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## Member news

### MANAGEMENT CHANGES AT WALLWORK AND TECVAC

Manchester-based specialist heat treatment and advanced coatings company WHT Holdings Ltd (WHT) has announced the appointment of Ian Griffin to the Board of Wallwork Heat Treatment Birmingham Ltd and Simeon Collins to the Board of Tecvac Ltd. Carole Chettoe has been appointed as Company Secretary for all WHT companies.

From April 2013, Richard Burslem will be resigning as director from all WHT companies, with Ian Griffin taking responsibility as Site Director for Wallwork Heat Treatment Ltd and Simeon Collins becoming Site Director for Cambridge-based Tecvac Ltd. Mike Allen will continue to be Site Director of Wallwork Heat Treatment Birmingham Ltd.

Commenting on the reshaping of the board, Richard Burslem said: "I have worked for WHT for almost 35 years and have been a Director for over 23 of them. We have grown considerably over this period and we have an excellent management team supported by an equally excellent workforce. For many years we have consistently invested heavily in new plant, processes and technology and will continue to do so in the future. As part of the succession plan for the company, I feel we are in a position where I am able to step back and work part time to support our efforts and provide continuity, whilst having more free time to spend with my family".

Group Chairman Hamish Wallwork commented: "Richard will be working for group Technical Director Peter Carpenter on various development projects and this arrangement has the full support of the board. We are looking forward to having the benefit of Richard's skills and experience over the forthcoming years" (*Hotline* is delighted to confirm that Richard will continue to serve on CHTA's Management Committee).

### Suppliers welcome

A newly-added "Suppliers" page, at [www.chta.co.uk/suppliers/46/](http://www.chta.co.uk/suppliers/46/), provides links from CHTA's website to the websites of those that supply heat treaters with equipment, consumables and services. Series advertisers in *Hotline* feature at no extra cost; other participants will be charged a modest annual fee.

**Members are asked to encourage their suppliers to be included on the page: please refer them to CHTA's Secretary.**



Some of the reshaped Wallwork/Tecvac management team (l. to r.): Simeon Collins, Ian Griffin, Tim Pelari (Birmingham Director), Carole Chettoe, part-timer Richard Burslem and Peter Carpenter.

Founded in 1959, the WHT group provides heat treatment and advanced coatings to aerospace, automotive, oil & gas as well as general engineering customers. It has a well-established foundry which supplies heat-resistant castings, undertakes world-class research into advanced coatings and manufactures bespoke vacuum processing equipment.

### WORK STARTS ON £1MILLION+ HEAT TREATMENT FACILITY

Construction of Keighley Laboratories' new heat treatment processes building is well underway at its West Yorkshire headquarters.

After a detailed topographical survey, site clearance/levelling and steelwork erection the building was due for completion in February, with the mechanical and electrical (M&E) services scheduled for completion by the summer. The site architects are 2H Architecture of Leeds, the main contractor is Triton Construction of Liversedge and the M&E services are being provided by Dualtec of Keighley.

Representing a total capital investment in excess of £1million, the purpose-built unit will house furnaces, controls and ancillary equipment for new and complimentary processes, augmenting Keighley Labs' existing array of heat treatment services.

"We are effectively in the first stage of moving forward again as a company, by making a sizeable investment in new facilities and positioning ourselves with some of the best resources in the industry," says Keighley Labs MD, Debbie Mellor, who took time out from her busy schedule to be pictured at the controls of a site excavator. "In this new building, we shall have modern furnace equipment and the most sophisticated process controls, enabling us to regulate precisely the parameters to suit clients' exact specifications. We shall offer a service that is second-to-none, from a single site at the

heart of the engineering and aviation supply industry."

Adjacent to the existing induction-hardening department, and now sharing a common despatch yard, the new 5,000ft<sup>2</sup> building is being clad in the same grey-blue coated steel wall and roofing sheets. Before construction could commence, 2H Architecture, supervised the initial enabling contract, which involved demolishing the previous maintenance building.

"Given the heat output from the furnaces, we have taken these thermal installation requirements into account when designing the building envelope," says 2H co-founder Brenden Harrison. "We are working to current building regulations for walls, flooring and roof plus 20%, to ensure optimum energy efficiency for the new building and reduce running costs."

The interior will accommodate the heat treatment furnaces, programmable controllers, degreasing equipment and post-process wash units, with a main side entrance to suit the proposed workflow.



Keighley MD Debbie Mellor at the controls of the site excavator.

Keighley Labs anticipates that the markets served by these new processes will include products such as gears, crankshafts, valve parts, camshafts, cylinders, railway braking systems, pump components and pipeline fittings. Full-time positions will be created by the new heat treatment facility, together with several apprenticeship opportunities, adding to an existing headcount of 65 personnel.

**NADCAP MERIT STATUS FOR ALLOY HEAT TREATMENT**

Alloy Heat Treatment (AHT) has been awarded the prestigious Nadcap Merit status for its heat treating expertise.

