

# AMPP Annual Insights 2023





## Who we are

AMPP, the Association for Materials Protection and Performance, is a global community of professionals dedicated to materials protection through the advancement of corrosion control and protective coatings

## Our mission

Advancing materials performance to protect society, assets, and the environment

## Our vision

A world built and protected with safe, reliable, sustainable materials.





## Shaping AMPP's Future

As we reflect on the notable achievements highlighted in the AMPP Annual Insights 2023 Report, I feel a tremendous sense of excitement and pride for what our association has accomplished. The milestones and successes featured showcase the dedication and vision of our members, volunteers, and staff. These accomplishments celebrate our past achievements and fuel our enthusiasm for what lies ahead.

While our journey since the merger has witnessed the consolidation of our global memberships, we are far from one organization. We must unite as **One AMPP**, with a shared vision, an integrated strategy, a consistent brand, and a cohesive organization. Looking outwards, we must understand what will make AMPP an indispensable partner in the industry ecosystems and geographies central to our mission and **align** everything we do to achieve this goal. Our success depends on being laser-focused on delivering **value** as defined by our members and customers, building the **agility** to respond to their needs in a rapidly changing world, and harnessing **scale** to win in our chosen markets.

The strategic direction we are charting demands a relentless commitment from everyone invested in AMPP. This involves refining our existing offerings and innovating and creating new value structures that position us uniquely within the industry. With this pledge, we aspire to set a new standard for excellence in materials protection and performance.

Although the path ahead may pose challenges, and the actualization of our vision might extend across generations, I have full confidence in the unwavering dedication and capabilities of the AMPP and AMPP Global Center Board of Directors, member committees, and staff.

Volunteers and members worldwide are working collaboratively to position AMPP as a global leader in materials protection and performance, aligning with our mission and vision for “a world built and protected with safe, reliable, and sustainable materials.”

Peter Drucker said, “The best way to predict the future is to create it.” Together, with purposeful perseverance, we will continue to shape a future that aligns with our vision, ensuring the enduring success of our organization.

**Alan Thomas**  
AMPP Chief Executive Officer



**VALUE, AGILITY & SCALE**



# Meet the AMPP and AMPP Global Center Boards of Directors

## AMPP Board of Directors



**Front Row (left to right):** Paul Vinik, Amir Eliezer, Sam Scaturro

**Middle Row:** Khalil Abed, Helena Seelinger, Alan Thomas, Juan Caballero, Mitra Shahbaz, Michelle Lau

**Back Row:** Paul Vince, Steven R. Meyers, Doni Riddle, Garry Manous, Ross Boyd, Tom Weber, Guillermo Loayza



## AMPP Global Center Board of Directors

**Front Row (left to right):** Juan Caballero, Kristin Leonard, Cris Conner, Cynthia O'Malley, Alan Thomas, Paul Vinik, Mitra Shahbaz

**Back Row:** Arcino Quiero, Laura Cardenas-Shulz, Roy Fultineer, Steve Biagiotti, Michael O'Brien, Greg Redick, Mike Beamish, Tom Higginbotham, Aaron Williams, Steve Cogswell (Not pictured: Eric Onya)



# Engaging the Global Workforce

## Global Access and Engagement

In 2023, our Boards of Directors and staff leaders were heavily invested in listening to our international customers and volunteers, and redefining what member value looks like for them. Our teams took the time for individual outreach to our global stakeholders, conducting research and meeting one-on-one at every opportunity to learn how AMPP can be a better global partner as we move our mission forward. AMPP CEO Alan Thomas, along with multiple board officers were able to attend chapter events and technical meetings across the globe, including but not limited to Belgium, Saudi Arabia, India, Bahrain, Singapore, Mexico, Oman, Australia, Qatar and Chile to ensure we continue to provide the highest quality resources and programming at a local level.

