



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Adam Derry

HELLO NFDA MEMBERS!

Spring is here, the trees are blooming, and it's encouraging to think that the worst of the pandemic is behind us. We'll never forget the last year and the roller coaster ride that it has been, but every day more people are getting vaccinated and things around us are opening

up more. What a great feeling! So many of us are craving the personal interaction with friends, family, work or industry colleagues; I know I am! We can see a light in the end of the tunnel!

A huge shout-out goes out to all those who participated in the ESPS® virtual conference in March and making the event a success. We had an 88% increase in registrations from the last ESPS in 2018, which also was well attended, and it was a great way to get valuable insights and content to help us improve our businesses and stay connected with supply partners and peers in our industry that we can learn from. It was great seeing so many new faces and many familiar ones and having more people from member companies engage in the NFDA. If you or others within your organizations have not actively participated in the events recently, I'd encourage you to do so.

I couldn't be happier with the engagement and dedication the NFDA committees (Learning, Member Value, and Marketing). The Learning Committee is working hard on developing monthly virtual events, and we've got some great upcoming sessions so keep an eye out for those. The Marketing Committee is actively working on its rebranding and website modernization initiative. In addition, the Member Value Committee has done a great job retaining the membership base through the pandemic and has shifted its focus onto a formalized welcoming process for new members as well as key initiatives to grow the member base. We all win when our member base grows, so if you know of any good NFDA member candidates please encourage them to join or let me or one of the Member Value Committee members know. Remember, there is a \$1,000 membership dues credit for each new member that you refer.

I personally want to thank each and every one of you for your ongoing support and commitment to the NFDA. It's an unprecedented time in our industry right now. There is a ton going on, and it's great to be able to connect with others to help us navigate any choppy waters in our business more effectively.

I hope and pray that you and your families have stayed safe and healthy through the pandemic and very much look forward to seeing you in person when that time comes. If you have any feedback on the NFDA (what you like, how we can improve), please don't hesitate to reach out to me at adamd@fieldfastener.com or 773-420-8200. I'd love to hear from you!

**WELCOME
NEW NFDA
MEMBERS!**

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bcindustrialsupply.com

Fuerza Industrial
fuerzaindustrial.com

ITW Shakeproof
shakeproof.com

**J.Lanfranco Fastener
Systems Inc.**
jlanfranco.com

WTC IT Services
virtualedgetechnology.com



If you prefer to receive this newsletter electronically only, please email: amy@nfda-fastener.org



NFDA CALENDAR

MAY 12, 2021 – Win More Deals at the Prices You Want / Sales Differentiation with Lee Salz of Sales Architects

JUNE 9, 2021 – Human Resources Roundtable

JULY 15, 2021 – Operations Roundtable

AUGUST 12, 2021 – Sales / Marketing Roundtable



ASSOCIATE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

By Kelly Charles

HAPPY SPRING EVERYONE!

I hope everyone is safe, healthy, and successfully navigating these trying business times. Don't forget to take time for yourself, as you work as hard as you undoubtedly are.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our virtual conference and ESPS®. The turnout was exceptional, and it went even better than we had hoped. Kudos to the NFDA staff who worked tirelessly in the background to ensure a great experience for all of us. The speakers and panel members did a great job, and I hope we all walked away with some new information. This was my first ESPS®, and now I understand why it is such a popular and valuable event.

While I hope (really, REALLY hope) that we won't ever have to do a fully virtual conference

again, we did learn that we can do it, and that a hybrid model can work. When we go back live and in-person again in early 2022, we will likely add a virtual component for those that are not yet ready or able to travel.

We are continuing with our monthly educational series. We had a great technical presentation from BodyCote in April (thank you, Derek Dandy). If you have a topic you are interested in (or would like to present), please let me know. NFDA wants to make sure these events are relevant and of interest to our members and we are always looking for suggestions.

Our next program is Wednesday, May 12th, and is co-sponsored with Young Fastener Professionals (YFP). Please join us for "Sales Differentiation: Win More Deals at The Prices You Want," presented by Lee Salz of Sales Architects. It is a webinar format with a question and answer session following. The cost is \$49 per company for members and non-members alike.

Take care of yourselves and each other!