Ian Perks, New Projects and Sales Manager, commented: "Following another year of hard work and dedication serving the light-alloy industries in the UK and Europe, providing a second-to-none heat treatment solution, we are "over the moon" to be recognised by Nadcap accreditation and achieving Merit status".

AHT has held Nadcap accreditation since 2004. Having demonstrated their on-going commitment to quality by satisfying customer requirements and industry specifications, the Nadcap Task Group has determined that AHT has earned special recognition. This means that, instead of having their next Nadcap audit in twelve months, AHT has been granted an accreditation that lasts until 31st July 2014.

"Achieving Nadcap accreditation is not easy: it is one of the ways in which the aerospace industry identifies those who excel at manufacturing quality product through superior special processes. Companies such as Alloy Heat Treatment go above and beyond achieving Nadcap accreditation to obtain Merit status and they should be justifiably proud of it," said Joe Pinto, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at the Performance Review Institute. "Benefiting from a less-frequent audit schedule reduces audit costs and associated pressures and demonstrates the trust that the aerospace industry has in AHT, based on their past performance in Nadcap audits. PRI is proud to support continual improvement in the aerospace industry by helping companies such as AHT be successful and we look forward to continuing to assist the industry moving forward."

**FLAME HARDENERS SEES REVIVAL IN DEEPER HARDENING**

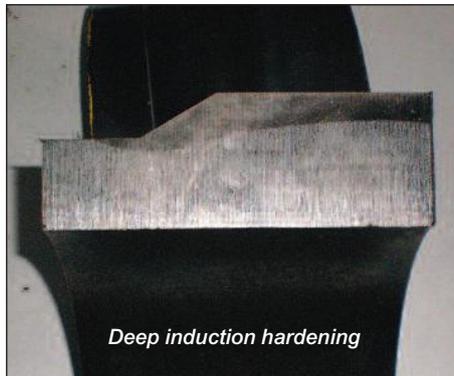
Over the past 12 months, Sheffield-based Flame Hardeners Ltd has seen a revived interest in deeper hardening requirements for induction-hardened components, typically used in mining and quarrying machinery. Components, usually made of



*Alloy Heat Treatment's Nadcap-certified fully-automated rapid-drop-bottom heat treatment line*

low-alloy steels, often now have a requirement for a case depth of up to 15mm.

In response to requests from potential customers, Flame Hardeners has refurbished a 100kw 3kHz induction generator and the associated handling equipment. This equipment had previously been kept



*Deep induction hardening*

in storage for several years due to lack of demand for the process.

"After initial trials, we are now processing large roller tracks and similar items, up to 3500mm diameter and 10 tonnes in weight," says Flame Hardeners' Managing Director Roger Haw. "And after starting production again on this machine, it is now running at 60% capacity, based on a single shift."

Flame Hardeners manufactures its own tooling in-house, for all induction and flame hardening requirements, and has many years' experience in bespoke treatment.

**NEW MAN AT BETA AS LONG-SERVING EMPLOYEE RETIRES**

There's a new face at Oldbury-based Beta Heat Treatment. Experienced heat treatment specialist David Lawrence was appointed by the company in September 2012 in order to take Beta forward to AS9100 and, ultimately, Nadcap approval. David joined the industry in 1977 as a shift supervisor with Blandburgh Ltd, quickly rising through the ranks to Works Manager at their Aldridge site. Following Blandburgh, he spent many years at Hammond Heat Treatment up to its closure, thereafter managing smaller plants until finally arriving at Beta. David says: "I am very happy to be joining such a well-respected company within the industry and look forward to the challenge ahead".



*David Lawrence*



*Peter Cox*

This appointment follows the announcement that Peter Cox, Sales Director, will be retiring in June this year. *Hotline* wishes Peter, a valued member of CHTA's Publicity Subcommittee for the last eleven years, a long and happy retirement.

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# CHTA's new Chairman: a profile



At February 14th's Management Committee meeting, **Simon Blatern** of Bodycote succeeded Chris Kenward who had completed his excellent two-year tenure as CHTA Chairman. Here Simon summarises his professional career, so far encompassing some 34 years in many heat treatment roles.

I left school in 1976, at the age of sixteen, not really knowing what I wanted to do. Football and beer was the order of the day; playing amateur football every Saturday and Sunday was my passion, funded by working as a milkman for the local dairy. To this day, that job is responsible for me always being in work early or out on the road, as the birds start singing, to visit customers.

## Apprentice

My father suggested an apprenticeship in engineering - seemingly a rare thing these days - and I gained a placement with SETA (Stockport Engineering Training Association) as an apprentice toolmaker. I was placed, with over 30 other apprentices, at Fairy Engineering in Stockport, learning basic engineering skills. It is an unfortunate sign of the times that this engineering company has

now been closed for over ten years, to my knowledge.

After 12 months training as a toolmaker, I gained full-time employment with Nemo Heat Treatments Ltd (now Bodycote Stockport) as an apprentice metallurgist working in the laboratory. When I first saw the job advertised, I had to look up in a dictionary what a metallurgist was, but it sounded different! There were two vacancies at Nemo at that time; the other was taken by David Donnelly, who became a good friend and still works at Bodycote as a plant manager in the North West.

