



International METAL DECORATOR

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We were ready to go to press with the first quarter issue of this newsletter and the world changed as we knew it and so did the content of the original copy of the newsletter. While we were gearing up for our Annual Conference in May and touting all of the good things in store for those in attendance, detrimental health and safety developments out of our control were underway. The tenor of our days changed. Your Association leadership found themselves, like all of you, adjusting behaviors and thought processes. IMDPA leadership realized the plans for association activities needed to change to protect the industry. Consequently, we found it prudent to cancel our May Annual Conference. With the wheels of planning screeching to a halt, contracts and speaking engagements changing, and communications to the industry about the cancellation ensuing, we were not done. We had to reverse the previous actions taken to reconstruct the future actions to be taken. And we have done so. We reached out to speakers and committee members to seek their engagement for helping with next year's Annual May Conference and have overwhelming support already. We are moving forward not only with next year's Conference, but also keeping our current year's IMDPA traditions alive.

We will be presenting the Annual Memorial Golf Scholarships in June, we extended the Excellence in Quality entry deadline until June 15 and awards will be announced in July. Our Decorator of the Year nominations have been received and we will award those during the 3rd quarter and last, but not least, our Member of the Year will be presented in October.

For those engaged with social media, we are stepping up our activity level of posting and sending eblasts to keep you informed on Association activities in a more rigorous fashion.

This is the year for the changing of the guard. We are involved with the process of changing the IMDPA leadership and will be announcing the new slate of Officers and Board members to you to obtain your approval later in the year. Stay tuned.

We are adjusting to our new normal for the time being to keep your Association active, strong and viable. Our normal has always been to continue to do so and that we will. In doing so, we ask if there are particular areas where you feel that we could be of benefit to the industry beyond our current offerings, we would encourage you to share your ideas by emailing info@metaldecorators.org.

Stay safe and be well.

MEMBERSHIP

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John Clark, Heraeus Noblelight America

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* Executive Committee Member



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IMDPA

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Sykesville, MD 21784 USA

Tel: 410-252-5205

Email: info@metaldecorators.org

Website: www.metaldecorators.org



DecoDates

November 9-11, 2020

Asia CanTech

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

www.asia-can.com

February 23-27, 2021

Metpack

Messe Essen, Germany

www.metpack.de

April 20-30, 2021

Drupa

Dusseldorf, Germany

www.drupa.com

May 25, 2021

IMDPA Golf Outing

Hilton Oak Brook Hills Resort

Oakbrook, IL USA

www.metaldecorators.org

May 26-27, 2021

IMDPA Conference

Hilton Oak Brook Hills Resort

Oakbrook, IL, USA

www.metaldecorators.org

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

(as of March 1, 2020)

MEMBERS 514

HONORARY 25

PRIVILEGED 20

TOTAL 559

PACKAGING IN CANS? DESIGNING FOR CANS? DECORATING ON CANS?

Get to market quicker with the INX Color Catalog

The INX 2-Piece Metal Color Catalog is the industry's only true color standard for 2-piece can design.

The Advanced Color Communication tool contains over 600 removable color swatches printed on metal, not paper. Brand owners, designers, and metal decorators have a true representation of color and can select, communicate, and approve color efficiently, reducing lead times and getting to market quicker.



