



INVESTMENT CASTING INSTITUTE

Established to promote excellence in the development of technology, product quality and practice of investment casting

Membership Application

Investment Casting Institute

Its Origins, Purpose, & Organization

The Investment Casting Institute was established in 1953, and today is made up of over 200 companies, consisting of Regular Members (investment casters), Affiliate Members (suppliers to the industry) and Associate Members (international casters or supplier members).

The Institute is a nonprofit corporation whose purpose is to promote quality standards, collect and disseminate information about the industry, and provide industry education opportunities to members.

Each year the Institute organizes two major conferences. The spring meeting is generally confined to management topics and state-of-the-industry reports; and the fall meeting consists of a technical conference and exhibition.

The Institute also conducts training courses relating to the technologies of the investment casting process for its members. This includes a Certification Training Program and a Process Control Course.

The Institute monitors pending legislation related to the EPA, OSHA and Labor Laws and is represented on the Government Affairs Committee of the American Foundry Society.

Promoting the application of investment castings is of major focus to the Institute which exhibits at a number of the national design & manufacturing trade shows. Sales leads generated at the shows are circulated to the Regular Membership. This promotional program is supported by publications on the design and applications of investment castings and the Investment Casting Handbook.

The Institute publishes technical papers and DVDs as training tools; it also publishes the monthly magazine INCAST, which keeps members current on industry trends. The Institute also offers a number of benchmarking surveys for participating North American casting members.

The Institute is governed by a board of directors elected by voting delegates (which are appointed by each of the Institute corporate members.) While the majority of the Institute membership comes from North America, membership also includes investment casters and suppliers worldwide. Membership categories are as follows:

Casting (Regular) Members:

Consisting of manufacturers of investment castings. Regular members vote on articles of incorporation and all matters and motions proposed at membership meetings, and for directors who are Regular members.

Supplier (Affiliate) Members:

Consisting of suppliers of equipment, products and services to the industry. Affiliate members vote only in relation to special assessments with Regular members, and for directors who are Affiliate members.

Associate Members (Casting and Supplier):

Consisting of manufacturers of investment castings or suppliers to the industry which are not located in North America which is defined as Canada, the United States of America and the Republic of Mexico. Associate Members do not have a voting designate, and are not eligible to attend Management Meetings.

Meetings/Courses/Seminars

THE FOLLOWING IS OFFERED TO THE ENTIRE INSTITUTE'S MEMBERSHIP:

Fall Technical Conference:

Presents the latest research and development innovations, as well as sessions on problem solving, and labor and cost-savings techniques and practices.

Product/Equipment/Service Expo:

Are a vital part of the annual Technical meeting and offer investment casters the opportunity to see the latest equipment, products and services which will improve their process and ultimately their final product. While this meeting is open to nonmembers, registration for members is offered at a reduced price.

Registration prices at technical conferences are priced higher for nonmembers. Exhibition spaces at Institute-sponsored supplier/equipment/literature expositions are approximately 33% higher for nonmembers.

THE FOLLOWING IS OFFERED ONLY TO THE INSTITUTE'S NORTH AMERICAN MEMBERS:

Spring Management Meeting:

Addresses management concerns of member companies. Topics include the US Economy, the investment casting market, personnel issues, government regulations, health & safety and environmental concerns.

Industry Certification Course:

This training course, restricted to members, have included subjects such as wax injection, shellbuilding, melt and pouring, heat treating and finishing operations. The program includes daily lecture, testing and hands-on lab work assignments.

Process Control for Investment Casting:

Topics include what is PC / why is it important; introduction to SPC Analytical tools and their application in wax, shell & casting operations.

Statistical Programs

The Institute offers a number of benchmarking surveys for participating North American Regular Casting Members. Results of these confidential surveys are available only to participating member companies:

Monthly Statistics:

Dealing with monthly sales, bookings, tooling sales, backlog and sales per employee. The reports are broken down into commercial, aerospace and industrial gas turbine categories in order to further increase the usefulness of the data presented.

Sales and Profits Survey:

Provides comparative industry operating costs and ratios broken down into sales per production worker, and sales per square foot of

plant space, together with trends in sales productivity and financial analyses. The averages derived are believed to be representative of the investment casting industry as a whole.

Industry Compensation Practices:

Includes compensation ranges for upper management, technical staff, middle management, sales and hourly employees. Compensation is expressed as a percentage of sales and formulas are listed for fringe benefit programs to management and hourly employees. Also given is an analysis of weighted average rates to hourly employees and total dollars paid for fringe benefits.

How's Business:

This annual report provides information on industry sales by casting types, wage and salary changes, collection, capacity utilizations, safety and health issues and short and long-term forecasts.

Health and Safety:

Carried out annually, this report enables those companies participating in the survey to evaluate the kinds of lost time injuries occurring in the workplace by type and department. It will allow investment casters to "benchmark" their company performance with other investment casting foundries.

Foundry Polls:

These are brief and informal polling of our foundry members on various industry practices.

THE INSTITUTE CONSTANTLY REVIEWS THESE SURVEY AND REPORTS TO HELP ENSURE THEIR CONTINUING RELEVANCE.

Information/Publications

The Investment Casting Institute publishes a variety of literature, which is outlined in the Institute's web site. These materials include literature booklets and DVDs of on topics of interest to the investment casting industry.

The Institute also publishes the unique Investment Casting Handbook, which is a valuable source of information on the process, casting design, alloy selection and industry standards.

Member companies receive complimentary copies of INCAST magazine, the only monthly magazine specifically focused on the Investment Casting Industry.

CASTING (REGULAR) MEMBER BENEFITS

- Participation with benchmarking surveys & reports (North America Only)
 - **Monthly Statistics**
 - **Sales and Profits Survey**
 - **Industry Compensation Practices**
 - **How's Business**
 - **Health and Safety**
- Attend Events
 - **Fall Technical Conference**
 - **Product/Equipment/Service Expo**
 - **Spring Management Meeting***
 - **Training Courses**
- Reduced event prices
- Free copies of INCAST Magazine
- Publications at reduced prices
- Assist the industry through committee involvement
- Provide input into the direction the Institute takes through voting on matters and motions proposed at membership meetings, and through election of representatives to serve on the board of directors
- A free listing in the Institute web site and membership directory

SUPPLIER (AFFILIATE) MEMBER BENEFITS

- A free listing in the Institute's annual Buyer's Guide
- A free listing in the Institute's web site and membership directory
- Reduced event prices
- Reduced advertising rates
- Reduced exhibit space cost at annual supplier Expo
- Free copies of INCAST Magazine
- Publications at member prices
- Assist the industry through committee involvement
- Attend Events
 - **Fall Technical Conference**
 - **Product/Equipment/Services Expo**
 - **Spring Management Meeting**
 - **Industry Certification Course**

Eligibility to provide input into the direction the Institute takes through voting on **special assessments** with Regular members and for directors who are Affiliate members (North America Only).

INCAST

International News Magazine of the Investment Casting Institute

The Investment Casting Institute, through its publications subsidiary, publishes INCAST, the only international monthly magazine aimed exclusively at the investment casting industry. Each month, INCAST features a different aspect of the investment casting process. The magazine offers information on new technology, research and development, industry trends, announcements on new products, current literature, industry standards, company and personnel news, and case studies featuring problem solving techniques and unique applications of investment castings. Member companies receive a limited number of free subscriptions to INCAST, and nonmembers may subscribe for an annual fee.