On joining Nemo, I met the two people who would influence my career the most: Brian Birch and David Wilkins - both of whom mentored me over a 30-year period and have since retired, the latter having been a very active previous Chairman of CHTA. I must thank them both for persevering with me, especially in the early days when, like many youngsters, I did not always listen.

## Shift Metallurgist

In 1981, I became a Shift Metallurgist at Stockport, carrying out all the routine inspection from the batch IQ furnace department. Bodycote subsequently acquired Nemo in March 1983, initially planning to close the facility and transfer the work and approvals to an existing Bodycote site, located four miles down the road at Woodford. John Chesworth, then Managing Director, decided against this, and instead transferred the batch IQ sales to Bodycote Macclesfield, sold off half the building and continued to run the remaining processes as a viable business, with core processing being nitriding, vacuum heat treatment and brazing.

## Inspector / Chief Inspector / Quality Manager

It was at this stage that I transferred to an inspector role in the vacuum department, working very closely with Brian Birch, the General Manager at Stockport. Under Brian's watch, I progressed very quickly to Chief Inspector and then to Quality Manager, responsible for all aspects of the site's quality, including customer audits and implementation of the necessary quality systems.

## Sales Engineer

In 1987, encouraged by Brian (maybe he was trying to get rid of me!), I applied for the position of Sales Engineer for the North West of England, covering the Woodford and Stockport sites. Interviewed by a then very young David Wilkins, I successfully secured the role.

To say this part of my career was character-building would be an understatement. At the time, the Stockport site had suffered from a lack of sales representation for a number of years and there was a lot of work to be done, rebuilding existing accounts and finding new ones. The hard work eventually paid off though. For the first nine months, I can vividly remember banging on doors and none of them opening, but Brian resolutely told me: "In the low times just keep going and your hard work will pay off, trust me". He was right of course.

Eventually, the doors did open and profitable new work came flowing into the facility. I am still a great believer that there is no substitute for hard work in any position; you will eventually get the rewards, whatever the role within business. I also believe that everybody involved in managing a heat treatment facility would benefit from a turn in sales; it opens your horizons to what the customer requires in the way of service, quality, etc, and, from my experience, price is never number one on their agenda - customer service is what counts.

## Production/Works Manager

In 1989, I was asked by Brian to return to the Stockport plant as Production Manager (so he obviously wasn't trying to get rid of me), which was deemed to be a promotion. After a further four years in this role, I was appointed Works Manager at the Stockport facility, achieving record profits for a site with annual sales of £2.5million at the time.

I was supported by a very young but highly-qualified David Boscoe, who was a significant loss to Bodycote when he moved to Exova as part of the sale of the Bodycote Testing Group in 2007. During



(L to r) Simon Blatern's mentors, David Wilkins and Brian Birch, with Paul Handley, a colleague on the CHTA Management Committee that Simon joined in 2003.



Simon congratulated on his accession by previous CHTA Chairman Chris Kenward (now Senior Vice-Chairman).

our time working together at Stockport, we had achieved so much, building an excellent management team, and were the first site within the group to gain the "Investors in People" accreditation and ISO 14001. The site had developed a reputation for excellent customer service and quality; the sales grew significantly year-on-year.

In 1992 I met my future wife, Carol, in a wine bar in Stockport. I think she now wishes she had never gone to that bar on a wet Friday night in February; it's never easy being married to someone who has been in heat treatment their entire life and putting up with the long hours, which are the norm.

#### Operations Director

I remained in the role of Works Manager until 1997 when, like Brian who had also moved onwards and upwards within Bodycote, I was promoted to the role of Operations Director for Bodycote Stockport.

The nineties were never to be forgotten; not only did I meet my wife, my role within Bodycote was further expanded in 1999, when I took on the additional operational responsibility for both Bodycote Woodford and Aldridge.

Yet the real life-changing event did not happen until the 8th November 1999 with the arrival of my daughter, Zara Leah Blatern, who, incidentally, has just crossed into her teens and is giving my wife and me other things to think about besides work! Somebody once told me that children put life in perspective which, at the time, me being me, I totally ignored; yet there has never been a truer word spoken.

#### Sales Director

In 2002, I was asked to meet with Mike Hallas and David Wilkins at the Little Chef on the Ashbourne Road in Staffordshire - a popular haunt for sales people on the road. Something was in the offing for Mike

to be buying lunch. Before I knew it, one all-day breakfast later and - Groundhog Day - they had both talked me into accepting the role of Sales Director which, at the time, encompassed 14 sites across the UK.

When I told Carol of the offer, that evening, she was not impressed and said that I must be mad to think of taking on the job at a time when the UK was in the grip of a recession. Little did we know that recession was insignificant compared with the one that started in 2008 and still grips the UK economy to this day.

David Wilkins, being the true gentleman that he is, offered to talk with Carol to reassure her that I was doing the right thing but, never one to turn down the challenge, I had already made up my mind to accept the position. Since then, the years have been a rollercoaster of very good and very difficult times in the industry, but nonetheless enjoyable.