Complete Color Communication Package



Metal Switch Catalog



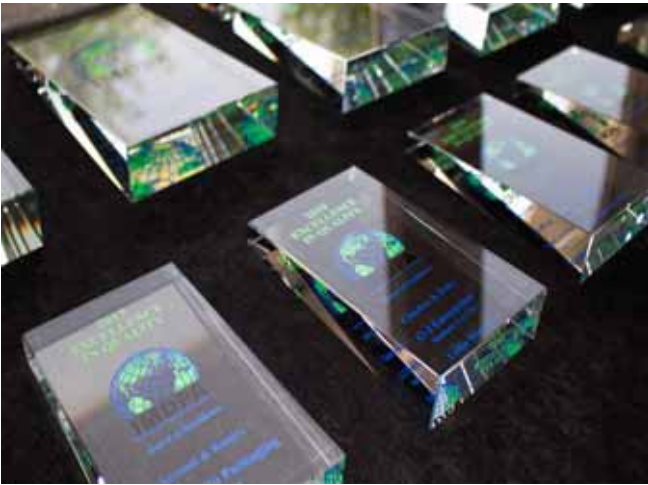
Digital Color Library

Learn more by visiting inxcolorperfection.com



EXCELLENCE IN QUALITY

***Entry Deadline has been
Extended to June 15th***



Start to gather your award winning metal decorated products to enter our 24th Annual Excellence in Quality Showcase and Competition.

Entries can be entered into the 8 categories of products being judged: Aerosol & Bottles, Closures and Ends, Craft Cans, Digital Printing, Food & General Line, Misc. Products, Specialty & Fancy Cans, Two Piece Beverage and Canmaking Innovation.

Entry forms are available on our website in the event section and forms will also be mailed to canmaking and decorating companies.

Awards will be announced in July, 2020.

***Thank You
to the following
2020 Quality Showcase Sponsors***



Member Briefs

Social Media

We have increased our social media and electronic communication efforts. You can find us on the following:

Facebook: IMDA

Twitter: metaldecorators

Instagram: metaldecorators

LinkedIn: International Metal Decorating & Packaging Association

We are also continuing to communicate through our Constant Contact eblasts to keep you updated.

Education on Metal Packaging

Check out The Packaging School.com's *Metal Packaging Course* at packagingschool.com

Future Newsletter Publications

Request for Articles

Following are the dates of future publications and featured topics.

Second Issue 2020 (copy due June 1, 2020)

Topics: Scholarship Awards
Quality and Vision Systems

Third Quarter 2020 (copy due August 3, 2020)

Topics: Decorators of the Year
Excellence in Quality results
Press and Canmaking equipment

Fourth Quarter 2020 (copy due October 15, 2020)

Topics: New Leadership
Board meeting Minutes

All issues will include Technology papers.

Please submit by the respective due dates.

Send your submissions to info@metaldecorators.org or call 410-252-5205 for more information



Easy-Fit™ Overvarnish System



STEP 1

The hub stays on the machine for safer change-outs & reduced change-out time.



STEP 2

Remove & replace our light weight high performance sleeve. (17.5", 20" & 24" diameters and widths to 8.25")



STEP 3

Remove only the precision machined load plate to change sleeves.

Save Time and \$
It's as Easy as 1-2-3!

- ✓ EZ & lightweight – virtually any operator can do a change out
- ✓ Safer change-outs – no heavy hubs to handle every time
- ✓ New, improved load plate design
- ✓ Reduces shipping cost

Patent 9,341,213

863.682.2444

www.finzerroller.com

inker rolls • overvarnish sleeves • bottom varnish rolls • sleeves • pre-spin rings • release coatings

MEMBERSHIP



THE IMDPA MEMBERSHIP SOFTWARE SYSTEM EXPLAINED.

We installed the new membership software system in 2019 and many of you have used it to pay dues and register for our Conferences. However, there is much more to this system and we encourage you access your portal through our website in the member section to see its features.

The Info Hub is an online password-protected community for our members. It is a hub for daily interactions, allowing members to easily access our membership resources and benefits. It's accessible to our members via the "Member Login" link on our website.

A FEW INFO HUB FEATURES

CLEAN DESIGN

The straightforward layout is built for ease-of-use and finding information quickly.

