

Announcing the Thermal Spray Society of ASM International, an Affiliate Society

Why a Thermal Spray Society? Because the times demand it.

"It was the best of times; it was the worst of times." For thermal spray members of ASM, Charles Dickens' phrasing is especially appropriate.

First, the good news. Our thermal spray membership is an active, synergistic group of commercial and captive thermal spray practitioners, users, equipment manufacturers, and researchers. At our core, we are solidly committed to our members, and this can be seen in our high-quality education programs, the top annual conference in the industry (NTSC: ASM's National Thermal Spray Conference), and the respect of the thermal spray community at large.

However, our members face a number of challenges caused by a decline in our primary markets in defense and commercial aerospace, limited support by corporate leaders, and industry consolidation. We must refocus and re-energize our efforts to continue to serve our members and our industry.

To this end, we believe that a Thermal Spray Society, dedicated to our members' unique needs and opportunities, will be more effective than the existing Thermal Spray Division or ASM as a whole.

Having said that, we also acknowledge that a continued relationship with ASM is not only desirable, but necessary. As an "Affiliate Society" of ASM, we would expect to maintain our access to the cross flow of information between the various technical specialties represented by ASM's broad based membership.

To provide the best of these two worlds, the ASM Board of Trustees acted on the recommendation of the Thermal

Spray Society Task Force. With their approval, we launched the new ASM Thermal Spray Society at NTSC '94, 20-24 June in Boston.

Key Opportunities

At our most recent meeting, the Thermal Spray Society Task Force listed the following key objectives:

- Maintain a high level of enthusiasm by our thermal spray members and core leadership.
- Assist industry in developing new applications for thermal spray technology.
- Continue to hold the preeminent annual conference for the thermal spray industry.
- Obtain full participation and representation by non-participating key companies in our industry.
- Promote technology advancement by providing information and industry input to help guide government, industry, and universities in allocating R & D resources.
- Provide authoritative information to thermal spray users.
- Improve quality and acceptance of thermal spraying through shop certification and operator certification programs.
- Implement internationally accepted specifications, practices, and/or standards for equipment, processing, coatings and materials, and testing and characterization.

- Maintain the quality and prestige of the Thermal Spray Society, its membership, Board of Trustees, and leaders.

By working toward these objectives, we believe we can achieve our vision for the ASM Thermal Spray Society: to become the leading member-driven, international organization for thermal spray, fostering communication, information development, technology advancement, education, and scientific understanding.

"Growing" the Applications

It's clear that thermal spray technology can solve many problems outside the defense and commercial aerospace industries, yet our growth in these areas has been slow. For this reason, our members expect the ASM Thermal Spray Society or organize and participate in activities aimed at expanding the application of thermal spray.

Our first efforts in this area resulted in the programming of six focused symposia on automotive, aerospace, infrastructure maintenance, power generation, petrochemical, and biomedical applications at NTSC '94 in Boston. We expect that our work toward internationally accepted specification, practices, and standards will also improve application technology by providing much-needed education and information.

The Thermal Spray Society will be an interested and concerned group of your peers—one dedicated to doing the best possible job of representing your needs and interests. If you have a comment or idea related to the new society, write or fax: ASM Thermal Spray Office, Materials Park, Ohio 44073; Fax: 216/338-4634.

The above article is reprinted from the April 1994 issue of ASM News. It was authored by Mark F. Smith, FASM, Ph.D., and Ronald W. Smith, FASM, Ph.D., P.E. Mark Smith is a senior member of the technical staff, Thermal Spray Research Lab, Sandia National Laboratories. He is Past President of the ASM Thermal Spray Society. Ron Smith is President of the ASM Thermal Spray Society. He is President of Materials Resources International, Bluebell, PA.

Where is Thermal Spray Technology heading? To the ASM Thermal Spray Society.

Manufacturers. Distributors. Contractors Users. Workers, scientists and engineers. From industry, government, universities and national laboratories. Individuals from every sector of the rapidly advancing thermal spray industry have come together to form the ASM Thermal Spray Society (TSS), an Affiliate Society of ASM International.

TSS is where our members find answers. Answers to the tough technical questions that come up in their work every day. And answers about the key is-

ssues affecting thermal spray operations as the technology changes, grows, and finds its niche in the future.

It's an exciting time to be involved in thermal spray. And TSS is building on that excitement, harnessing the energy of our members and providing the focus, opportunities and service that professionals like you can use - to be better at what you do, every day.

For example, we invite you to communicate with other thermal spray practitioners from your PC, any time of day or night through **TSS Online**, our new bulletin board service. This new service will allow you to network electronically, discuss common problems and bring up issues relevant to the thermal spray community. TSS Online will put you a mouse-click away from the answer you need, from the experts who know them

best—other TSS members! Access TSS Online via www.asm-intl.org (the ASM home page).

In addition, your support of TSS enables us to build a stronger National Thermal Spray Conference and Exposition (NTSC), our industry's leading annual event. Last year's event was held 11-15 Sept. 1995 in Houston, Texas. The focus was on increasing interest in, and use of, thermal spray coatings in diverse world markets. Special focused symposia described the application of thermal spray technology in petroleum/petrochemical, land transportation, aerospace, infrastructure maintenance and marine industries; and covered commercial developments; materials, processes and characterization; and the science of thermal spray jets.