David also suggested, due to his work commitments, that I replace him on the CHTA Management Committee. At first I declined for a number of reasons, but gradually David reasoned with me into accepting the position. He could be very convincing in his own quiet way, a fact to which anyone who knew him for any length of time would testify, but which I did not realise in the early days. I never thought, all those years ago, that I would be asked to become CHTA Chairman but, as many will know, I cannot resist a challenge.

#### Vice-President Sales Europe

I remained in my role as Sales Director until January 2009, growing the sales year-on-year to a record of £34million pa before the recession began in 2008.

At this point, Stephen Harris joined Bodycote as CEO in a very difficult period - one of the worst recessions on record - and, in the ensuing reorganisation of the businesses, I became VP Sales Europe for the newly-created Aerospace, Defence & Energy division. With sales set to grow in France, and starting with no sales team there in the early days of my new tenure, another challenge has been accepted and it's one that I am really enjoying.

The industry is facing a very challenging period, especially in the UK, but life in heat treatment is never dull. One thing I like about the business is that every day is different - I think that is why I relish working in our industry so much.

#### CHTA Chairman

Finally, I will endeavour to fulfil the role as Chairman of CHTA as well as my predecessors. With new challenges come new opportunities, and that's something a salesman is always looking for.

## AGM marks 40 years of CHTA

On May 8th 1973, Alan J Hick attended the inaugural meeting of CHTA (then, before incorporation in 1978, the Contract Heat Treatment Group) as its first and only Secretary. Forty years and one day later, he'll be welcoming members to CHTA's 2013 AGM which takes place at SEA's Birmingham headquarters on **May 9th**.

Our AGM guest speaker this time will be David Frost CBE, Network Chair of Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP). The event will also provide a forum in which members will be able to update on the Association's activities (including progress with the courses leading to a Metallurgical Technician Certificate) and those of our affiliate SEA. A buffet lunch beforehand will be a further opportunity for convivial networking. Full details will be circulated in early April.



David Frost flanked by CHTA Management Committee members Paul Handley (left) and Richard Burslem in 2009.

Previously our guest at CHTA's 2009 AGM, **David Frost** has chaired the LEP Network since it went live in late July 2011. He spearheads engagement with LEP Chairs, leaders of other national and local business organisations, and other interested bodies.

David was Director General of the British Chambers of Commerce from January 2003 to September 2011. Prior to this, he was Chief Executive of Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce and Business Link.

David is Chairman of the National Council for Graduate Entrepreneurship. He is a Vice Chairman of Ufi / Learn Direct and also a member of the National Employer Advisory Board for the Reserve Forces.

In February 2008, David was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from Birmingham City University and, in the 2011 New Year Honours, he received a CBE for services to business. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

# Supporting heat treaters for forty years

Long-time Secretary Alan J Hick takes a look back as the 40th Anniversary of the **Contract Heat Treatment Association** approaches.

**"To promote the activities of its members and to protect them from negative impact"**...today's CHTA raison d'être was the driving force for the formation of Contract Heat Treatment Group in 1973.

The initiative of some seven like-minded Midlands-based heat treaters, who engaged a Secretariat from the newly-established Wolfson Heat Treatment Centre at Aston University, soon gained support from contract heat treaters nationwide.

Within a year of its foundation, the Contract Heat Treatment Group boasted the 35 members recorded in the panel below. By 1977, with the name changed to the Contract Heat Treatment Association, membership had increased to 63 sites, almost the same number as in today's much-altered list of member companies.

## Members 1974 - Companies highlighted in bold were founder members:

- Abbey Heat Treatment Ltd, London
- **Birlec** Ltd, Aldridge
- Bradley & Foster Ltd, Darlaston
- **British Heat Treatments Ltd**, Birmingham
- R.W. Carr & Co. Ltd, Birmingham
- **Controlled Heat Treatments Ltd**, Lye
- Diemould Heat Treatment & Kepston Ltd, High Wycombe
- **Electro Heat Treatments Ltd**, West Bromwich
- **Express Treatments Ltd**, Halesowen
- Flame Hardeners Ltd, Sheffield
- J.M. Hargreave & Co. Ltd, East Molesey
- Heat Treatments Ltd, Birmingham
- Heat Treatment & Brazing Co. Ltd, Hershaw
- Holt Brothers (Halifax) Ltd
- G.F. Homer (Redditch) Ltd
- **ICI-Cassel Heat Treatment Service**, Birmingham
- Inducto-Heat (Tewkesbury) Ltd
- J.J. Casting Investments (Heat Treatment) Ltd, Caerphilly
- Keighley Laboratories Ltd, Keighley
- Met Vac Ltd, West Bromwich
- Metal Colours (Slough) Ltd.
- **Midland Heat Treatments Ltd**, Wolverhampton
- Nemo Heat Treatments Ltd, Stockport
- North London Heat Treatment Ltd, Boreham Wood
- Precision Heat Treatment Ltd, East Molesey
- Rubery Owen (Moxley) Ltd, Wednesbury
- Salter Engineering Components Ltd, Smethwick
- Southern Heat Treatments(Gosport) Ltd
- Southern Induction Ltd, Southall
- Stora Steel Ltd, Lye
- M. Taylor (Metal Treatments) Ltd, Kingswinford
- Temperset Ltd, Tipton
- Torvac Processing Ltd, Skelmersdale
- Wessex Heat Treatments Ltd, Trowbridge
- Wild Batfield Heat Treatment Ltd, Waford