AMPP is committed to improving the ease at which our global customers can engage with us and connect to larger networks of materials protection professionals. Last year, AMPP launched a Global Sister Society event which brings all of AMPP's partners and sister societies from across the globe to connect on challenges facing our world. Most recently, we entered a new strategic alliance with the Australasian Corrosion Association, Inc. (ACA) to collaborate on new value-adding opportunities to build corrosion awareness globally. We continue to invest in new ways of developing on-demand web series, international events, and training courses. Those initiatives, coupled with the investment of translating more of our products, programs and services into multiple languages, are broadening our reach and impact to make the world a safer place.



AMPP CEO Alan Thomas alongside AMPP Board Director Khalil Abed, AMPP Global Operations Senior Manager Gasem Fallatah, and AMPP Oman Chapter and AMPP Kuwait Chapter leaders



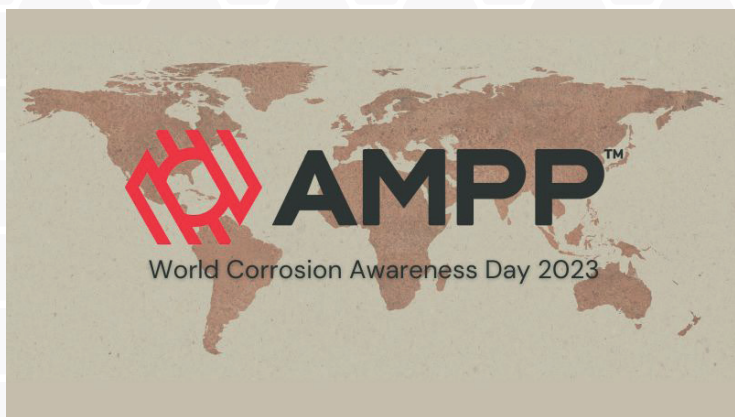
AMPP COO Cynthia O'Malley with AMPP Global Center Board Chair Kristin Leonard, AMPP Senior Manager Global Operations Romer Gil with members of the Mexico Chapter



AMPP C12 Students in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam



AMPP CIP Level 1 Students Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



## The Impact of Corrosion Control on World Corrosion Awareness Day

In honor of World Corrosion Awareness Day on April 24th, AMPP celebrated the dedicated professionals in corrosion prevention and control who play a vital role in safeguarding critical industrial assets.

To remind the world that 'rust never sleeps,' the day is meant to recognize the impact corrosion prevention and control professionals make, and

to promote sustainable management practices for critical industrial assets like energy infrastructure, transportation, water/wastewater and waterways, the shipping industry, defense assets, and more.

AMPP embarked on an initiative to highlight the persistent challenge of corrosion in our daily lives by encouraging individuals to share their own encounters with corrosion on social media using





#CorrosionInEverydayLife and #AMPPWCAD. The response was remarkable, with people eagerly sharing photos showcasing instances of corrosion in their surroundings. This collective effort not only raised awareness but also propelled the campaign to trend on various platforms. It was also a great day to highlight the work done by AMPP's EMERG Student Outreach Program, which held a student camp at our Annual Conference in Denver for 30 high school students from KIPP: Colorado Northeast Denver Leadership Academy.

"Annually on World Corrosion Awareness Day, AMPP members and chapters from around the world host activities like seminars, conferences, webinars, contests and student events to educate government officials, the industry and the public about corrosion and corrosion control," said Amir Eliezer, chair of the AMPP Board of Directors. "This day is meant to encourage the adoption of corrosion prevention strategies to reduce the economic and social costs associated with corrosion."



