

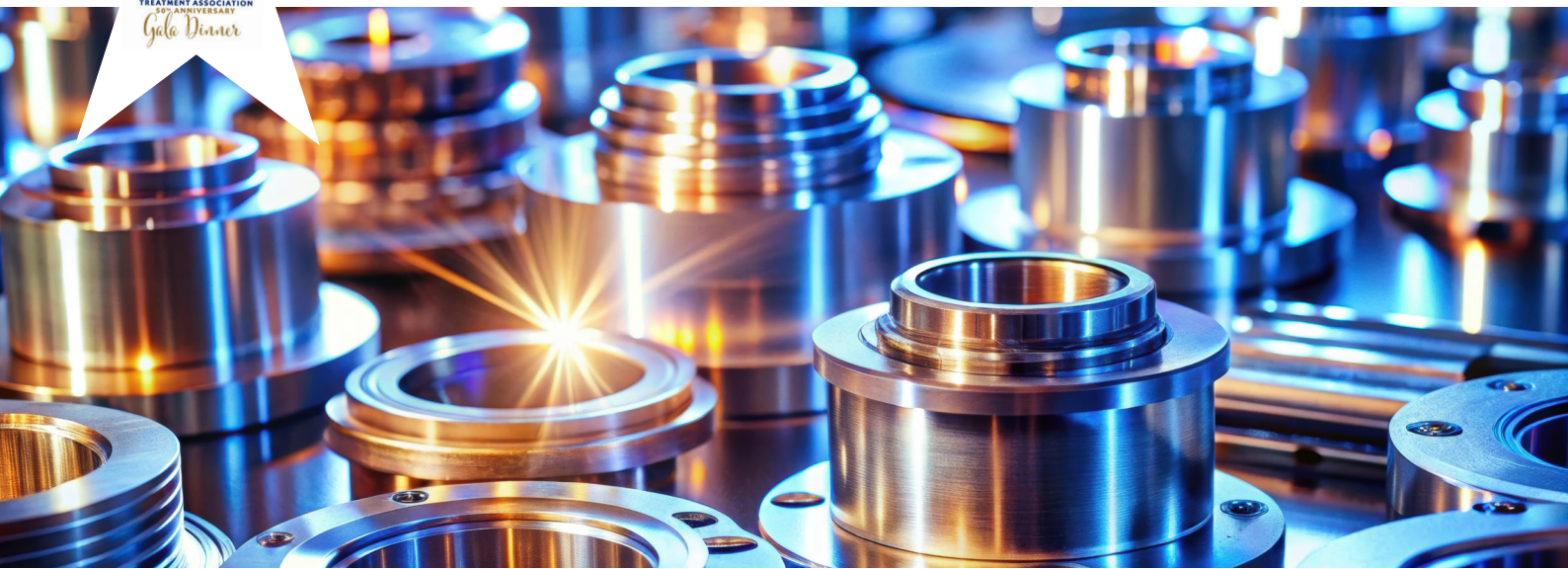


Surface Engineering Association Awards
& Contract Heat Treatment Association

50th Anniversary Gala Dinner

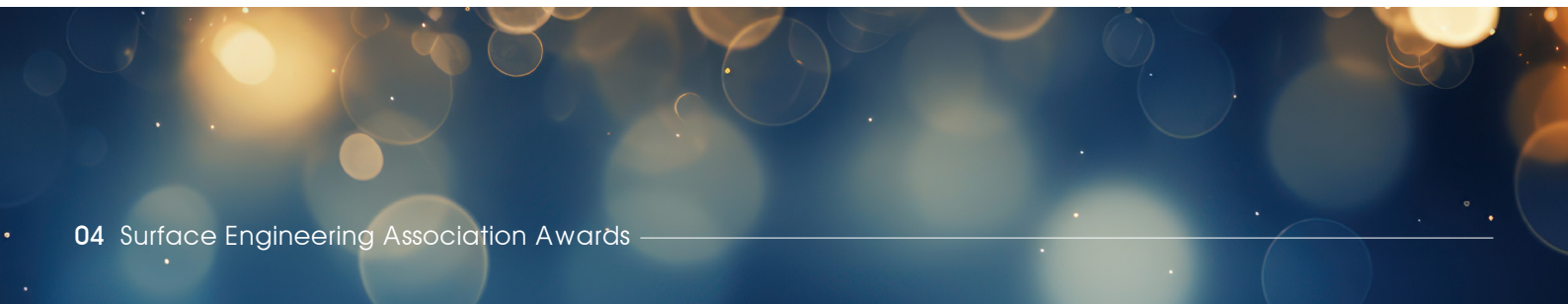
Post event report 2023





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Introduction

Virtually all manufactured products require some form of Surface Engineering for them to function as intended. Surface Engineering is essential to the development and growth of UK Manufacturing. At the awards we celebrate and reward the successes of our members who play a vital role in ensuring the delivery of the UK Government's Growth Agenda and the plans for Net Zero and helped provide wealth and employment throughout the UK.



Host:
John Simonett



Sponsors

The 2023 Surface Engineering Association Awards & Contract Heat Treatment Association 50th Anniversary Gala Dinner simply would not have been such a fantastic event without the dedication of our superb sponsors. Each had their own part to play and their continual investment, of time, money and support, played a major part in the co-ordination and success of this industry leading event.

In no particular order our sponsors were, our parent company, the British Allied Trades Federation, Citation, Control Energy Costs, SafeChem, Schloetter and Stephen Price Design our long standing print and design partner.



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Results at a Glance

Environmental Award

Winner:

Poeton Industries Limited

Sponsor:

Citation

Quality Award

Winner:

Russell Laboratories Ltd

Sponsor:

Schloetter

Process Innovation Award

Winner:

SWMF Ltd.

Outstanding International Achievement Award

Winner:

Prof Arutjun Ehiasarian - Ionbond UK Ltd.

Outstanding Company Award

Winner:

Phoenix Electroplating Ltd

Meritorious Service to the Heat Treatment Industry Award