Founder members of the first Management Committee (l. to r.): Beck Mayer (*Express Treatments*), Don Poole (*Warne, Wright & Rowland*), Roland Courtney-Sutton (*British Heat Treatments*), Ron Stanton (*Birlec*), Nick Taylor (*ICI Cassel Heat Treatment Service*) - behind Mr. Stanton - and CHTA's first and longest-serving Chairman John Cowie (*Midland Heat Treatments*).

## Co-operation

The contract heat treatment sector has changed dramatically, since those early days, but the need for action on matters of common concern, through CHTA, remains. Throughout, CHTA has relied on the co-operative input of member volunteers to further its aims. The Association has achieved much over the forty years, due to the contribution of member representatives, too numerous to mention individually here, and, latterly, the invaluable support of the Surface Engineering Association. On this special occasion, we thank all who have participated in CHTA committees and other activities over the years and salute the seventeen CHTA Chairmen under whom their efforts have been guided so far:

## CHTA Chairmen

- 1973-82: **John Cowie**, Midland Heat Treatments Ltd  
 1983: **Peter Bates**, Blandburgh Ltd  
 1984-85: **Brenda Buckley**, Holt Brothers (Halifax) Ltd  
 1986-87: **Phil Griffiths**, Electro Heat Treatments Ltd  
 1988: **Nick Storer**, North London Heat Treatment  
 1989-90: **Doug Goldstraw**, British Metal Treatments Ltd  
 1991-92: **David Wilkins**, Blandburgh Nemo Ltd  
 1993-94: **Brent Millage**, Kepston Brazing Ltd  
 1995-96: **Ian Brown**, Wallwork Heat Treatment Ltd  
 1997-98: **Chris Baumann**, Senior Heat Treatment Ltd



CHTA's affiliation with the Surface Engineering Association in 2000, to gain greater influence, led to a major breakthrough in 2005. After prolonged attempts to render CHTA members eligible for CCL rebates, climate change agreements for the heat treatment sector were finally achieved with SEA's crucial assistance. Seen above left, Richard Burslem, leader of CHTA's CCA Steering Group, worked closely with SEA's CEO Dave Elliott in negotiating terms with DEFRA. Pivotal was SEA's early involvement of Lord Hoyle pictured, above right, flanked by former CHTA Chairman Roger Haw (left) and Secretary Alan J Hick.

## Some milestones

- 1973: The Contract Heat Treatment Group established / First Management Committee meeting.  
 1975: Name change to The Contract Heat Treatment Association / CHTA Publicity Subcommittee inaugurated and *Hotline* first published.  
 1976: First edition of CHTA's *Buyers Guide to Contract Heat Treatment* issued.  
 1977: First edition of *CHTA Guidelines for Business Conditions* published.  
 1978: Incorporation of CHTA.  
 1979: CHTA's *CHT-1: Quality Assurance Standard* published.  
 1985: First of CHTA "Consumable Cost Surveys".  
 1992: First "Market Movements" in *Hotline* / revised CHTA *Guidelines for Business Conditions*.  
 1996: *Datasheets for Non-heat-treaters* issued.  
 1998: CHTA 25th Anniversary Lunch (guest speaker: Bodycote's John Chesworth).  
 2000: CHTA affiliates with the Surface Engineering Association / Launch of [www.chta.co.uk](http://www.chta.co.uk).  
 2002: CHTA Benchmarking Club launched.  
 2005: CHTA registered office moved to SEA headquarters / CHTA members enabled to participate in climate change agreements after a prolonged SEA-assisted campaign.  
 2006: 10th edition of CHTA's *Buyers Guide to Contract Heat Treatment* issued.  
 2010: Latest *CHTA Guidelines for Business Conditions* released / CHTA website upgraded.  
 2011: CHTA sponsors 19th IFHTSE Congress.  
 2012: CHTA Vice-Chairman becomes SEA Chairman.  
 2013: Start of CHTA-sponsored courses leading to a Certificate in Metallurgy.
- 1999: **David Ashton**, Nitriding Services Ltd  
 2000-01: **Ian Brown**, Wallwork Heat Treatment Ltd  
 2002: **David Wilkins**, Bodycote Heat Treatments Ltd  
 2003-04: **Terry Littlewood**, Expert Heat Treatments  
 2005-06: **Roger Haw**, Flame Hardeners Ltd  
 2007-08: **Paul Handley**, Heat Treatment 2000 Ltd  
 2009-10: **Richard Burslem**, Wallwork Heat Treatment Ltd  
 2011-12: **Chris Kenward**, Ajax Tocco International Ltd  
 2013: **Simon Blantern**, Bodycote Heat Treatments Ltd



# Serving heat treaters for forty years

Also celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year is **Wolfson Heat Treatment Centre**, home for many years to CHTA's Secretariat.