NFDA FASTENER STANDARDS ACTIVITY UPDATE - Q1 2021

By John Medcalf

With vaccinations rolling out and travel picking up it appears we may be getting closer to resuming in-person activities, but on the standards front, it will be at least the fall before those occur. In-person ASTM and ASME meetings for May have been cancelled and are expected to be replaced by virtual meetings. The even more complicated international landscape means all upcoming ISO ad-hoc meetings will continue to be virtual as well. Work progresses, though, and there are some significant activities and developments as follows:

SAE

The revision of SAE J1237 on metric thread rolling screws has finally reached consensus within the standards committee and is expected to proceed to publication. The update contains clarification on thread length measurement and contains a reduction in core hardness for case hardened fasteners to reduce the potential for hydrogen embrittlement susceptibility.

The revision to SAE J78 on self-drilling screws is also nearing final approval. The commercially available Style 4 and Style 5 extra length points will now be covered by the standard and it contains a similar reduction in core hardness to again reduce HE susceptibility.

As changes like the above are implemented to reduce or eliminate material susceptibility to hydrogen embrittlement, they can be leveraged to also reduce or eliminate baking processes currently used for risk mitigation. The end results should include reduced processing costs, reduced energy consumption, and ultimately safer products.

ASTM

Several web meetings have been held for the revisions to ASTM F1941/F1941M on electroplating. Areas being addressed include baking requirements, case hardened fastener requirements, and potentially coefficient of friction requirements. The combined inch and metric document for nuts, ASTM A563/A563M is nearing publication, and the structural bolting standard ASTM F3125/F3125M is being reviewed for several updates, including a potential allowance for galvanizing A490 bolts.

ISO

Revisions to ISO 4042 on electroplating are nearing a final ballot and include more clarity for hydrogen embrittlement measures to be taken on various products including case hardened screws. On that note, the revision to ISO 2702 on mechanical properties of tapping screws is also progressing and will actually increase the allowable core hardness of these case-hardened products. While this standard only covers sheet metal screws with spaced threads, caution should be taken as the change does potentially increase the risk of HE susceptibility and is counter to the direction of North American standards.

Please email your standards related comments, concerns, or questions to John at standards@nfda-fastener.org

Communication between NFDA members and the NFDA technical standard representative (the "Representative") through email or otherwise is provided by NFDA as a courtesy to its members. NFDA provides no assurance as to the accuracy, completeness, or timeliness of any statement made by the Representative to the member or fastener technical standards organizations. Neither NFDA nor the Representative makes any representation as to whether any statement of the Representative is consistent or compliant with fastener technical standards. Neither NFDA nor the Representative shall be responsible for any loss or damage suffered by the member or any other person as the direct or indirect result of any statement made by the representative.

John Medcalf's appointment as the NFDA technical standards representative allows the NFDA membership not just visibility of standards activities, but also a voice in the process.

NFDA members are encouraged to express their comments or concerns relating to fastener standards. The only way to influence the process is to stay engaged and participate.

MEMBERS CAN:

- Inquire about changes to drafts noted in quarterly reports
- Ask general standards related questions
- Offer feedback to continue refinement of these articles
- Raise suggested revisions or technical updates to standards



MARKET YOUR BUSINESS THROUGH NFDA

Interested in having an insert about your company in the next issue of *NFDA Today*? Contact Amy Nijjar to make the arrangements: amy@nfda-fastener.org or 562-799-5519. You also can view information on our website. Click on Advertising in the menu.



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Fastener Training Institute® offers the following opportunities to increase your fastener knowledge:

FASTENER TRAINING WEEK:

- ◆ **MAY 6 - 8, 2021**
CLEVELAND
- ◆ **AUGUST 16 - 20, 2021**
CHICAGO
- ◆ **NOVEMBER 29 -
DECEMBER 3, 2021**
LOS ANGELES

NFDA members receive discounted registration on all FTI classroom seminars. For more information and a list of all FTI events visit FastenerTraining.org.



SCHOLARSHIP FOR FASTENER TRAINING WEEK

Each year NFDA awards a scholarship for Fastener Training Week, an advanced technical training program produced by the Fastener Training Institute®.

Applicants are evaluated based on the recommendation from their employer, personal achievements, work experience, and an essay. Identifying information is redacted, so the team evaluating the applications do not know the names or employers of those applying.

