Message from the Chair

Our SPE Division continues to develop… Here’s where the Board’s focus is at:

First, after putting together an excellent group of speakers for ANTEC (co-located with NPE March 23-27), Cyndi Kustush, our Technical Program Chair, is looking to also provide speakers at more industry events throughout the coming year. Discussions are underway to hold a plant tour in the Chicago area in September, as well as a Minitec conference in the fall, and once again we will provide speakers for the SPI Mike Koebel Western Moldmakers Trade Fair in Pomona, CA. In the meantime, we need volunteers to staff our booth at AmeriMold in Chicago, June 17-18. Please email Cyndi at cyndi.kustush@procomps.com if you can help.

Next, we’re revving up work from an Educational standpoint. Along with co-producing a video titled “Moldmaking Matters: Your Career Can Make A Difference” that we sponsored with the SPI, AMBA, Gardner Business Media, SME and MoldMaking Technology and Plastics Technology magazines, our Education Chair, Brenda Clark, is overhauling our process for providing grant money to mold making programs.

While it’s exciting to reach out to the industry in those two aspects, we also have to further develop our Division infrastructure, and all on the Board (see Org Chart and listing on page 6) are helping to drive improvements. We’ve updated our mission statement (shown on page 2), and are driven to “walk the talk”. We’re looking at a Division name change, as well as overhauling the format of our newsletter and communications with our Members in the 2015/2016 year.

A bit of recognition came our way, as our Division was awarded the SPE Silver Pinnacle Award during ANTEC in Orlando on March 22nd. I’m appreciative of the Board’s work to make this happen.

If you’d like to be a part the next wave of leadership of the Division, or if you would like to be one of our technical speakers at a future event, drop me a line at gs@procomps.com. It’s the time of year when we are adding Board members, and we can discuss how dedicating a little bit of time towards our Division results in a rewarding and positive impact for our industry.
A Message from the Newsletter Editor

Dear Fellow SPE Members:

You all have news about your company or about new technologies, equipment, software and other items of interest to the members of the SPE Mold Making & Mold Design Division. All you have to do to share this information with your fellow members is send an e-mail to Clare Goldsberry (clarewrite@aol.com) or give Clare a call (602-996-6499) and tell your news. She’ll do all the writing! It’s easy and your contributions make our newsletter much more interesting and informative.

SPE Moldmaking & Mold Design Division

New and Improved Mission Statement

“To be the leading industry resource for technical information to advance plastic mold engineering technologies, while fostering industry growth, education and leadership.”

Following is the old mission statement:

“To foster growth in the mold making and design profession by encouraging the training of mold makers at the apprentice level, and by supporting the continuing development of established mold makers by gathering and exchanging information on materials and mold performance.”
SPE Mold Making & Mold Design Division 2014 Mold Maker of the Year

Mold Maker of the Year, Manfred Hoffmann, formally received his award at the recent Plastec West show in Anaheim, California.

His career spans 64 years, since he began as an Apprentice Toolmaker at AEG (General Electric) in Berlin, Germany in 1951, and attended a 5-year Technical University through evening classes.

In 1965, he continued his career as a Senior mold maker with CACO Pacific Corp in Covina, California, and held various management and executive management positions throughout his career there.

In 1985 Manfred became a major shareholder of the company as well as the President, CEO and Chairman of the Board. During his 48-year tenure with CACO Pacific, the company has created more than 300 Journeyman Mold Makers and precision machinists, 30 of which have gone on to establish mold making companies of their own throughout the Rocky Mountain west.

Congratulations to Manfred Hoffmann!

WE NEED YOU!

The Mold Making and Mold Design Division Board of Directors is in need of a “Few Good Men and Women.”

If you are interested in the continued betterment of our industry around the globe, and would like to be a part of the leadership within the Mold Making and Mold Design Division, then we have a place for you!

Please complete the form below and return to gs@procomps.com.

Name:________________________________________________________
Mold Maker:_________ Mold Designer:_________ Both:_________
Phone:_____________________________________________________
Mobile:____________________________________________________
E-Mail:____________________________________________________
Contact Information  Please print clearly

First Name (Given Name)  Middle Name
Last Name (Family Name)
Company Name/University Name (if applicable)
Mailing Address is:  Home  Business  Gender:  Male  Female (for demographic use only)
Address Line 1
Address Line 2
Address Line 3
City  State/Province
Country  Zip/Postal Code  Phone
Preferred Email (This will be your member login and is required for use of online member services)
Alternate Email
Date of Birth (Required for Young Professional membership)
Graduation Date (Required for Student membership)
Job Title

Membership Information  Payment must accompany application. No purchase orders accepted.