Opened on 2 April 1973, Wolfson Heat Treatment Centre, British industry's focal point for information, advice and education on heat treatment processing, was originally set up by the Department of Metallurgy at Aston University in Birmingham. There it remained for 31 years, providing metallurgist Alan J Hick with a day job as Manager, and Editor of the Centre's world-renowned *Heat Treatment of Metals* journal, whilst acting as CHTA's Secretary in his "spare time".



Alan J Hick at Wolfson's official launch in 1973, watched by the late Prof. Tom Bell, originator of the Centre's concept.

As recorded in the final 2004.4 issue of *Heat Treatment of Metals*, Wolfson's team achieved much during its tenure at Aston. Along with the core activities for members (including many CHTA members), it kept the heat treatment community informed, through the journal and a series of conferences, encouraged co-operative member action on technical matters of common concern, via its Engineering Group, and ran numerous courses.

Coincident with Alan's retirement, Wolfson relocated in 2005 to the Birmingham headquarters of the Surface Engineering Association to which, like CHTA, the Centre is affiliated.

Under the sterling management of metallurgist Derek Close, who this year completes 32 years with the Centre, the wide range of Wolfson services for subscribers now includes:

- Information and advice on heat treatment processing. The Centre's knowledge and expertise is supplemented by a vast library of information from worldwide sources.
- Consultancy: an independent and com-



Derek Close at work

prehensive service is provided, where heat treatment problems or projects require in-depth assessment, either at the Centre or on site.

- Metallurgical services/investigations on a contract basis.
- Education/training: as well as annual repeats of the long-established three-day *Understanding Heat Treatment* course (next to be staged on October 15-17 this year), short bespoke courses can be presented on site.

For details, contact [derek.close@sea.org.uk](mailto:derek.close@sea.org.uk) or go to [www.sea.org.uk/whtc](http://www.sea.org.uk/whtc).

## ADVERTISEMENTS

### Advertising in *Hotline*

*Hotline* welcomes advertising (other than recruitment) from CHTA members and suppliers to the trade.

#### 2013 RATES

Single-insertion charges for black-and-white ads:

Size	Dimensions	Charge
Quarter page	121mm high x 86mm wide	£190+VAT
Half page	121mm high x 178mm wide or 254mm high x 86mm wide	£335+VAT
Full page	254mm high x 178mm wide	£600+VAT

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Advertisers in four consecutive quarterly editions of *Hotline* are entitled to a series rate where all of the above prices are discounted by 20% per insertion.

Series advertisers also feature on the new Suppliers page of CHTA's website at no extra charge.

Booking deadline for June's *Hotline* 132: May 16th

For further details, contact *Hotline* Editor Alan J. Hick

Tel: 0121 329 2970; e-mail: [mail@chta.co.uk](mailto:mail@chta.co.uk)

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*The climate change agreement (CCA) scheme gives a discount on the climate change levy (CCL) to eligible companies that meet challenging energy-efficiency or carbon-saving targets set by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC).*

*The Environment Agency took over from DECC as the administrator of the CCA scheme on 1 October 2012 and will perform this role until 2023. DECC retains its overseeing policy role which includes responsibility for negotiating the sector commitments (the sectors' overall target reduction), which apply from the outset of the scheme, and target resetting in 2016.*

*The new scheme starts on 1 April this year when participants can begin to claim their CCL discount at the revised rate. (The discount goes up to 90% for electricity and remains at 65% for gas).*

*CHTA members (operators / target units) participate in heat treatment CCAs, administered by the Surface Engineering Association (our sector association). SEA's **Dave Elliott** notes that, in order to recoup costs, the Environment Agency will be imposing an administration charge of £185/annum/site on CCA participants, to be collected by sector associations.*

*Dave received general guidance from the Agency at the end of January, some of which is reproduced here...*

## New scheme questions

**Q. Are sector associations still going to be the first point of contact for operators in the new scheme?**

A. Yes, any new operator would need to gain their CCA by going through their sector association from the start of the new scheme.

**Q. If a new underlying agreement is created after 1 April 2013, will this be backdated to the start of April 2013?**

A. No the Environment Agency has no ability to backdate agreements retrospectively. The CCL discount is given to an operator based on its date of effect; that is the date on which the underlying agreement is approved by the Environment Agency. The date the agreement is approved by the Environment Agency, which appears on the Reduced Rate Certificate, will be the day we send the underlying agreement to the operator for assent. Note that if this is before 1 April, the operator will not be able to claim the discount before 1 April.

**Q. Will all operators have agreements in place by the end of March 2013?**

A. Our intention is that most operators should have their agreements in place by this time. This is provided that the correct information has been submitted to the facilitator and sector and operator targets have been agreed with DECC. Two migrations of sector data will take place, one at the end of January and one at the end of February. If the deadlines for the migrations are missed, the sector will have to follow a process to create agreements from the start of April. Under the latter circumstance, operators would be unlikely to receive the discount from 1 April 2013.

