

Castings

News & Views

March 2006

CONTENTS

- CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE
- TRAINING UPDATE
- 2006 AUSTRALASIAN CONFERENCE
- REGIONAL ROUNDUP
 - NORTHERN
 - CANTERBURY
- NEW MEMBERS
- UPDATED WEBSITE

Chairman's Message

I picked up a German hitchhiker a few weeks ago in Otago. Thomas Kohl had been having a great time in New Zealand. He went fishing in Taranaki and caught snappers up to 10lb, then went possum shooting and they bagged 32 and went big game fishing for the first time in the Bay of Islands and caught (and released) a 200lb striped marlin. Add to that wandering around the Abel Tasman National Park and the Routeburn Track and swimming with 1000 dolphins in Kaikoura and he thinks that New Zealand is a wonderful place. Thomas is a green keeper back home at a course that the Americans have returned to the locals, Dachau. He told me to have a look at the website on www.gcdachau.de My German is pretty poor so I right-clicked and chose "Translate page into English". The literal translations are most entertaining. They encourage brisk golf and discuss the time wasted by "sample momenta" (practise swings). Taking more than 5 seconds to read a green before putting "strengthens only the uncertainty". To play good golf the head should be "free of all ballast".

New Zealand is a special country and one industry with a rock solid future is tourism. I've

visited Rotorua 3 times in recent months working on the 2006 Australasian Foundry Conference and what a long way this place has come over the last 20 years. Such is the number and quality of attractions available the hardest job has been deciding what to leave out of the social programme. Please ensure that you make time to join this conference. We don't want to give too much away at this stage but there is likely to be some state vs state vs NZ action that should get some traditional rivalries all revved up.

We know that we can prosper through applied innovation. Have a look at the Molokini kayak on the website www.clearbluesouthpacific.com You'll see a clear example of marketable innovation.

It is with sadness that we must say goodbye to our biggest foundry (by value and tonnage), ION New Zealand (Ford Alloy Wheel Plant). They are shutting their doors for good very soon. The well experienced and trained ION staff that are coming onto the market from ION should be welcomed by the industry.

Anyone who's been within range will know that I'm really excited about our adventure to China next month to the Congress of Foundry Directors, Metals Asia 2006 Expo and industrial tour including visiting some Chinese foundries. It's going to be a great experience for the group.

Thanks for your continued support.

Mike Alston
Chairman

Training Update – March 2006

To follow up from last year's industry review of the Metal Casting Unit Standards we can now report that the Unit Standards are with NZQA awaiting registration. It is hoped that the Unit Standard registration will be completed by the

end of April. Following Unit Standard registration the revised Metal Casting Qualification will be presented to NZQA for registration. The metal casting industry will be consulted prior to the revised qualification being presented to NZQA. We anticipate that the qualification registration will be completed by NZQA by mid year. When the Metal Casting Qualification is registered by NZQA Competenz will launch the new qualification within their organisation and also provide new marketing information for industry. Competenz are currently developing the new Assessment Guides which should be available to industry by the end of this year.

The above report was prepared by Warwick Fyfe

2006 Australasian Conference



Attached is our first conference flyer including the "Call for Papers".

At the end of February the Chairman and the Conference Committee (made up of Marcia Dunnett, Linda Boland, Samantha Seath and Rex Baynes) went to Rotorua to check out the conference venue and several options for the social programme. Following are some of the exciting activities you will be able to participate in during conference.....

- The "Monster Truck"



- Sprint Car Time Trials



- Jet Sprint Boats



Just from these few photos you can see what we have in store for you so mark your diaries with **15-18 October NOW!** and keep checking our website www.castingtechnologynz.org for conference updates and developments.

Regional Roundup

- **Northern & Canterbury**

Both branches recently held meetings facilitated by Mike Alston who provided members with an interesting presentation on his recent trip to China. Mike also extended an invitation to members to join a group traveling to China in April. For further information please contact Mike Alston direct.

New Members

CTNZ welcomes Surecast Metals Limited of Hamilton to the membership.


Membership Update

It is important for us to have your correct contact details on file. If you have not already done so, please assist by completing and returning the attached fax back form. Thanks!

CTNZ Website

We have just finished the refurbishment and hope you like it.

Please check www.castingtechnologynz.org to see that your company's details are correct and send any corrections or other improvement suggestions to lboland@businessnz.org.nz



Linda Boland
Executive Assistant



PO Box 1925
Wellington
Ph 04 496 6555
Fax 04 496 6550
Email: lboland@businessnz.org.nz
Website: www.castintechologynz.org

Please fax back to:

*Linda Boland
Casting Technology New Zealand Inc
PO Box 1925
Wellington
Fax No: (04) 496 6550*

FAX BACK FORM

- **CONTACT DETAILS**

To ensure that we have your correct details on our database please complete and return the following form to us:

Contact: _____
(Please print)

Designation: _____

Company: _____

Postal Address: _____

Street Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Facsimile: _____

Email: _____

No. of Staff: _____

Name: _____
(Please print)