Check Enclosed  Amount ____________
Charge:  Visa  Mastercard  American Express  Expired Date: ____________
Account Number: ____________  CSC#: ____________
Last 3 digits from the back of MC/Visa.  4 digits from the front of AMEX.
Amount Authorized: ____________
Cardholder’s Name (as it appears on card): ____________
Signature of Cardholder: ____________

Payment by Wire Transfer Instructions
You must include account number +ABA number + bank fees. Please include the Member # and Name so we may apply payment to the correct person.

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The SPE Online Member Directory is included with membership. Your information is automatically included unless you indicate otherwise.

Exclude my email address from the Online Membership Directory
Exclude all my information from the Online Membership Directory
Exclude my address from 3rd party mailings

By signing below, I agree to be governed by the Bylaws of the Society and to promote the objectives of the Society. I certify that statements made in the application are correct and I authorize SPE and its affiliates to use my phone, fax, address and email to contact me.

Signature  Date

Technical Division Member Groups - Connect with a global community of professionals in your area of technical interest.

- Additives & Color Europe - D45
- Applied Rheology - D47
- Automotive - D31
- Blow Molding - D30
- Color & Appearance - D21
- Composites - D39
- Decorating & Assembly - D34
- Electrical & Electronic - D24
- Engineering Properties Structure - D26
- European Medical Polymers - D46
- European Thermforming - D43
- Extrusion - D22
- Flexible Packaging - D44
- Injection Molding - D23
- Medical Plastics - D36
- Mold Making & Mold Design - D35
- Plastics Environmental - D40
- Polymer Analysis - D33
- Polymer Modifiers & Additives - D38
- Product Design & Development - D41
- Rotational Molding - D42
- Thermoforming - D25
- Thermoplastic Materials & Foams - D29
- Thermoset - D28
- Vinyl Plastics - D27

Geographic Section Member Groups - Network with local industry colleagues.

- Alabama/Georgia-Southern
- Asean*
- Australia-New Zealand
- Benelux
- Brazil
- California-Golden Gate
- California-Southern California
- Caribbean
- Carolinas
- Central Europe
- China
- Colorado-Rocky Mountain
- Connecticut
- Eastern New England
- France
- Hong Kong
- Illinois-Chicago
- India
- Indiana-Central Indiana
- Israel
- Italy
- Japan
- Kansas City
- Korea
- Louisiana-Gulf South Central
- Mexico-Centro
- Michigan-Detroit
- Michigan-Western Michigan
- Middle East
- Nebraska
- New Jersey-Palisades
- New York
- North Carolina-Piedmont Coastal
- Ohio-Akron
- Ohio-Cleveland
- Ohio-Miami Valley
- Oklahoma
- Ontario
- Oregon-Columbia River
- Pennsylvania-Lehigh Valley
- Pennsylvania-Northwestern Pennsylvania
- Pennsylvania-Philadelphia
- Pennsylvania-Pittsburgh
- Pennsylvania-Susquehanna
- Portugal
- Quebec
- Spain
- Taiwan
- Tennessee-Smoky Mountain
- Tennessee Valley
- Texas-Central Texas
- Texas-Lower Rio Grande Valley
- Texas-North Texas
- Texas-South Texas
- Tri-State
- Turkey
- United Kingdom & Ireland
- Upper Midwest
- Utah-Great Salt Lake
- Virginia
- Washington-Pacific Northwest
- West Virginia-Southeastern Ohio
- Western New England
- Wisconsin-Milwaukee

*Asean: Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos & Vietnam

Special Interest Groups - Explore emerging science, technologies and practices shaping the plastics industry. Choose as many as you would like, at no charge.