**Q. Will sector associations be informed when the underlying agreements start being sent to operators?**

A. Yes, the sector association will receive an email every time we contact the target unit operator. They will also be able to see this on the register by clicking onto the menu for that target unit operator. The underlying agreement must be electronically signed and returned to the Environment Agency by the operator with an email assent from the responsible person.

**Q. Is bubbling or unbubbling allowed to take place on the register before April 2013?**

A. This can only be done after April 2013. DECC interim guidance on bubbling can be found here. Once sector data has been fully migrated and the underlying agreement has been given its assent, the sector can start processing variations to make bubbling changes. At this stage, given we do not know the scale of such changes, we cannot guarantee how long it will take for the administrator to action these variations, but will make these changes a priority.

**Q. When will sectors be able to change the target unit currency?**

A. The target unit currency cannot be changed outside of the target review with DECC in 2016.

**Q. What is the definition of a change of operator?**

A. This is where the legal entity has changed from one operator to another. An example of this is a change in ownership of a site or group of sites.

**Q. What action should a sector take if a facility is closed down?**

A. This is a variation and should be reported once the underlying agreement is live or after 1 April 2013. If it is the only facility in the target unit, the target unit should be terminated.

**Q. What happens to any target unit surplus when a target unit 'unbubbles'?**

A. The operator has full discretion to allocate surplus to the facilities in that target unit as it wishes.

**Q. What does the operator do if it identifies that there are errors in the base year?**

A. Corrections to base year will be allowed within the data correction window.

**Q. Can an operator apply for a CCA independently without a sector?**

A. No, at this time there is no provision for an operator to apply for its own agreement on the register. The operator must go through its sector association for a new application.

**Q. Does a variation need to be completed if a facility is moved to another site under the same operator?**

A. Yes, to reflect the new address. A Facility Eligibility Form will also have to be completed so that the extent of the eligible facility in the new setting can be assessed.

**Q. Are target profiles other than linear available?**

A. The default sector commitment profile is a linear, constantly improving profile of performance. Some sectors have already made representations to DECC on where such a profile is inappropriate, and these have been considered on a case by case basis. DECC will not consider further cases of this type. However, DECC may decline a linear profile if the sector commitment implied for target period 1 by such a profile appears to be less stringent than the position of the sector at MS5 (2010) of the old scheme, expressed on a new scheme basis. If DECC perceives that there is a risk of this, then the Ricardo-AEA facilitator will be in touch with the sector association to agree an alternative profile.

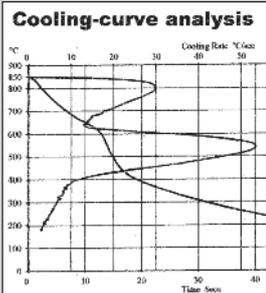
**Q. Can sector associations distribute targets as they want across target units?**

A. Yes, within reason, although Ricardo-AEA will conduct sense checks of the distribution of effort across target units to ensure that this distribution is reasonable

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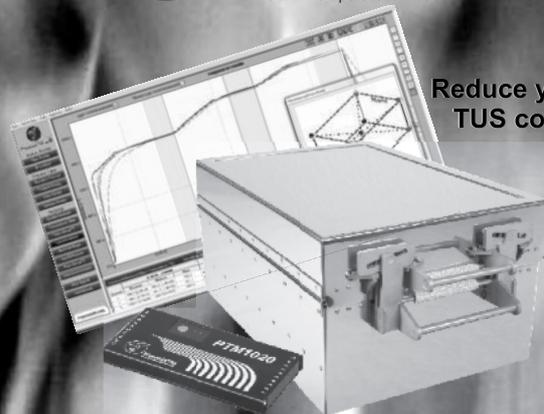
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# Diary

April 3-5 2013  
**QUANTITATIVE METALLOGRAPHY**  
 San Antonio, Texas, USA  
 Conference and exposition:  
[www.asminternational.org/content/Events/quantmet](http://www.asminternational.org/content/Events/quantmet)

April 24-25 2013  
**INTRODUCTION TO PYROMETRY**  
 Sheffield, England  
[www.equalearn.com/learncenter.asp?id=178409](http://www.equalearn.com/learncenter.asp?id=178409)

April 25 2013  
**CHTA PUBLICITY SUBCOMMITTEE\***  
 Birmingham, England

April 25-26 2013  
**EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON HEAT TREATMENT**  
 Lucerne, Switzerland  
[www.awt-online.org/index.php?id=245&L=1](http://www.awt-online.org/index.php?id=245&L=1)

May 9 2013  
**CHTA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/ AGM\***  
 Birmingham, England

May 16 2013  
**BIFCA course:**  
**FURNACE & BURNER CONTROLS**  
 West Bromwich, England [www.bifca.org.uk](http://www.bifca.org.uk)

May 16-18 2013  
**HEAT TREAT & SURFACE ENGINEERING CONFERENCE & EXPO 2013**  
 Chennai, India  
[www.heatreatexpo-asmchennai.com](http://www.heatreatexpo-asmchennai.com)