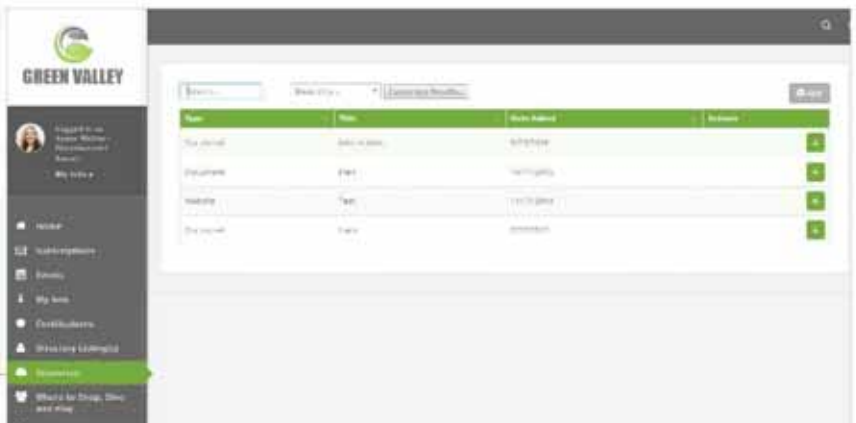


MANAGE YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Pay invoices, as well as post and view Hot Deals, job postings, member-to-member discounts, events, and news.

RESOURCE LIBRARY

Post videos, links, and other member-specific documents in one place to share with members.



infohub FOR MEMBERS

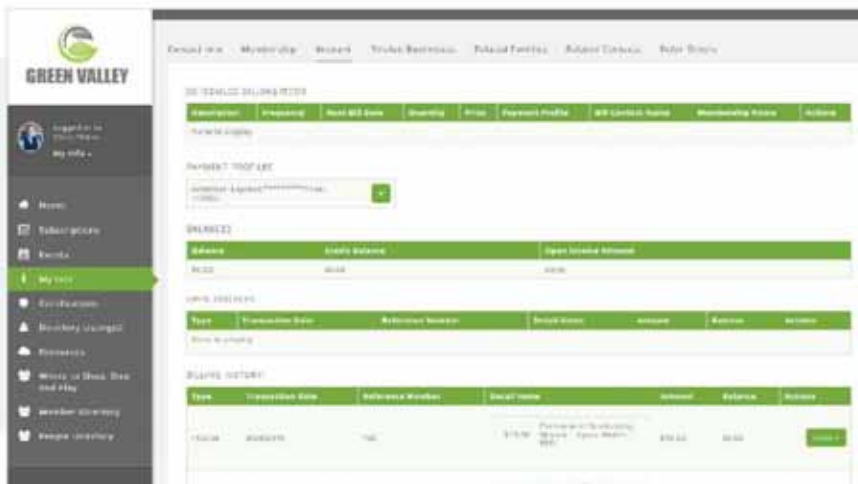
ENHANCED DIRECTORY

Members can search to find other members and filter search results by keyword or category.



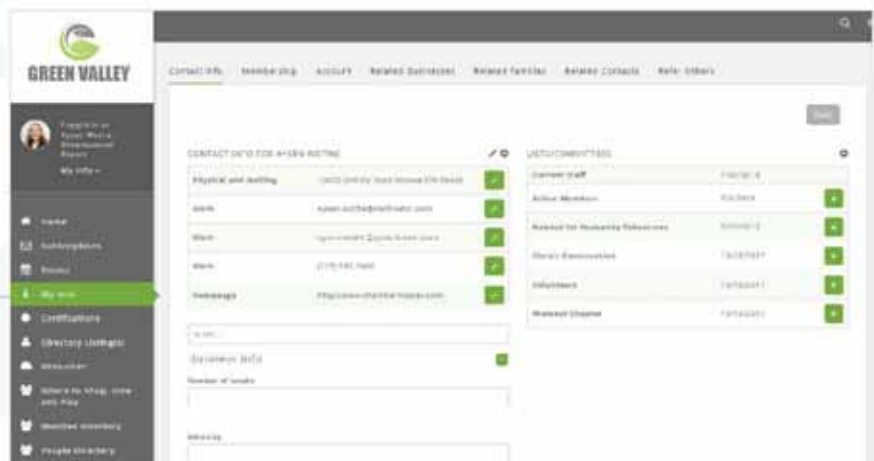
EVENTS

Register and pay for events right in the Info Hub.