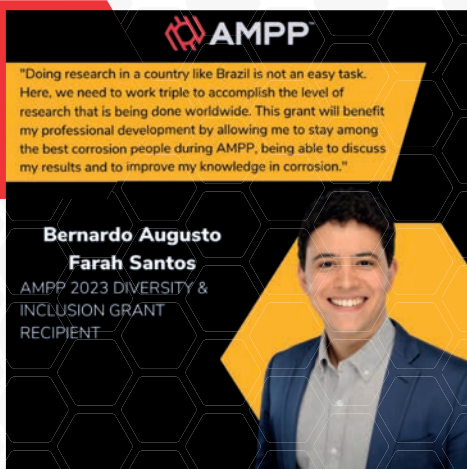


## AMPP Celebrates Workforce Diversity

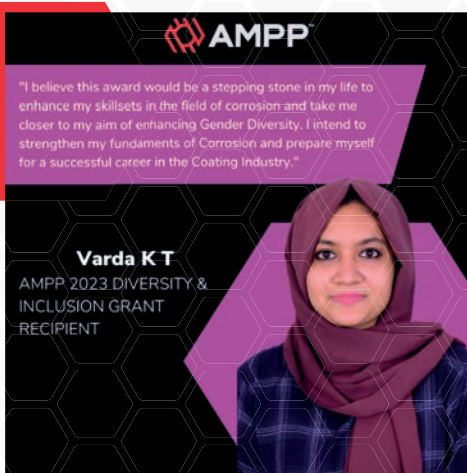
As we enter the third year of offering the AMPP Diversity and Inclusion Grant, we remain as committed as ever to helping historically excluded and intentionally marginalized people worldwide to achieve professional success in the corrosion and coatings industry. Each year, a handful of recipients are awarded funds to help them pursue their goals and further their professional development. To date, a total of \$77,500 has been awarded across the globe.



In 2023, Adriana was able to present her work on thermal spray aluminum coating at both the AMPP Annual Conference + Expo 2023 as well as EUROCORR 2023. As a result of the insight and networking made at these conferences, she is now in France conducting a research placement at the University of La Rochelle with renowned researchers.



Bernardo was also able to present his work at the AMPP Annual Conference + Expo 2023 as well as EUROCORR 2023 as a direct result of the grant. He is encouraging new generations to get involved with the organization and is currently working as Senior Development Engineer with Seram Coatings in Norway.



Varda was able to further her professional development this year with a mixture of training courses, and as of November 2023 was offered the Research Executive position in protective coatings at Asian Paints, India.



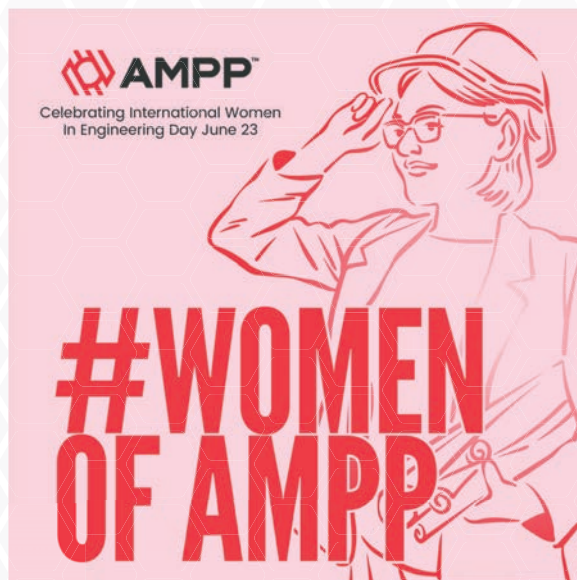
## Celebrating #WomenOfAMPP

In honor of International Women in Engineering Day (IN-WED) on June 23rd, we celebrated #WomenOfAMPP to recognize and raise awareness of their achievements and promote gender diversity in the field.

“The day aims to inspire more women to pursue careers in engineering, highlight the contributions of women engineers, and address the gender imbalance in the industry,” said Kristin Leonard, vice chair of the AMPP Global Center Board of Directors. “It makes sense for AMPP to support activities like these because of its own “Women of AMPP” initiative that supports and empowers women – many of whom are engineers in the coatings and corrosion industries.”