TSS Thermal Spray News, our twice-a-year official newsletter is filled with timely features, industry trends and the latest on companies, organizations and individuals involved with thermal spray. And the annual **Thermal Spray**



Exhibits chairman of the National Thermal Spray conference, Doug Dickerson, speaks at a NTSC '95 function.



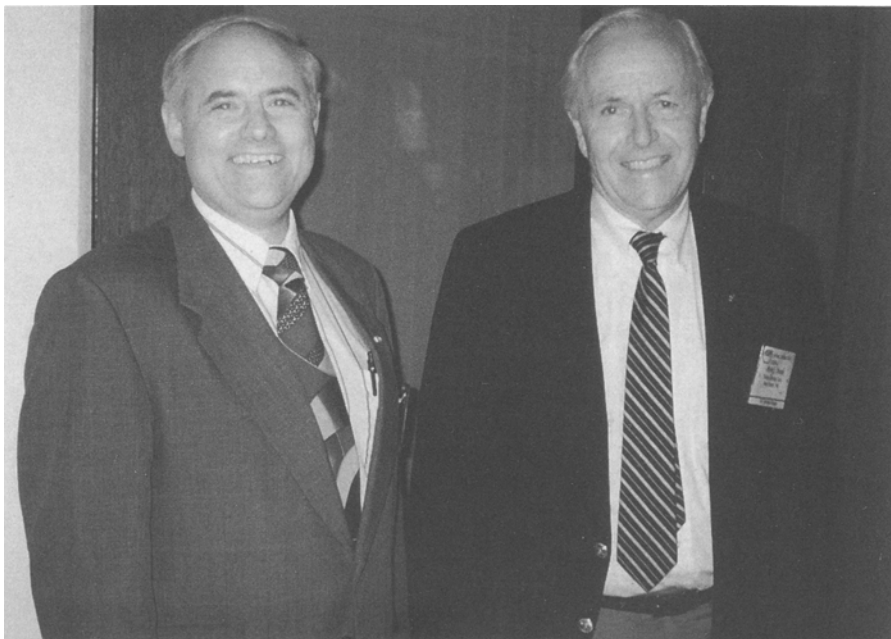
Thermal Spray Society Vice President Robert Tucker addresses attendees at the National Thermal Spray Conference (NTSC)'95 Banquet.



Thermal Spray Society President Ronald Smith addresses attendees at the National Thermal Spray Conference (NTSC)'95 Banquet



Two new Thermal Spray Hall of Fame inductees were honored at NTSC '95. Mrs. Esther Meyer (left) accepted the induction plaque for her late husband, Walter B. Meyer, and Roger Kaufold (center) accepted on behalf of the late Jack R. Kittle. These honors were presented by TSS President Ronald Smith (right).



Thermal Spray Society Board Past President Mark Smith (left) and member Merle Thorpe.

Buyer's Guide and thermal spray focus issues of **Advanced Materials & Processes** bring the latest advances in thermal spray technology to a wide technical audience.

And so much more. As a TSS member, you're entitled to special savings on a wide range of books, programs, services, reports, updates, journals (including the *Journal of Thermal Spray*

Technology), surveys, training, software and more.

When you join us, you'll be supporting the work of five TSS committees dedicated to:

Providing the leading thermal spray forum for the exchange of information.

You'll enjoy meeting other members through technical programs, proceedings and exhibitions at NTSC, ITSC, Materials Week European events and other conferences and short courses. And you'll be there when the industry recognized excellence in thermal spray research, development and commercial endeavors through the Thermal Spray Hall of Fame, TSS awards, and other achievements events.

Influencing our industry and enhancing its image through high-quality communications programs. Through TSS, you'll support the development of public relations programs aimed at widening opportunities for market growth. TSS will also promote synergy between industry, academia, governments and other professional organizations that serve the worldwide thermal spray community.

Providing more of the answers you need to move ahead in your field. TSS is focused on developing, compiling and disseminating relevant, high-quality information about the many facets of thermal spray technology. Contact the ASM Member Services Center at 800/336-5152 for more details about the products and services available to our members, including books, training programs, the TSS Online bulletin board service (BBS), and more.

Aiding in the professional development of thermal spray personnel through a certification and training program. We are currently studying the need for new training programs, including the administration of operator and technologist programs. We're also working toward certification programs, health and safety training, training courses, and video training programs.

Working toward the development of standards, specifications and best practices for thermal spray. Much needs to be discussed on both a domestic and international level to gather input and directions on areas requiring attention, and we are working toward achieving this. In addition, this activity will include health and safety, characterization, and bond strength testing.



The 1995 National Thermal Spray Conference Organizing Committee, (standing, from left). Doug Dickerson, Daryl Crawmer, Sanjay Sampath, and Sundarajan Mutialu, (seated) TSS President Ronald Smith, Robert Tucker, and Chris Berndt.

For more information about the TSS working committees, including how you can participate, contact the TSS Office at Materials Park, OH 44073. Phone: 800/336-5152, ext. 544. Fax: 216/338-4634. For TSS products and services information please contact Member Services Center, ASM International, Materials Park, OH 44073 or fax at 216/338-4634.