EASILY UPDATE PROFILE

Members can easily update contact information, upload their photos, and choose preferences and other account settings.



Maintaining a Healthy UV Curing System

Is your UV curing system not performing as it should? Are you constantly replacing over-heated lamps? Maintaining a healthy UV curing system is crucial to obtaining successful results in curing and saving money by reducing unexpected down time caused by poorly maintained UV equipment. There are five main ingredients that make up a healthy UV system. These include proper lamp cooling with adequate airflow, power supply maintenance, proper light shielding, maintaining the reflector condition, and lamp maintenance. Paying close attention to each one of these may solve existing ongoing problems with your UV curing process, or it may prevent curing problems that you would likely experience with your UV curing equipment. The five topics that will be discussed apply to both arc lamp UV systems and microwave powered (electrodeless) UV lamp systems.

Cooling and Airflow

It is critical for virtually all UV curing lamp systems to maintain proper air-cooling s delivered to the lamp to ensure a healthy UV curing system. UV lamps operate at very high temperatures (at around 800°C or 1,500°F bulb surface temperature) in order to maintain a consistent fully developed mercury plasma state inside the UV bulb. [More advanced UV lamp systems](#) require a cooling system that not only maintains the lamp stability in that range, but also protects the integrity of the metal structure in which the lamp is operating. The most common method to cool a UV lamp is with air flowing through its housing and across the UV bulb and reflector. However, there are several things that are important to consider when designing a proper air-cooling system for UV lamps in order to ensure good consistent UV output and long life of your UV bulbs.

UV lamps do have a “cooling window” when it comes to proper air cooling. They can be over-cooled or under-cooled. To make it a bit more complicated, the required amount of air cooling that is to be delivered past the UV bulb will depend on the power level you operate the UV lamp. Most modern UV lamp systems are powered by variable power [ballasts](#), which can deliver a power range from 20% to 100% power to the lamp. Such a wide power adjustment range will allow the lamp to be changed from about 130 Watts/inch up to about 650 Watts/inch. For some UV systems, the power setting is adjusted by the front panel controls, but for other more sophisticated UV systems, the lamp power is automatically adjusted as a function of line speed via a 0-10 VDC or 4-20 milli-amp signal provided by the customer. As the lamp ramps up in power, it requires more cooling air delivered past the UV bulb to prevent the UV bulb from over-heating. Conversely, as the lamp power is reduced, the cooling air must be reduced to ensure the lamp is not over-cooled. Consequently, to avoid lamp cooling problems, it is essential that the cooling system must adjust automatically to match the lamp power and heat load to maintain stability of the lamp and ensure that it operates within its proper temperature range. Lamps that operate in an “over-heated” condition will result in shortened lamp life and possible lamp swelling or warping, which adversely affects the UV output. Lamps that operate in an “over-cooled” condition will suffer from shortened lamp life and low UV output as well. When a lamp is over-cooling, it cannot develop the correct voltage and the current (amps) remain high, putting adverse wear on the electrodes over time. In most cases when the lamp is over-cooled, the mercury plasma will begin to become unstable and the lamp will inadvertently extinguish. Only when a lamp is operating within the correct cooling parameters consistently will maximum lifespan of the UV bulb be realized, as well as consistent UV output from the UV bulb be achieved.