INWED was initially founded in 2014 by the Women’s Engineering Society. Since then, it has achieved global recognition and engagement, as organizations, educational institutions, and engineering communities worldwide have come together to arrange events and activities commemorating this significant occasion.

AMPP heard from eight women in engineering from around the world on their inspiration, experiences and advice for young women looking to pursue a similar path. Hear from a few of them below:



### Laura Cardenas | Lead Materials Engineer, P.Eng. (AB, BC) at WSP in Canada

**What (or who) inspired you to pursue a career in engineering?** To be honest, I didn’t choose a career in engineering – I think it chose me. I grew up surrounded by STEM professionals and I always embraced the idea that an engineer is “who I am”. Seeing both women and men in my family have successful careers in engineering made it accessible to me. There was a sense of familiarity. One of the biggest reasons women don’t choose engineering is that they simply don’t know what engineering is, what engineers do and how it can benefit them.

**What has been the most rewarding part of your career so far?** Engineering is more than just math and chemistry, there is such a breadth of opportunities. In my career I am able to apply my curiosity, creativity and love for learning, all while having a hand in shaping the world around me, solving important problems, helping others and contributing to society in a meaningful way.

**What advice would you give to young women considering a career in engineering?** Believe, with confidence, that you have the skills and knowledge to do engineering work.

**How has your involvement with AMPP influenced your professional journey in engineering?** My involvement with AMPP has given me a sense of belonging. I feel like I belong in the community of engineers and corrosion professionals. It allowed me to connect with my peers and other women in the sector and build meaningful professional and personal relationships that are mutually supportive and filled with encouragement.



### **Neda Norooziasl | Ph.D. Candidate at Ohio University**

**What (or who) inspired you to pursue a career in engineering?** I have always enjoyed exploring the underlying principles of science and understanding how things work, and I was excited to use that knowledge to solve new challenges in the world. Engineering has given me the opportunity to satisfy my curiosity while making a positive impact in the world.

**What has been the most rewarding part of your career so far?** The sense of fulfillment when I solve a complex problem or create something new. I have utilized my problem-solving skills, which I developed as

an engineer, throughout my Ph.D. studies to overcome numerous technical and intellectual obstacles so far.

**What advice would you give to young women considering a career in engineering?** I would say, first and foremost, believe in your ideas, skills, and abilities. Focus on developing new skills, as human knowledge is expanding rapidly nowadays, and continuous learning is the key to keeping your skills up to date. Additionally, seek out role models and mentors. Personally, I have greatly benefited from the guidance and mentorship of a highly accomplished female professional. She inspired and motivated me by providing support and advice throughout my engineering journey.

**How has your involvement with AMPP influenced your professional journey in engineering?** I had the opportunity to meet many successful professionals, including my mentor, during AMPP conferences. Additionally, I was privileged to build a strong network with experts and seniors in the corrosion field by serving as a student chapter leader and participating in the AMPP MLDP.





The 2023  
**AMPP** CENTRAL  
 CHAPTER FLORIDA  
 Scholarship Recipients

PRITHA SARKAR, UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

WESLEY BEZERRA, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA



## EMERG Scholarship Recipients

AMPP continues to be committed to furthering the development of young professionals across the industry with a variety of student and leadership programs. The EMERG academic scholarship program provides a vast array of opportunities funded by AMPP, AMPP Chapters, and many other generous industry organizations. Each scholarship is designed to assist candidates on their academic growth in the corrosion and protective coatings industry.

"Receiving scholarships from AMPP not only allowed me explore science outside of academia by presenting my research but allowed me to grow professionally through networking with AMPP members, industrial companies, and other young professionals. I have had the pleasure of continuing to grow by sharing my experiences and knowledge through the EMERG programs to help cultivate the future minds of our industry and make connections with companies at Coatings+ conferences that have propelled me in my career which wouldn't have been possible without AMPP's support."