Winner:

Mr Alan J Hick - CHTA

Ray Alford Individual Achievement

Winner:

Marc Cook - Russell Laboratories Ltd

Sponsor:

British Allied Trade Federation



Environmental Award

Presented by sponsor Nigel Lea of Citation.

Poeton Industries Ltd, a family-owned business, realised that there can be positive benefits when exploring the journey to net-zero. They developed a clear benchmarking project to firstly identify their carbon emissions and then set about reducing them. They automated rinses, insulated heated tanks, installed Bluetooth controllers, changed working shift patterns and despite an increase in production throughput they have reduced their water consumption by 60% and their electricity consumption by 40% and are well on the way to make even further savings.

www.poeton.co.uk



Winner:

Poeton Industries Limited

Sponsor:

Citation



Quality Award

Presented by sponsor John Taylor from Schloetter.

Anyone working in the aerospace and defence sector will know all about the trials and tribulations of trying to obtain NADCAP certification. Russell Laboratories Ltd decided that it was time for the business to move forward into new markets and set about gaining NADCAP certification. They firstly ensured that they had sufficient resources, sufficient funding, and in-house knowledge to undertake the project. Then secondly, they set about the task in a methodical manner and conducted extensive UKAS calibration for enhanced accuracy and reliability, implemented robust sampling plans and periodic testing protocols, and many other workplace enhancements that saw their reject rate fall by over 34% and their on-time delivery increase by over 7%.



Winner:

Russell Laboratories Ltd

Sponsor:

Schloetter



Process Innovation Award

Presented by Steve Price, from Stephen Price Design.

