An evaluation of the first tranche of registration dossiers submitted under the EU REACH regulation suggests the vast majority have inadequate data. The chemical industry has said the report produced by the European Chemical Agency (ECHA) in Helsinki, Finland is not entirely unexpected. The report covered a sample of 148 dossiers from the 25,000 submitted ahead of the first REACH deadline in December 2010. ECHA asked registrants for more data on 136 dossiers (92%) so that they could be updated. The most common deficiencies included incorrect or ambiguous identification of substances, incorrect ‘read across’ using data from one substance to make judgements about the dangers of similar substances – and inadequate data on hazards, chemical use or potential exposure for safety assessments.

The high proportion of dossiers that are not up to standard is really not surprising because of the limited time industry was given to prepare for the 2010 deadline. What is not clear from the report is how many of the dossiers need only minor changes to deal with the data defects and how many require fundamental changes.

ECHA is carrying out evaluations on samples of dossiers each year with the objective of gradually improving their quality as companies draw up registrations for the second and third deadlines due in 2013 and 2018 and covering chemicals supplied in smaller amounts. Companies should learn from this ECHA evaluation.

Some non-government organisations, however, claim that the ECHA evaluation shows that its system of compliance is not working. Under the REACH legislation, registration dossiers only have to pass a computerised completeness check. A Lawyer for Client Earth says “There’s a loophole in the compliance checking system” “The automatic check just ensures that all parts of the dossier has been filled whether the data is adequate or not. The basic principle behind Reach of “no data, no market” should be properly enforced”.

National agencies with responsibility for enforcing REACH have the power to make registrants comply with ECHA requests for additional data. According to The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) the UK enforcement agency, ‘Provision in the REACH enforcement regulations allow the HSE to prohibit manufacture or placing on the market of unregistered substances, as well as to enforce the requirement on the Registrant to update its registration’.

Company News and Products

Guyson

Guyson, an industrial finishing manufacturer, has recently entered into a partnership with ABB Robotics for robotically controlled blast systems. Over several years the company, through its US subsidiary, has supplied numerous robotically controlled blast systems for a range of industrial applications such as shot peening turbine blades, landing gear parts and grit blasting oil field valves prior to thermal spraying. It is now looking to bring that capacity to the European market from its UK headquarters.

Jimmy Thomson, robot surface finishing support manager for Guyson said: “Many of our customer’s components are becoming very complex with critical blasted surface finishes that conventional automated blast systems may not always be able to meet, so we intend to satisfy customer expectations with a range of ABB robotically controlled blast cabinets manufactured in our UK factory’.

Guyson is now inviting prospective robotic blast customers to contact them for initial talks and demonstrations of the technology involved in the aerospace, medical, thermal spray and oil and gas
sectors.
Telephone: 01756 799911
Email: jimmy.thomson@guyson.co.uk

Midland Deburr and Finish Ltd
The company specialises in sub-contract component improvement predominately for the automotive industry. They are looking to expand the business by acquiring another engineering based company with annual sales of around £300,000 to 1million per annum with a potential for growth preferably in the Midlands area. Contact Chris Arrowsmith Tel: 01384 891198 or 07831 797465

Loughborough University
Call for participation at the 6th International Symposium of Tin Whiskers
Ford College, Loughborough University, 27-28 November 2012

Organised by The Center for Advanced Life Cycle Engineering (CALCE) at the University of Maryland and the Materials Research Department at Loughborough University.
Tin whiskers present a unique challenge to the electronics industry. There have been numbers of electronics failures in the market caused by tin whiskers since the 1940s. After 2000, as a result of the global transition to lead-free electronics, the majority of manufacturers are now using pure tin or tin-rich alloy coatings for terminal and lead finishes. This increased use has focused concern and research on tin whiskers particular for long life and mission critical applications such as aviation, space and implantable medical devices.
Presentations submitted for this symposium may cover case histories, theories of whisker growth, experiments and results, risk evaluation methods and risk mitigation strategies. Free admission to presenters.

Submission Dates
Abstracts – August 12
Acceptance – September 12
Presentations due November 2
Contact:
Dr Michael Osterman, CALCE Osterman@calce.umd.edu
Dr Geoffrey Wilcox, Loughborough University G.D.Wilcox@lboro.ac.uk

Partwash
The company has announced the appointment of Wayne Freeman as General Sales Manager to head up the future development of Partwash following its recent acquisition by Safetykleen UK Ltd
Further information: www.partwash.com or Tel: 01609 760555

Morgan Technical Ceramics
One of the leading manufacturers of ceramics and coatings has launched a new Diamonex® diamond–like carbon (DLC) coating which extends component life in the aerospace industry and has been approved by Boeing for limited use at overhaul on certain landing gear parts on its 737 NG aircraft.
For more information visit: www.diamonex.com

NEI Corporation (Somerset, New Jersey)
NEI Corporation announced recently that it has completed development of NANOMYTE® PT-20, a chromate–free pretreatment that significantly improves the adhesion and corrosion resistance of painted steel and reduces the level of surface preparation (grit blasting). The environmentally friendly waterborne pretreatment promotes adhesion between metal substrate and over-lying paint layer by acting as a “double-sided bonding agent,” whilst at the same time improving corrosion resistance.
Further information: www.neicorporation.com

IMF News

Arthur Brace
Congratulations to Arthur Brace who has received the award of Doctor of Science (DSc) from Aston
University for his contributions to the science and technology of the production of anodic coatings on aluminium. He is the first person to receive this degree who has not followed an academic career.