- Jessica Davison, PhD 2018, 2019, and 2020  
 Scholarship Recipient



"AMPP scholarships provided me networking exposure and opportunities to get involved and maintain a deep connection with AMPP through the start of my career. These early experiences paved the way for my AMPP certification and continued membership. I have gone from receiving scholarships, to co-chairing our college student section, to co-chairing and now chairing an entire AMPP program committee."

- Nicholas D'Angelo, Jr. EIT, EMERG Program Committee Chair  
 and, 2015, 2016 & 2017 Scholarship Recipient



# Advancing the Industry with Technical Expertise



The AMPP Technical Program Committee (TPC) had a productive 2023 with over 3,000 total members and 11 interactive Technical Committees (TCs). They successfully rolled out and supported over 30 Technical Communities of Interest (TCIs), which allow for targeted dialogue across a multitude of subject matter experts and organizations, available to customers both online as well as in-person.

Subject matters ranged from traditional AMPP topics like pipelines and coatings, to cut-

ting-edge focuses like carbon capture, additive manufacturing, and hydrogen. Output from these groups was transformed into over-the-horizon recommendations for the AMPP Boards of Directors and business units within the organization.

TPC together with the Research Program Committee (RPC) also collaborated on a task force created by the AMPP Boards of Directors to develop a roadmap to help pave the way for AMPP's future and ensuring organizational relevance for the decades ahead.

## A New, Virtual, Technical Series from AMPP!

This year, the Association for Materials Protection and Performance (AMPP) was proud to launch the new Forefront Innovation Series as a web-based platform for technical lectures and discussions. Filled with the latest insights and technical developments, Forefront brings together subject matter experts from a wide variety of industries and professional backgrounds to discuss hot-button materials protection and performance related technical topics. Utilizing best practices, case studies, and lessons learned, these engaging sessions shed light on challenges faced by different industry sectors by providing a platform to a host of professionals.

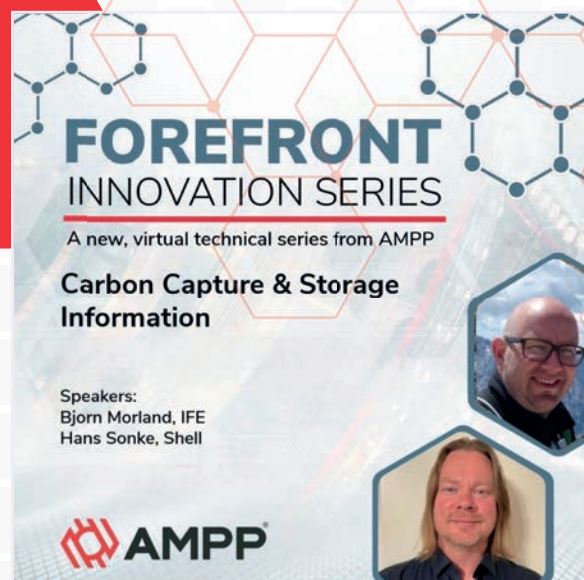
In 2023, Forefront produced over a dozen offerings including the first ever People's Choice topic. We listened to what our members, volunteers and customers wanted to focus on and prioritize, and after identifying two incredible leading experts this led to the September series on Carbon Capture & Storage being the highest attended technical series of the year. We were also able to host our first-ever Spanish speaking presentation this year, as part of an ongoing effort to provide even more translated resources to our global audience.





Here's why you should attend:

- Gain insights to new & emerging technologies
- Participate in open discussions about future innovations and theories
- Engage with subject matter experts to get your questions answered
- Network with peers & discuss hot-button materials protection and performance related technical topics
- Earn up to 6 Professional Development Hours per series



*"I thought it was perfect! I liked the change-up in speakers and their various areas of expertise. I thought it was broken up into bite-sized sessions with appropriate breaks; the information was not too technical for novice estimators or project managers, and yet gave enough of the technical side to be engaging"* – Jann M.

