

## Governmental Affairs Committee Updates



### AFS Members Advocate for Metalcasting on Capitol Hill During Fly-In

AFS members, metalcasters and suppliers gathered this week in Washington, D.C. from across the country to hear from policymakers and to share the positive contribution of metalcasting and advocate for better policies affecting our industry.

This year, hope for change was in the air and attendance was up 50%. Metalcasters met with lawmakers and their staff in more than 100 congressional offices, and the feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive.

Senate and House offices heard from AFS members how metalcasting is critical to our quality of life, national defense, and infrastructure.

Meetings focused on issues affecting foundries and our suppliers, including: comprehensive tax reform, fair trade policies, commonsense regulatory reform and sustained infrastructure spending. They also underscored how OSHA's new one-size fits-all crystalline silica rule, which will be enforced beginning June 2018, will have a devastating impact on the foundry industry.

Attendees heard from an impressive array of policy experts on the front lines of national policy formation in Washington, D.C.

Stephen Hayes, FOX News contributor and Editor-in-Chief, The Weekly Standard, gave a compelling and insightful keynote speech delving into the mysteries of Washington's inner political workings.

AFS leadership showed strong support for the Fly-In. Along with Government Affairs Chair Brad Muller of Charlotte Pipe, all four AFS officers participated—Patricio Gill, Blackhawk de Mexico; Jean Bye, Dotson Iron Castings; Peter Reich, Laempe Reich; and Jeff Cook, Eagle Alloy, along with the association's 2015-2016 president, Bruce Dienst, Simpson Technologies.

Thanks to these, and all the other attendees, the metalcasting message was delivered clearly. The Casting Industry Suppliers Association (CISA) joined the event this year.

At the reception Tuesday evening, Senator Jim Inhofe (R-Oklahoma) and Congressman Robert Aderholt (R-Alabama) were presented with the 2017 Metalcasting Industry Eagle Award during a reception on Capitol Hill. The award is given to elected officials who have shown outstanding leadership on behalf of the metalcasting industry. Both lawmakers have been leaders on robust infrastructure investment, lower taxes, eliminating unnecessary regulatory burdens and the importance of educating the next generation of skilled workers.

Pictured above, left to right, outside the office of Senator Ted Cruz are: Clifford Smith, Texas Cast Metals Association; Bryon Barber, Canfield & Joseph; Harry Seibel, REFCOTEC; Patricio Gil, Blackhawk de Mexico and president of AFS; Owen Daniel, Midland Manufacturing; Craig Schmeisser, Fairmount Santrol; and Doug Kurkul, AFS CEO.