This was a very difficult category to judge, which is an indication of the process innovation that has been taking place within the sector. SWMF Ltd. has spent over 4 years developing and refining a new process and has obtained patents for the UK and Europe. They developed a chemical immersion process, designed to modify and enhance the surface of additive manufactured parts, by removing foreign object debris, as well as smoothing and brightening the surface. The process can be used on parts of any geometry. The winner has taken additive manufactured surface treatment to the next level and have addressed many of the current post finishing issues.



Winner:
SWMF Ltd.

www.swmf.co.uk



Outstanding International Contribution Award

Presented by Richard Starkey of SafeChem.

Prof Arutun Ehasarian is an unsung hero of the academic sector and has spent many years researching and developing a coating technology that underpins almost all manufacturing sectors but particularly aerospace, biomedical, automotive, and flexible electronics. Arutun has not only developed coatings in the laboratory but upscaled the process for the industrial market and has developed a portfolio of patents to protect the Intellectual Property for the benefit of the UK. He is also organising international conferences and training courses and is a rare example of a breadth of knowledge spanning fundamental studies to industrialisation of an important surface engineering technology with wide and expanding application.

Prof Arutun Ehasarian - Ionbond UK Limited was unable to attend the awards night so SEA CEO Dave Elliott collected the Outstanding International Contribution award on his behalf (left photo). However, Prof Arutun Ehasarian attended the Advanced Engineering show and managed to receive his award in person from Dave at the Surface Engineering Association stand (right photo).



Winner:

**Prof Arutun Ehasarian -
Ionbond UK Limited**

www.ionbond.com



Outstanding Company Achievement Award

Presented by headline sponsor Phil Ager of Control Energy Costs.

Phoenix Electroplating Ltd is another family owned, small business which has a reputation of providing outstanding service and having a very loyal workforce. They embarked on a significant growth exercise and almost doubled their workforce and increased turnover by 106%. Despite this challenging change in the business, they have continued to grow and move forward with plans for the next 2, 5 and 10 years already in place. In today's difficult economic climate, it's great to hear a business success story that is built on hard work, technical knowledge and a loyal and supportive workforce.



Winner:

Phoenix Electroplating Ltd

www.electroplating.co.uk



The Lord Whitby, Former SEA President &
Former leader of Birmingham City Council

Meritorious Service to the Heat Treatment Industry Award

Presented by former SEA President, Lord Whitby.

Alan J Hick has been involved with heat treatment and metallurgy for many years. He was instrumental in the founding of the Wolfson Heat Treatment Centre at Aston University in 1973, the same year that the Contract Heat Treatment Association began, with the winner managing the Association's affairs. He has recently retired from managing the CHTA affairs and is well known by all in the industry and a most worthy recipient of the award, especially as the CHTA was celebrating their 50th Anniversary.



Winner:

Mr Alan J Hick - CHTA



Ray Alford Individual Achievement Award

Presented by Louise Hadfield from the British Allied Trades Federation.

Our final and most prestigious award the Ray Alford Memorial Award for Individual Achievement was presented by sponsor Louise Hadfield from the British Allied Trades Federation.

Marc Cook started work in the sector as a 16 year old and progressed through various positions within the same company providing top-tier metal finishing services to esteemed aerospace and defence customers. However, he has not looked after his career alone, he has served as a mentor to numerous electroplating technicians, guiding them as they embark on their careers. Recognizing the importance of knowledge transfer in a rapidly changing industry, Marc has diligently worked to ensure a seamless transition as experienced technicians retire, preparing the next generation of highly skilled professionals. His contributions have had a lasting impact, transforming the company from a struggling entity with a small workforce into a thriving organisation that has nearly doubled its sales and staff through significant investments. Our winner is a true professional and his service and dedication need to be recognised.

www.russell-labs.co.uk



Winner:

Marc Cook - Russell Laboratories Ltd

Sponsor:

British Allied Trades Federation

If you want more information or are interested in sponsorship of our event, please visit:

<https://www.sea.org.uk/surface-engineering-association-awards-gala-dinner-register-your-interest/>

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