

Dr. Die Cast



The 2014 NADCA Congress & Tabletop in Milwaukee (A full buffet of suppliers)

It goes without saying that I have attended a lot of die casting conferences. (A lot of my library of die casting training manuals say “Society of Die Casting Engineers” instead of “NADCA”.) I have enjoyed every conference. However this may have been one of the more productive in recent years for suppliers and die casting companies alike. Visitors and suppliers were upbeat and conservatively optimistic. I heard of new “greenfield” die casting operations and advancements in nearly every technology were presented during the Congress sessions.

The industry is making progress in a number of key areas of equipment, tool steel, coatings,

die lubes, simulation software and others. These key areas were subjects within the schedule of Congress papers and presentations. Those in attendance were sure to have noted the progress.

NADCA Wisconsin Chapter 12 hosted a “Root Beer” bar complete with Chapter Directories. Very impressive and welcoming! Chapter 12 has set the “bar” high (no pun intended) for future regional hosting chapters.

A first ever Monday evening “After Hours” (happy hour) with the exhibitors was a great hit.

Several of the Michigan die casters made use of the Lake Michigan High Speed ferry to eliminate driving through Chicago traffic. Even with the 4 foot swells

on Monday I was very pleased with the ride and would do it again. Arriving in Milwaukee relaxed and with nearly a full tank of fuel was a pleasant benefit. The people who braved the 6 and 8 foot swells on Sunday were a little less optimistic but still grateful to have missed the traffic.

Visiting old friends, suppliers and die casters alike, always makes the time fly by. It seemed like it was over faster this year. Maybe because I have more friends and suppliers to see and more to discuss.

I’m looking forward to seeing you at the 2015 Congress & Exposition in Indianapolis next year if not before!

Who’s Dr. Die Cast?

Robert P. McClintic
Die Casting Consultant

Bob McClintic & Associates

2544 Almar Street
Jenison, MI 49428-9108

rmcclintic@ameritech.net

www.dr diecast.com
616.669.2932



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