*"The course was very beneficial to me; I absorbed a lot of information, and it wasn't boring like others courses I've attended. I liked the fact that there were also experienced industrial painters speaking from a tradesman standpoint that I could relate to. Overall great course."* – Alex G.

Be sure to check the **Forefront Innovation Series** calendar as it continues to grow with new topics, new on-demand offerings and new subject matter experts at [www.ampp.org/events/forefront-innovation-series](http://www.ampp.org/events/forefront-innovation-series)

## Take Advantage of Our Digital Media

AMPP offers various print and digital publications focused on corrosion control, protective coatings, corrosion mitigation, and coatings performance. Our publications feature insights from global experts, including the latest research, best practices, and case studies, to keep industry professionals up-to-date with the latest corrosion prevention, mitigation, and performance technologies.

Our podcasts and webcasts tackle timely topics to help you stay better informed of the latest industry developments in an engaging and interactive way. Our goal



with podcasts is to inform listeners of pertinent industry information and trends through an engaging and conversational format, and we've recently expanded each episode's potential reach by uploading to both our traditional audio RSS feed and YouTube. Total episode listens this year across AMPP combined podcasts saw an increase of 25% over 2022, with individual episodes averaging approximately 175 listeners.



In 2023, we saw more than 9,460 attendees across 26 total webcasts, with a 92% satisfaction rate and frequent requests to add even more offerings each month. Over 40% of all registrants were located outside of the U.S., showcasing just why AMPP is so committed to making our technical content and resources more accessible around the globe.

**The top 3 webcast topics in 2023 were:**

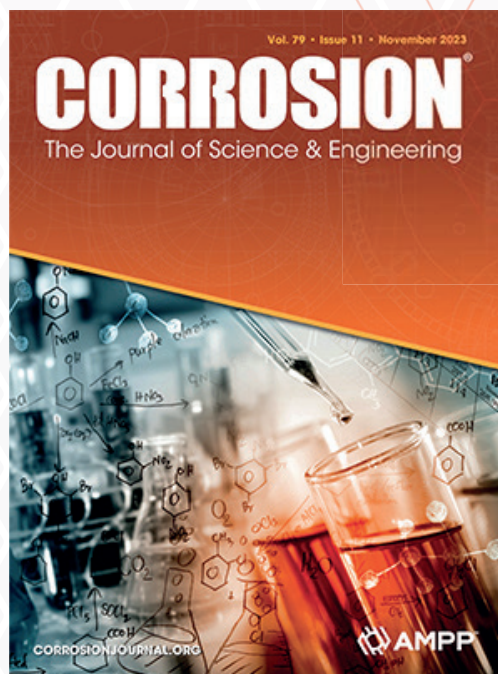
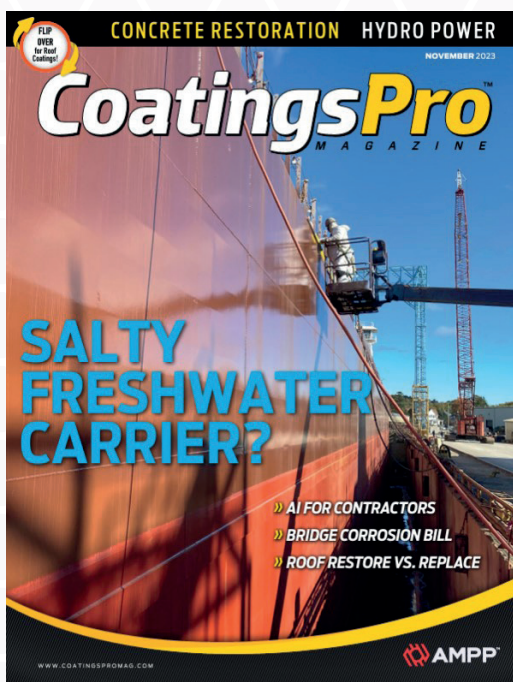
1. Potential Theory Applied to Cathodic Protection
2. Understanding Corrosion in Water and Wastewater Environments
3. Author Interview Series: Lessons Learned from Oil Field Failures