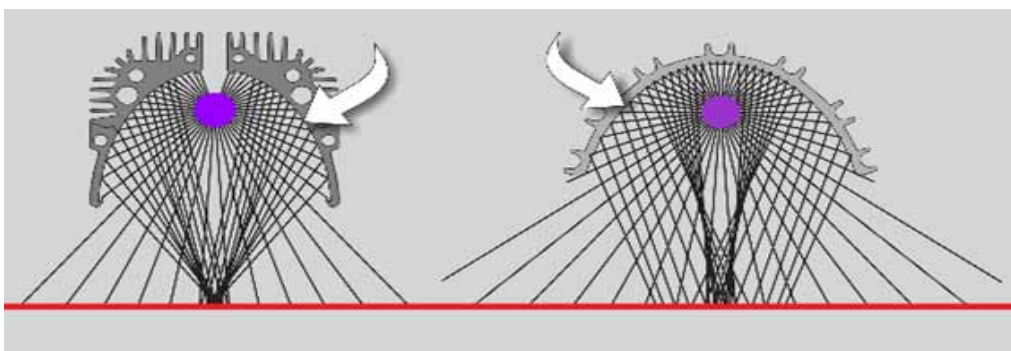


Overheated Lamp

Reflector Condition

Another critical part of any UV system that must be maintained in order to ensure a healthy UV curing system is the condition and performance of the reflector, which typically is in the shape of a semi-elliptical or parabolic geometry that wraps around the upper half of the bulb and runs the full length of the UV bulb. The Lamp reflectors are an important part of the UV lamp system because they are typically responsible for reflecting about 65% of the UV energy emitted from the UV bulb to the customer's product. When the reflectors are not cooled properly, they can warp and wrinkle as a result of thermal expansion. The photo above shows what an overheated reflector looks like. Reflectors that lose their nice curved shape will cause the light ray pattern that reflects from the reflector toward the customer's product to become scattered or diffused, which will negatively impact its ability to cure. The graphic below shows two conventional light ray patterns that are used in most UV curing systems. Therefore, it is essential that the curved shape of the reflector does not change during lamp operation in order to maintain these UV light ray patterns. The curved shape of the reflectors are typically designed to concentrate (or focus) the light rays to a very small area creating extremely high UV peak irradiance at the customer's product, which is one of the keys to UV curing.

In addition to maintaining the desired reflector curve, routine maintenance to the reflector is also extremely important. When the reflectors become dirty, contaminated, or dulled over a period of usage, the % reflectivity will reduce significantly, which will reduce the UV energy and intensity that is delivered to the customer's product. Poor reflector conditions will result in customers producing uncured product. The reflector is considered a consumable part for all UV systems, and is considered a component that requires attention and maintenance (or periodic cleaning) to help ensure good consistent UV output from the UV lamp system. Some UV systems use replaceable reflector liners, which are normally a thin polished aluminum material with a protective coating (which looks much like a conventional mirror finish) and typically pre-curved and cut to fit into a reflector holder inside the lamp housing. Other more sophisticated UV lamps use "cold mirror" reflectors, which are also thin, pre-curved and cut aluminum or glass reflectors that are held in a holder of some type inside the lamp housing. Cold mirror reflectors have special coatings applied to the reflective side of the reflector substrate that are designed to efficiently reflect UV light but absorb the IR energy (heat) emitted by a UV bulb. Cold mirror reflectors will reduce the heat load on the customer's product as it travels under the UV lamps. Other less sophisticated UV systems use a polished aluminum extrusion as the reflector, which is curved around the UV bulb and acts as a reflector and a lamp shutter. Regardless of the reflector type, it is important that the reflector condition is maintained to be a clean with a shiny appearance. If the reflector begins to look dull or dirty, that's an indication that it needs to be either cleaned or replaced. Reflectors can be cleaned using a lint free cloth and isopropyl alcohol or a surface cleaner that does not leave a film. Cleaners that contain ammonia are not recommended. If after cleaning, the reflector still appears to be dull or dirty, then it should be replaced. In almost all cases, a dirty or dulled reflector will have more impact on UV output reduction than an old & poor performing UV bulb. [Measuring your UV output](#) will also help diagnose a poor performing reflector. The best device that is available to measure UV output is a "puck" style radiometer that measures UV light energy in all 4 UV ranges: UVA, UVB, UVC, and UVV. The puck style radiometer is placed on the conveyor belt and run under the UV lamp at some pre-defined constant speed, and it will measure the total UV energy delivered by the lamp. When the UV energy reduces to a point where you are in danger of not achieving proper cure, then it is most likely time to clean and/or replace the lamp reflector.