Sustaining Members – Name changes

Molecular Technology Ltd now Coventya Ltd
Langford Lodge Engineering now RLC UK Ltd

New members and transfers

Associate (AssocIMF)
Voice, Martin Stannah Stairlifts
Graduate (GradIMF)
Brown, Kevin Praxair Surface Technologies Ltd
Fellow (FIMF)
Evans, Godfrey Swinton Electroplating
Neal, David Rolls Royce plc

Senior members meeting
Wednesday 26 September 2012
Talk by: Dr Tony Hart entitled “Wonderful Words” Please advise David at Exeter House if you intend to be present. Meet your colleagues – 12 noon, buffet lunch 12.30

Examination Results – June 2012

Foundation – Distance Learning
Cotton, Edward # Morgan Technical Ceramics
Donnan, Russell Surface Technology plc
Gilmour, Craig Deutsch UK
Griffiths, Brent MP (Eastern) Ltd
Janczewski, Simon * Royal Mint
Keeble, Daniel * Tech-Ni Plant Ltd
Lewis, James * Twickenham Plating
Merritt, Lee Mettiss Aerospace Ltd
Nickerson, Mark * MP (Eastern) Ltd
O’Neill, Richard * Mettiss Aerospace Ltd
Paterson, Charles # Acorn Surface Technology
Sinclair, Arron Acorn Surface Technology
Skingsley, Ian Tech-Ni Plant Ltd
Tranca, Eugnia * Twickenham Plating
Webster, Shael Interplex PMP Ltd

* Pass with Merit, # Pass with Distinction

Call for Papers

TransFair 13, the UK’s premier conference at the Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon from 11 – 13 June 2013
Transport manufacturing remains at the forefront of economic activity and continues to lead in the development of new materials and composite technologies. Once again the IMF provides an ideal
forum to recognise innovation and advancement across a range of manufacturing applications for aerospace, automotive defence and marine amongst other important sectors.

Materials finishing papers are invited from academic and industrial professionals keen to share best practice, showcase the latest application techniques and promote new finishing solutions. The conference will be supported by an exhibition, allowing major suppliers and end users to connect, ensuring that the right buying decisions are made. Potential presenters are invited to register their interest and submit a fifty-word synopsis, proposed title and contact details of authors. Submissions can be made by email to: exeterhouse@instituteofmetalfinishing.org or in writing to the IMF at: 48 Holloway Head, Birmingham B1 1NQ

**Electroforming**

Potential students are reminded that there is now a unit available for study on Electroforming in the list of units for the Foundation Certificate and that there is now also a module available for study towards a Technician and Advanced Technician Certificate by Distance Learning and Tutored route. Next enrolment date - Friday 7 September 2012

Contact David at Exeter House. karen@materialsfinishing.org

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**Out and About**

**CICS China International Coating Show**
21 – 23 August
China Import & Export Show
Pazhou Complex, Guangzhou, China
Further information: www.gzcics.com

**Profintech**
17 – 21 September,
Bmo Exhibition Centre, Czech Republic
Further information: www.bw.cz/profintech

**Sensing Technology**
25 – 26 September,
NEC, Birmingham
Details: www.sensingtechnology.co.uk

**Engineering Design Show**
10 – 11 October,
Ricoh Arena, Coventry
Details: www.engineeringdesignshow.co.uk

**10th International Trade Fair for Industrial Parts and Surface Cleaning**
23 – 25 October 2012,
Stuttgart Exhibition Centre. (will include the parts2clean expert forum, which has established itself as a valuable source of knowledge and will be held in both German and English.
Information: www.parts2clean.com

**Advanced Engineering UK 2012**
7 – 8 November,
NEC, Birmingham. Including: Aero Engineering; The Composite Engineering Show; Automotive Engineering; UK Plastic Electronic Show.
Details: www.ukautoengineering.com
www.plasticelectronicshow.com

**Surfin Asia Pacific**
4 – 7 December 2012,
Singapore http://www.aseansurfin.org/com2012/
Surface World Show
24 – 26 September 2013 Pavilion, NEC, Birmingham
Details email: nigelbean1@aol.com or visit the website at; www.surfaceworldshow.com