AMPP Publications also launched a sustainability content initiative in 2023 which features:

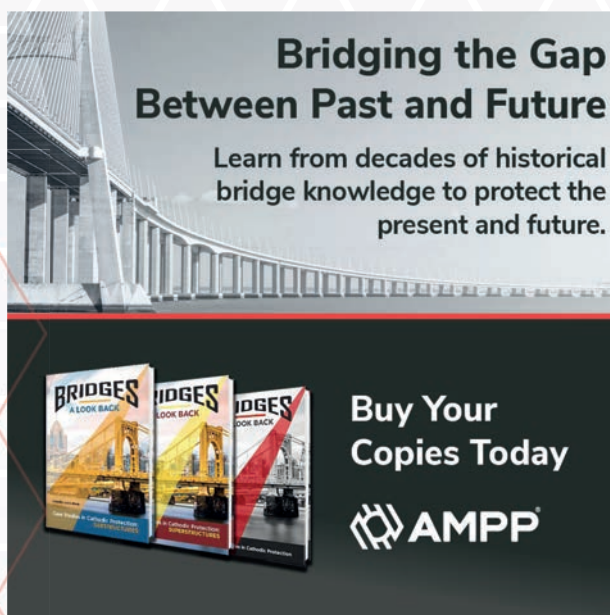
- A new monthly department added to Materials Performance, "Sustainability Corner," featuring articles that highlight the ways in which corrosion control is a sustainability effort.
- New sustainability articles added to CoatingsPro Magazine
- Perspective on sustainability of metallic materials published in CORROSION journal.
- Two sustainability-focused podcasts posted in Materials Performance and CoatingsPro Magazine, with more planned in 2024.
- Sustainability related articles on the Materials Performance and CoatingsPro Magazine websites have been tagged, so readers can easily access sustainability content.







Visit **AMPP.org** today to learn more about our publications and other digital resources.



## AMPP Standards Drive Our Industry

AMPP Standards help drive and raise the level of industry by setting thresholds, establishing procedures, and driving consistency and improvements. Our standards program helps fill the standardization needs of industries, with a focus on the impact of emerging technologies, new materials and capabilities, and regulatory requirements. This allows for consistency of action with regards to material



selection, surface preparation, coatings application, coatings inspection, and cathodic protection systems.

Our volunteer-led Standards Committees (SCs) make up the core of what drives our success, with over 350 new committee members joining in 2023 alone. AMPP now boasts more than 1,800 people across all of our SCs, hailing from 56 countries and representing more than 900 organizations. The dedication of these subject matter experts has resulted in 19 new standards published this year, with topics ranging from ship hull preservation, CO<sub>2</sub> transport and injection, and environmental corrosion risk in aerospace applications to name a few.

In 2023, AMPP was also proud to launch a new standards committee; SC 26: Carbon Capture, Alternative Fuels, and Energy Storage. This group develops and maintains standards, guides, and reports related to materials protection and performance in carbon capture, utilization and storage, as well as alternative fuel and energy storage technologies. This includes hydrogen, biofuels, non-fossil and low-carbon fuels, thermal and chemical energy storage, and more. The committee formally kicked off in October and is already at 185 members and growing.

The SCs have also launched 21 new standards projects in 2023 in emerging technologies and growth areas for AMPP, including but not limited to laser ablation, atmospheric plasma cleaning, passive fire protection, and hydrogen transport. In collaboration with the Japan chapter, AMPP created a Standards Working Group to produce Japanese translations of existing standards. The group is starting with three standards related to coatings inspection and will serve as a model for member-led translation working groups in other regions.