The reflector provides over 65% of the energy seen by the substrate

Lamp Maintenance

Routine lamp maintenance is also key to maintaining a healthy UV curing system. Most UV lamps operate in industrial environments, which are typically less than ideal conditions. It is important to try to keep the lamp as clean as possible to help ensure consistent UV output and prolong its useful life. Neglected lamps will age and fail prematurely, as well as suffer from low UV output. The simplest way to keep your UV bulbs clean is by cleaning them with a [designated UV glass bulb cleaner](#) and a lint free cloth. Some UV bulbs need to be cleaned often and some less often. The frequency of needing to clean the UV bulbs will vary depending on the environment in which they are operating. Dirty and contaminated UV bulbs that operate for prolonged periods of time are more prone to overheating, and then swelling or warping. If a UV bulb swells or warps, this will negatively impact the UV peak irradiance output of the lamp and curing performance of the UV lamp system. Once a UV bulb appears swollen or warped, this is a sign that the UV bulb should be replaced. If air filters are used to help keep the lamp cooling air clean (which is common for microwave powered UV lamp systems), then it is important to change these filters on a periodic basis to help ensure the lamp cooling air delivered into the lamp housing and passed the UV bulb (& reflector) is clean. Maintaining clean air filters will also help ensure that the volume of air delivered to the lamp is maintained within the required specification. Operating a UV lamp system with dirty & clogged air filters will almost always result in over-heated UV bulbs and a significant reduction in UV bulb life, and this will cause you to change UV bulbs much more frequently.



Dirty, overheated lamps drastically reduce UV output

Power Supply Maintenance

Let's move onto the next reason why maintaining a healthy UV curing system is important, power supply maintenance. The heart of any UV system is the expensive power supply which drives the UV lamp. Whether a conventional iron core ballast or a solid-state power unit is used, the proper volume of filtered cooling airflow delivered to the ballast is critical to the health and life expectancy of any ballast and other electrical components inside the ballast enclosure. [Power supplies](#) operating in a dirty or over-heated environment will deteriorate or fail prematurely, resulting in low UV output or lost production. Making sure you maintain a clean air filter and the proper amount of air flow to the ballast will ensure your ballasts are properly cooled and kept clean. Air filters should be replaced as often as needed, depending on the environment. In the event the ballast and other internal power supply components (such as capacitors) become coated with dirt or dust (like shown in the photo below), it is highly recommended to do two things:

- 1 Check the air filter and replace it if needed.
- 2 Blow out the ballast and all other internal components with clean dry compressed air, and then vacuum out the settled dust.



Dirty, overheated power supplies

Light Shielding

The last ingredient to maintaining a healthy UV curing system involves the light shielding. The primary purpose of light shielding is to protect personnel from any direct UV light exposure. Good light shielding in and around the UV lamp housing will protect the lamp module components and the production machine to which it mounts. A properly designed light shield will prevent any machine hardware near the UV lamp from reaching unsafe temperatures or deterioration from direct UV exposure. The secondary function of the light shield is to support the UV lamp housing in a manner in which it will efficiently cure the customer's product. If the light shielding gets removed from the machine for maintenance to the production equipment, it is critical to install the light shielding in the same position and location on the machine to ensure the lamp is positioned in the correct location and orientation with respect to the customer's product that is being cured. The third function of the light shield is its contribution toward good air cooling. Some light shields may have air intake vents or air louvers to allow for air to enter the inside the light shield for lamp cooling, substrate cooling, and/or light shield cooling. If the air intake vents become clogged with dust or dirt, this can cause an increase in temperature of the UV lamp, light shield, and the customer's substrate. The result can be poor lamp performance, short bulb life, or overheating the customer's substrate. Therefore, part of the routine preventive maintenance schedule should be to periodically clean out these air intake vents (or louvers) on the light shield with brushes and a vacuum, or by blowing them out with dry compressed air.



Poor Light Shielding

This article has clearly explained the five keys to maintaining a healthy UV curing system, which include: proper lamp air cooling, power supply maintenance, proper light shielding, maintaining good reflector condition, and performing routine lamp maintenance.

