakas
Senior Vice President for Information Technology, Operations, and Trade Shows

Deana Barrueta
IT Support and Facilities Manager

Rich Fett
Information Systems Manager

Barbara Jackowski
Customer Service Manager

Katie Matticks
Senior Project Manager

Tony Perrone
Mailroom/Warehouse Coordinator (Part-time)

Carmen Rodriguez
Receptionist/Customer Service

AFS Institute

Jennifer Christian
Director of Training Solutions

Technical, Research, & Library Services

Brian Began
Vice President of Metalcasting Technical Services

Travis Frush
Technical Director of Metalcasting Services

Greg Kramer
Technical Director

Kimberly Perna
Senior Technical Coordinator

Sue Thomas
Senior Technical Editor (Part-time)

Bo Wallace
Senior Technical Associate

AFS Staff Locations



“For almost three decades, thanks to the many platforms, events, and tools hosted by AFS, Sinto has been able to connect with an ever-increasing number of customers and establish itself as a well-known and respected brand in the foundry industry.”



Michael Halsband
President & CEO
Sinto

“AFS plays a crucial role in advancing the foundry industry through impactful research, leveraging the knowledge and talent of technical leaders across all alloys and foundry processes to focus on the vital needs of our industry. AFS ensures widespread impact by disseminating research results through conferences, papers, articles, and journals, promoting knowledge exchange and global collaboration which would not otherwise be feasible for many foundry operations.”



Adam Kopper
Technical Specialist
Mercury Marine

“As an AFS Corporate Member, the power that e-learning training tools bring to our company is limitless.”



Mark Soucie
President
Ferroloy Inc.

“We are located in Alberta, Canada. The AFS helps us stay connected to peers and manufacturers in the industry through trade shows, conferences etc. Whenever we have a question or issue, the AFS connects us with the right people.”



Dylan Davies
President
Lethbridge Iron Works Co. Ltd.

“AFS has been a constant ally through my 20+ years as a member. Fellow members are always willing to share their knowledge with you. AFS is also especially welcoming to students and young people compared to other societies. Usually, the other societies end up copying AFS.”



Dr. Robert Tuttle
Professor, WMU

“AFS amplifies our voice in our nation’s capital through its more than 1000 foundry corporate members and their suppliers in a way we never could on our own.”



Bradford Muller
Vice President of Marketing
Charlotte Pipe and Foundry Company



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