May 22 2013  
**BIFCA course:**  
**INTRODUCTION TO ENERGY MANAGEMENT**  
 West Bromwich, England [www.bifca.org.uk](http://www.bifca.org.uk)

June 4-6 2013  
**SUBCON 2013**  
 Birmingham, England  
 Co-located with the new Advanced Manufacturing show.  
[www.subconshow.co.uk](http://www.subconshow.co.uk)

June 11-14 2013  
**2ND MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE ON HEAT TREATMENT AND SURFACE ENGINEERING / CHALLENGES FOR HEAT TREATMENT AND SURFACE ENGINEERING**  
 Dubrovnik-Cavtat, Croatia  
[www.fsb.unizg.hr/hdtoip/IFHTSE%202013.pdf](http://www.fsb.unizg.hr/hdtoip/IFHTSE%202013.pdf)

June 16-18 2013  
**14TH GUANGZHOU INTERNATIONAL HEAT TREATMENT & INDUSTRIAL FURNACE EXHIBITION**  
 Guangzhou, China [www.heatreatmentexpo.com](http://www.heatreatmentexpo.com)

July 3-5 2013  
**THERMOTEC 2013**  
 Tokyo, Japan <http://thermotec-expo.com/en/>

July 9-10 2013  
**INTERNATIONAL THERMPROCESS SUMMIT**  
 Düsseldorf, Germany [www.itps-online.com](http://www.itps-online.com)

July 18 2013  
**CHTA PUBLICITY SUBCOMMITTEE\***  
 Birmingham, England

July 29-30 2013  
**NADCAP AUDIT PREPARATION – HEAT TREATING**  
 Manchester, England  
[www.equalearn.com/learncenter.asp?id=178409](http://www.equalearn.com/learncenter.asp?id=178409)

July 31 – August 1 2013  
**INTRODUCTION TO PYROMETRY**  
 Manchester, England  
[www.equalearn.com/learncenter.asp?id=178409](http://www.equalearn.com/learncenter.asp?id=178409)

August 1 2013  
**CHTA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE\***  
 Birmingham, England

\*Members wishing issues to be raised at CHTA meetings should notify CHTA's Secretary, well before-hand, at [mail@chta.co.uk](mailto:mail@chta.co.uk)

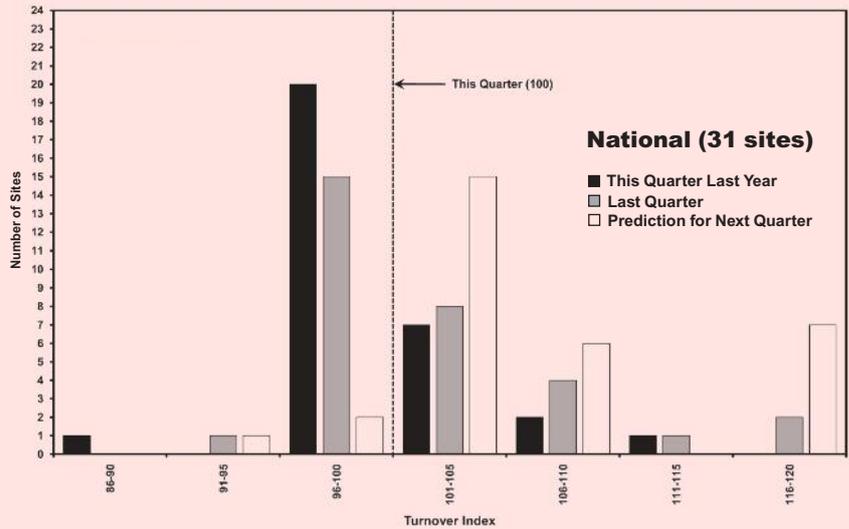
# Market Movements

ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE REPLIES RELATING TO 31 CHTA MEMBER SITES

**“THIS QUARTER” =**  
**1 OCTOBER –**  
**31 DECEMBER 2012**  
**= TURNOVER INDEX 100**

**OVERALL ANALYSIS**  
**(31 SITES)**

	Mean index
This quarter last year	<b>100.8</b>
Last quarter	<b>102.5</b>
Predicted next quarter	<b>106.1</b>



## STATESIDE STATS

### NORTH AMERICAN 2012 HEAT TREATMENT SALES UP BY 7.4%

CHTA counterparts participating in the Metal Treating Institute's Monthly Sales Statistics Program reported total heat-treating sales of \$1002.3million in 2012, a gain of 7.4% from the \$933.5million posted for January-December 2011. December billings amounted to \$69.5million, a drop of 7.1% compared with December 2011's \$74.8million.

The latest returns indicate January 2013 sales of \$77.9million, a decrease of 6.6% compared with January last year when billings amounted to \$83.4million

## NICKEL PRICE (US\$/lb)



**Please send comment and news items for June's Hotline 132 to: [mail@chta.co.uk](mailto:mail@chta.co.uk) Deadline: May 22nd**