For further assistance with solving your UV issues, [contact Miltec UV](#). Our service department plays an important role in helping our customers maintain their UV equipment properly, as well as helping our customers troubleshoot technical problems with virtually all UV equipment. The Miltec UV team is committed to helping you understand UV curing and address UV process related questions and issues. We possess the expertise to answer questions and help solve problems. Furthermore, we offer customized UV system training for our customers including material required for a wide range of training goals, including basic to advanced UV curing equipment maintenance, UV measurement, and [microwave and arc lamp technology](#). In the event you are in need of a new UV system, we can assist with that as well. Miltec manufactures the highest output and most user-friendly UV system that is available in today's UV curing industry. Miltec can offer arc lamp UV systems, microwave powered UV systems, as well as LED UV systems. We are your one-stop shopping source for all of your UV needs!

Written by: Bob Malone and John Phillips- Miltec UV



UV PROCESS DEVELOPMENT

ARC · MICROWAVE · LED

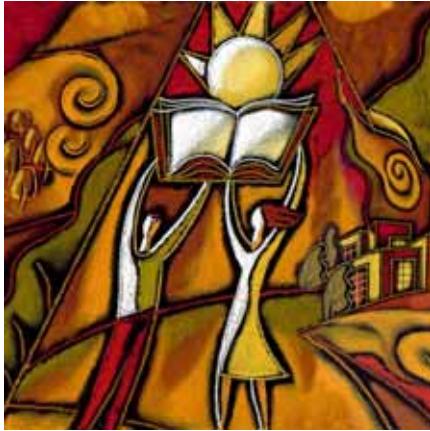


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Miltec UV • sales@miltec.com • Stevensville, MD-USA • www.miltec.com



EDUCATION COMMITTEE



Education Committee Update

Co-Chairs : Sarah Jacks - INX International &

John Clark – Heraeus Noblelight America

Committee Members: Mike Grady , SGS International &

Emily King, SGS International

The newly formed Education Committee continues to make progress with partnering with prominent packaging schools. Our goal is to build interest and engage students interested in careers in the packaging industry to choose "Metal Packaging" as a possible career path.

We have organized the first ever IMDPA Student Packaging Design Competition that will showcase student designs focused around the 2-piece beverage category. This will provide students in the Graphics Arts and Packaging fields a glimpse of what the metal packaging industry entails. Entry into the competition will provide students with an opportunity to display their talent as well as creativity to industry leaders in the metal decorating field. To date, we have received entries from University of Wisconsin, Stout and Clemson University. Other schools were wishing to participate but the COVID 19 shutdown prevented them from participating.

The current entrants will compete for the inaugural "Bill Coors Award" and scholarships sponsored by the IMDPA. We originally planned to present the awards during our May Conference but since delayed the announcement of the awards until the summer months of 2020. Industry leaders will serve as judges for the event, providing another opportunity for students to make contact with Metal Packaging Industry Professionals. We will publish the results through our social media sites and in the future newsletter issues.

Sincerely,
IMDPA EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Think UV. Think Heraeus.

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Tel: 936-273-3300
epcon@epconlp.com

Pro-Environmental, Inc

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Grace Davison Materials & Packaging

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Tel: +1 410-531-4000
bryan.t.pugh@grace.com

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www.ajaxtocco.com

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www.ctiinks.com

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10820 Withers Cove Park Drive
Charlotte, NC 28278 USA
Tel: +1 704-372-2080
www.inxinternational.com

Sun Chemical
135 W. Lake Street
Northlake, IL 60164
Tel: 708-236-3798
www.sunchemical.com

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Zion, IL 60099
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www.coral.com

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Menomonee Falls, WI 53051 USA
Tel: +1 262-781-8850
www.jax.com

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Koenig & Bauer MetalPrint GmbH
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www.metalprint.koenig-bauer.com

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asmetana@ajaxtocco.com

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www.arcpacific.com

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www.sgsintl.com
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www.Sacmi.com

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IST METZ GmbH

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