- Advanced Manufacturing / 3D - 033
- Additives & Color Europe - D45
- Bioplastics - 028
- Biotechnology - 023
- Blown Film - D09
- Failure Analysis & Prevention - 002
- Joining of Plastics & Composites - 012
- Marketing & Management - D29
- Non-Halogen Flame Retardant Tech. - 030
- Plastic Pipe & Fittings - 021
- Plastics Educators - 018
- Plastics in Building and Construction - 027
- Plastics in Manufacturing - 029
- Polymer Analysis - D33
- Polymer Modifiers & Additives - D38
- Product Design & Development - D41
- Reaction Injection Molding - D32
- Radiation Processing of Polymers - 019
- Thermoplastics - D27
- Thermoplastic Elastomers - 006

Recommended by (optional) ____________________________  ID# ______

Signature  Date
Fairway Injection Molding Systems Invests $3 Million in New Machinery

Strong demand for Fairway Injection Molding Systems’ advanced technology, high-volume production molds in the markets the company serves has driven Fairway to make investments of $1 million annually over the past three years in production mold manufacturing machinery and injection molding machines. Founded in 1977, Fairway, located in Walnut, CA, is a premier designer and manufacturer of precision, high-volume injection molds for the packaging (caps/closures), medical, and personal care markets.

“We’ve seen tremendous growth opportunities over the past three years,” states Gregg Van Bogget, Director of Sales and Marketing for Fairway. “To take advantage of these opportunities, Fairway has not only invested in machinery and equipment but in management, engineering and sales personnel as well to take the company where it needs to go.”

Molding presses have become an absolute necessity for Fairway as its plans call for greater capabilities to perform mold qualification. Fairway operates four injection molding machines, including the latest, a Husky Hylectric 720-ton high-speed packaging machine to accommodate customers’ larger molds. The other injection molding machines include a 105-ton, a 250-ton and a 490-ton 2-shot press. Fairway now has the capability to sample and qualify a wide range of mold types including Tandem and Stack molds, multi-shot molds, as well as single face molds and molds that accommodate in-mold closing and in-mold labeling (IML) for the company’s packaging customers.
2015 SPE Mold Making and Mold Design Division
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**Sponsorship Committee Chair**
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P: 262-786-4521 | pckambouris@wi-engraving.com

**Councillor**
Barbara J. Arnold-Feret
EngATech | email: ppsltd@airmail.net

*Note: ** Indicates Past Division Chair*
Big 3 Precision and Creative Blow Mold Tooling Announce Partnership

Big 3 Precision located in Centralia, IL, and Creative Blow Mold Tooling in Lee’s Summit, MO, have announced the formation of a strategic partnership to create Centers of Excellence (CoE) for the design and manufacture of injection blow and injection stretch blow molds (IBM/ISBM), as well as the design and manufacture of extrusion blow molds.

The goal of the partnership and the CoE is to help existing customers with speed to market through increased product development and support. Big 3 and Creative also intend to use the CoE concept to help balance engineering and manufacturing capacity, increase efficiencies, and further reduce lead times for customers. The partnership will allow customers to source tooling on complementary platforms through a known and trusted business partner. For some customers, access to the CoE will allow them to more quickly and efficiently expand their existing capabilities to other platforms.

As a primary supplier, each company will be able to tap into the CoE for engineering and manufacturing leadership, project management, and technical support. The primary supplier will be responsible for program management and manufacturing. The newly formed alliance will be a partnership of the companies’ technical capabilities and expertise.

Westminster Tool Invests in Software, Equipment

An injection mold is only as good as the parts that it produces. This concept is the driving force behind Westminster Tool’s recent investments which include Moldex 3D©molding simulation software, an RJG eDart System™ for process monitoring as well as increased RJG Master MolderSM support; and a Sepro America 5-axis CNC robot.

These investments reinforce Westminster’s commitment to ‘Bridging the Gap Between Concept and Production’ – a proprietary in-house program – to implement higher levels of performance for their customer base to better meet customers’ requirements. ‘Bridging the Gap’ is a strategic focus that allows customers’ complete injection mold solutions to leave Westminster Tool with a scientifically developed, repeatable production process. This “production ready” injection mold solution can reduce overall project lead times and increase speed to market.

Westminster Tool (Plainfield, Connecticut) is a mold manufacturer that specializes in innovative mold manufacturing and production solutions for plastics and composites. “We believe that our customers deserve fully integrated solutions that help bring high-quality products to market faster,” said company owner and President, Ray Coombs. “That is why we are dedicated to investing in manufacturing technology and in developing a workforce that takes personal ownership in partnering with customers, thus bridging any gaps along the process from concept to production”.