Fastener Training Week scholarships are a benefit for NFDA members only. The next deadline to apply for a scholarship is June 1. The application can be found at nfda-fastener.org/fastener-training-week-scholarship. Apply today!

For more information about Fastener Training Week, visit fastenertraining.org



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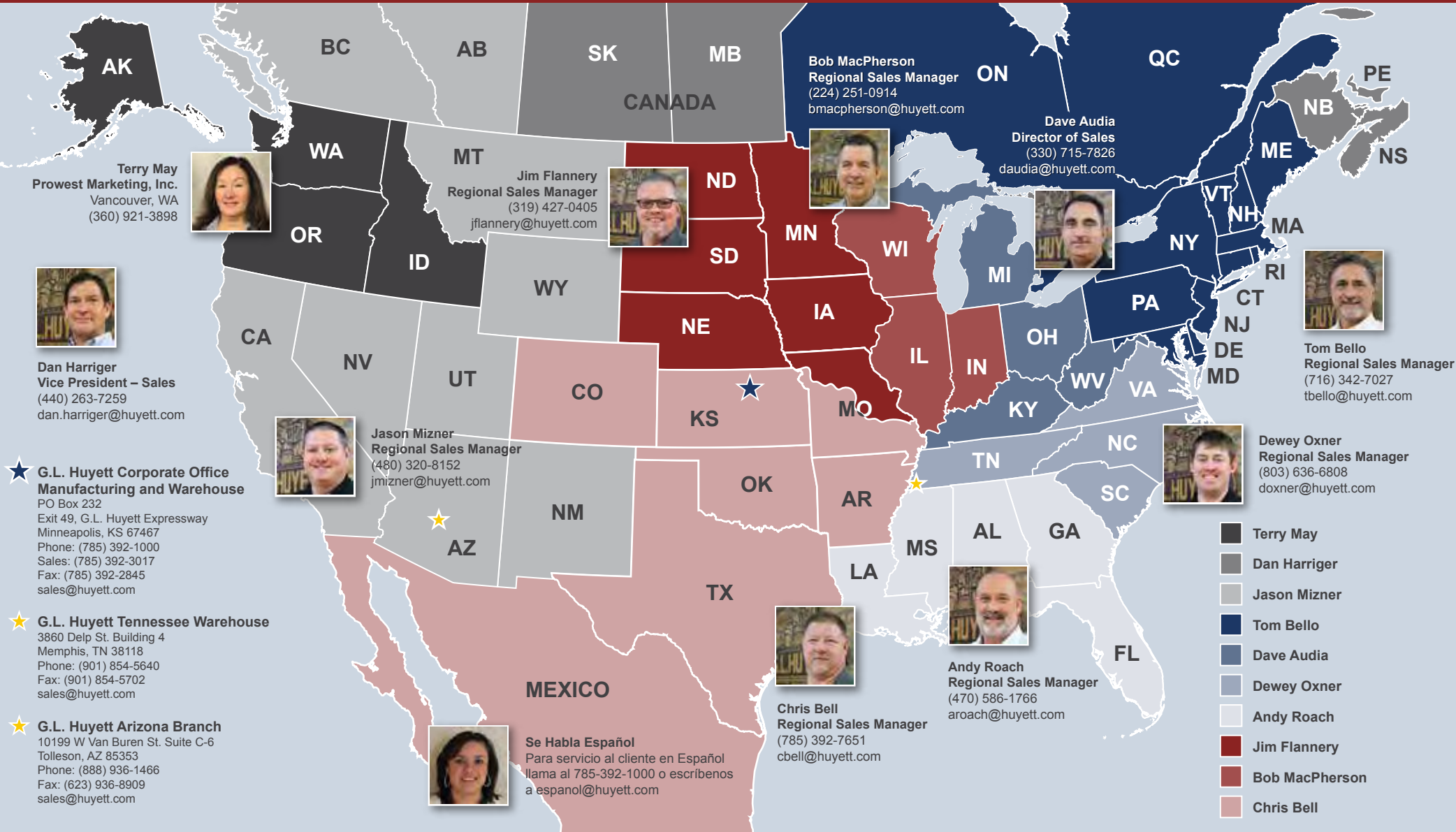
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