Creative Blow Mold Multi-Cavity Bottle Mold.
SPE Mold Making and Mold Design Division
February 27, 2015 Meeting Minutes

To: Board of Directors Mold Making and Mold Design Division SPE
From: Christina Fuges – Secretary to the Board
Subject: Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors on 27-February-2015

The meeting was called to order by Division Chair – Glenn Starkey at 9:00am (CST). Division Chair presided over the meeting – Christina Fuges took the recorded minutes as the Secretary. There were no representatives from SPE Headquarters present for the meeting.

The role was taken according to the leadership roster:

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<td>Glenn Starkey</td>
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<td>Wayne Hertlein</td>
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Chair Report – Glenn Starkey:
Settling into our roles. Newsletter has a production process. Education Chair update from Brenda and we are providing input. Time now for us to get nominations going and elections going. Call outs for positions for filling current roles and additional spots to fill need to take place.

Division Secretary Report – Christina Fuges Baez:
Minutes Review: 11-November 2014 minutes were approved February 23, 2015.

Treasures Report – Wayne Hertlein
Minimal change to overall network of Div and ITQ. Still dealing with Michigan Bank to find ITQ’s money. All clear with IRS for the Division. The CPA discounted their rate for us to $405. Summary was sent for review.

TPC Report—Cyndi Kustush
ANTEC session review. All is set for Tuesday and Wednesday morning, Glenn and Scott moderating and someone from Injection Molding Div. 8-Noon. Plaques for Awards ready. BOD meeting at 12:30 on Tuesday during NPE in conference room with lunch possibly. Working on a spring summer MiniTech with the injection molding division. A plant tour (Flextronics, possibly) and mini conference in one day in local Midwest area. Share any ideas thoughts on speakers. Maybe automation, EDM and design topics.

Division Councilor Report – Barbara Arnold-Feret:
Not present
**Membership Chair – Barbara Arnold-Feret:**
Not present

**Sponsorship Chair Report – Pete Kambouris:**
(Glenn) and Pete will meet for verification that 2014/15 was handed off to him and is (essentially) closed, and they’ll share thoughts for 2015/16 changes.

(Wayne) Forward checks to Wayne. He has not received any yet. Send email and copy Glenn.

**Newsletter Report—Clare Goldsberry**
(Clare) All the articles and editorial by Clare and other news items have been written and submitted to Tammy and Cyndi, but she is not sure where we’re at insofar as its completion.

(Cyndi) is reviewing with Tammy and shortening up material and being laid out. Should go out next week.

(Glenn) discussing format, frequency, timing and sponsorship structure of newsletter. For example, monthly electronic one pager instead of quarterly and heavy with content. Mid-summer will propose a format change.

**Intersociety Liaison Report – Scott Peters:**
Not present

**Awards Chair Report – Wayne Hertlein:**
(Wayne) Everything out to Progressive for ANTEC. Will need to get 2015 Awards taken care of for Amerimold. Need ballots sent out for nominations.

(Glenn) Amerimold timeframe is when we need to have new
positions too. Glenn presented SPE’s MoldMaker of the Year 2014 award to Manfred Hoffman of Caco Pacific at Plastec West on show floor.

(Wayne) Would like photo of Manfred presenting check to school.

**Education Chair Report – Brenda Clark:**
(Brenda) Cyndi, Glenn and Brenda have had several meetings.

Cover letter in process and grant form is in question. Flyer ready to be sent out to general membership and schools on list. Feel free to send Brenda schools you want on the list. ANTEC is a place where we can get submissions and grant requests approved.

(Glenn) At ANTEC we will have budget and process (proactive and reactive requests) updates to approve/discuss/vote and built into our budget.

(Brenda) Streamline process so emergency requests can be granted (like videos).

(Wayne) Existing grant submission form (Doug Hugo has process put together)

(Glenn) Will connect with Doug Hugo. We will put Education report into final newsletter of the year to inform membership.

**Old Business:**
(Glenn) Mission statement, division name change

(Cyndi) Between now and then we will assemble materials on why we want to make the name change, etc. for Barbara to present at next council meeting. Hoping to plan to vote at ANTEC on this. If not, we’ll do it via email.

(Glenn) To take advantage of opportunities for Division visibility (for example, man a booth at different events, provide speakers etc.) We need a portable booth (banner). So along with the name change approval we will seek booth approval, and then our plan is to first use it a Amerimold in June.

(Glenn) Determining amount of scholarships

(Cyndi) In September (16-18), *Plastics News Caps & Closures* event, we are looking at our Division to sponsor a plant tour at Nypro. Looking for Board member to attend and represent Division.

(Cyndi) Need to find an ITQ liaison. John Harding would be a good person to determine who would be appropriate.

(Glenn) Will connect with John for his advice.
(Cyndi) MoldMaking Matters: Your Career Can Make a Difference video update. The Division will promote it. Christina sent links to video and related content to Cyndi. Suggest putting it into next Newsletter.

New Business:
(Glenn) ANTEC Minitech update. Milwaukee Chapter has really grown. And they say plant tours really help. They have 3-4 a year. We want to get this model down and make it repeatable in many locations.

(Brenda) We need a general email for the Division.
She is willing to work on it. General email and then someone forwards it to appropriate person.

(Glenn) We will tie general email into the name change proposal.

(Scott added via email) We have a standard e-mail it is SPEMMMD@gmail.com

(Glenn) When newsletter comes out, please carefully review. In addition to the new member blast out, think about who you know personally who would be good to add to our team. Anticipating larger numbers at ANTEC this year being at NPE.

(Glenn) Call for a motion to move to adjourn. Clare and Brenda made motions.

Next meeting at NPE.

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Fuges
Secretary to the Board
Upcoming Industry Events

The following are some really great events that mold makers and mold designers should attend to learn about the latest, greatest technology in both moldmaking and plastics processing technology. So after you’ve soaked your feet and recovered from NPE, here are more great conferences to attend.

**RAPID 2015** – ([www.rapid3devent.com](http://www.rapid3devent.com)) **May 18-21, 2015** at the Long Beach Convention Center, Long Beach, CA. Everything 3D can be found here including some of the hottest new machine tools that perform both 2D and 3D in one machine. It’s the wave of the future!

**Plastics-in-Motion** – ([www.executive-conference.com](http://www.executive-conference.com)) **June 1-4, 2015** at the Adoba Hotel in Dearborn, MI. This automotive conference brings together OEMs, suppliers and anyone interested in the latest plastics technology for the automotive industry.

**Amerimold 2015** – ([www.amerimoldexpo.com](http://www.amerimoldexpo.com)) **June 17-18, 2015**, Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont, IL. This is the conference expo that we’ve all come to know and love through the years. Excellent presentations, exhibits and people walking the floor with lots of questions for mold makers.

**Molding 2015** – **June 16-18, 2015**, and co-located with **Amerimold**, this molding conference has gained in popularity through the years. Mold makers need to understand molding processing to be the best at their trade. Don’t miss out on this event also at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center.

Industrial Molds Continues Equipment Purchases/Installation: 
$1.4 Million Expected Investment in 2015

Growth at Industrial Molds, a Rockford, IL-based custom manufacturer of injection molds, continues into 2015 as the company announces additional equipment purchases while installing equipment purchased in the last quarter of 2014. According to Dennis Nord, Production Supervisor for Industrial Molds, the new Micron HSM 400 ULP 5-axis electrode cutting machine doubles Industrial Molds’ electrode production and will help the company meet demand in that department. “We Can cut electrodes 20-30% faster with this new 42,000 RPM equipment,” Nord comments.

The newest carbon cutting machine is on a robot that operates with a second carbon cutting machine, with a silo that holds 220 electrodes and can run lights out for a long period of time, Nord explains. The OKK HM1000s horizontal mill purchased in Q4 of 2014 a 60-tool changer and higher RPMs, enabling the company to run jobs back-to-back and increase lights out operations for the mold base area.

Industrial Molds is also updating its wire EDM equipment to have the ability to automate the threading and give it lights out capabilities. The company plans to purchase two wire EDMs in the first quarter of this year. Additionally, a free-standing two-ton crane system is being installed to accommodate the larger mold base sizes that the company will be able to make.

Industrial Molds Makes ANTEC Presentation

Industrial Molds provided a technical presentation at the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) Annual Technical Conference (ANTEC), which was held in conjunction with the Society of the Plastics Industry’s National Plastics Exposition (NPE) last week at the Orlando Convention Center, Orlando, Florida.

Kerry Smith, Project Engineer, presented “Mold Design for Reduction of Offline Assembly and Secondary Operations.” Kerry’s paper focused on designing for metal-to-plastic conversion for part consolidation, two-shot molding and other molding technologies for reducing production costs and improving quality.

“A good leader is not the person who does things right, but the person who finds the right things to do.”

Anthony T. Dadavano
Sometimes “Best Practices” in mold making and mold design involve the “soft” side of business such as marketing and sales. It’s often not enough just to do what your customers ask you to do. Companies committed to excellence go above and beyond to come up with creative solutions, and this is where collaborative efforts between sales and engineering teams between you and your customers become most effective.

Sales people need to ask the right questions up front to ensure that what the customer wants in a mold design and mold build is feasible. What is and what isn’t manufacturable is key to a project’s success. Mold makers aren’t magicians – they’re mold makers.

Engineering teams – project engineers from the mold maker/designer side and the customers’ company – need to engage in real communication so that everyone understands what is required. Often, the customer will bring in their marketing personnel. Why? Because in today’s consumer driven economy, it’s the marketing people who understand what the consumer wants. The mold designer and mold maker must also have a clear understanding of these requirements.

One mold manufacturing company, R&D/Leverage in Lee’s Summit, MO, not only builds molds but they help their consumer products customers do much of the front end work. Rare among the custom mold making industry, R&D/Leverage offers creative services for Structural Brand development which includes consumer research, design strategy, design for manufacture, virtual prototyping and physical prototyping, for the food and beverage, home, personal care and healthcare industries.

When thinking about your marketing and sales strategies this year don’t forget to find out what your customers are really asking for when they ask for a mold. It’s generally not a mold they really want; it’s a highly functional product that offers consumers something new, different, easy-to-use, and attractive to look at all at an optimum cost. Best practices are often as much about tending to the soft side of your business as it is about the latest software and machine tools.
Stephen Covey

“Management is efficiency in climbing the ladder of success; leadership determines whether the ladder is leaning against the right wall.”

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Tomorrow’s Toolmaker

Tomorrow’s toolmaker will have some new and interesting technologies to work with to manufacture molds. Last year, several new “hybrid” machine tools were introduced that combine 3D additive manufacturing with 2D subtractive manufacturing. For example, Mazak Corporation (www.mazakusa.com) unveiled its newest machine, the Integrex i-400AM (additive manufacturing) Hybrid Multi-Tasking machine that offers a fusion of additive technology (3D printing) and Mazak’s advanced “Multi-Tasking” capabilities. The machine will significantly reduce part cycle times while providing high-efficiency Done-In-One® processing.

As a turnkey system, the Integrex i-400AM offers manufacturers an innovative alternative to conventional processing in terms of part design and machining. The technology is especially well suited for small lot production of very difficult-to-cut materials such as those used in the aerospace, energy and medical industries, said Mazak’s information. With the additive capability, manufacturers can easily generate/clad near-net-shape component features then quickly complete them with high-precision finish machining operations – as well as laser mark parts if needed.

In operation, the Integrex i-400AM melts metal powder using fiber laser heat. Cladding heads (additive manufacturing nozzles) apply the molten material layer by layer, each of which solidifies as the desired shape grows. Plus, the system can join different types of metals to one another, a capability beneficial in the efficient repair of existing worn or damaged components, such as aerospace turbine blades.

Cladding heads store in the Integrex i-400AM’s tool magazine, and the standard automatic tool changer loads them into the machine’s milling turret. Mazak offers two types of cladding heads – high speed or high accuracy. Users select the appropri-
ate head based on the intended process and the particular metal powder to be used.

On the Multi-Tasking machine side, the Integrex i-400AM provides full 5-axis capability to easily process prismatic parts from solid billets or castings (chucked or bar fed), round parts, highly contoured parts and now those with features built using additive technology. The machine provides -30/+210 degree B-axis movement in its milling spindle, full C-axis contouring with its turning spindle and an NC tailstock that is fully programmable.

The Integrex i-400AM was recently demonstrated at a trade show in Japan, but is not available in North America as yet, but will part of Mazak Corp.’s offerings in the future.

While there are some mold components being manufactured using 3D metal deposition processes, the demand for actual mold cores/cavities isn’t there just yet. But wait and see! With some of the large-scale metal additive manufacturing solutions, like that introduced last summer from Sciacky using a turnkey electron beam additive manufacturing process for titanium end-use parts for the aerospace industry, can the ability to make metal mold cores and cavities using solely 3D additive manufacturing be far behind?

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June
Summer-Fall Issue
October
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February
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