**Contribute, Learn,  
and Influence Global  
Industry  
Standards**

Join a  
Standards  
Committee

**AMPP™**





## We Have the Content You're Looking For

AMPP is dedicated to bringing the technical expertise of our volunteers and members to the front of the coatings and corrosion community by providing a platform for industry experts to share, learn and connect with one another. We're here to safeguard assets through education, credentialing, accreditation, innovation, and standardization. All of that knowledge is meant to serve the broader industry and contribute to making the world a safer, more reliable and sustainable place.

A huge effort the organization is undertaking has been the development of a brand-new digital library, comprised of several components that will ultimately create a user facing platform that will allow users to find the content they need. Our dedicated volunteer subject matter experts together with passionate staff teams across our product lines have been hard at work building this content library from the ground up. This includes a full digitization of all technical papers from past conferences, published articles, whitepapers, magazines, standards, and so much more. To date, over 19,000 papers have been converted to the new system, along with 734 legacy magazines, and more than 620 standards.

In order to provide the best user experience when the system is launched, we are continuing to work on an extensive taxonomy index to make it seamless for customers to find exactly what they're looking for, whether it be materials related to concrete, pipelines, renewable energies, or even looking up a specific author. We continue to finetune the user facing components as we build in workflows to ensure all the latest technical information is uploaded, and intellectual property and copyright policies are in place. Stay tuned as this effort accelerates in 2024.

### AMPP CHAPTER KUWAIT #KuwaitCorr2023

#### KEY TOPICS COVERED:

- Integrity Management Systems
- Corrosion Monitoring and Prediction Systems
- Asset Management Through Digital Transformation
- Smart Drones and Robots for Inspection Purposes
- Pipeline Direct Assessment
- Advancement in Chemical Treatment Technologies
- Advancement in the Use and Application of Non-Metallic Materials CT Assessment
- Case Studies & Lessons Learned



## Introduction of the Updated Decision Tree Tool

The Master Painters Institute (MPI) has been hard at work this year making several upgrades to the user experience not only online, but with industry partners as well, MPI has been working closely with the Asociación Nacional de Fabricantes de Pinturas y Tintas (ANAFAPYT) to introduce products into Mexico and Latin America, as well as



MPI Team with Alan Thomas, AMPP CEO



Karl, John, Valerie and Terrance from MPI



signing an NDA with the Paint Research Association (PRA) out of an interest in having products MPI performance tested and approved in Europe. These partnerships will ensure alignment with regional standards with the ultimate goal of establishing a much broader footprint for MPI globally.

MPI.net debuted a fresh new look and design based on ease of use and navigation to the information our customers need, while consolidating all previous MPI websites into one, efficient homepage. They were also proud to announce a new and updated Decision Tree Tool. The unique MPI Architectural Painting Decision Tree™ and the MPI Restoration Repainting Decision Tree™ are two tools that a specifier can use to go through the steps to create tailored paint specifications for projects. These steps will lead them to suitable system choices, as well as the required products for those systems from the MPI Approved Products List. Another new addition to the website will be an industry blog, which is designed to provide the commercial and architectural painting industry with a content forum where they can ask questions and interact with other industry experts.

### The newest and easiest way to ensure you excel in your projects

With MPI's NEW Essentials Training Modules, you have the flexibility to go at your own pace and choose the areas most relevant to your profession. Whether you're starting your career or looking to strengthen your skills, these modules are the go-to resource for learning the essentials of commercial and architectural paints. Understanding these fundamentals improves your work quality, reduces avoidable problems, and provides PDHs to propel your professional growth. Learning paint essentials has never been easier!

Learning coatings essentials has never been easier.

### NEW! Essentials Training Modules



Choose Your Expertise

The Essentials course is also being translated into Spanish in collaboration with ANAFA-PYT to provide accessible training to their members in an effort to increase the level of quality and paint performance in Mexico and the Latin American region.

The MPI Standards Community continues to make progress on proposed updates to the 500 series set of MPI Performance standards; specifically the Group 10 Community of Interest. The group is working closely with the Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAFVAC) and United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to focus the efforts, as well as getting insight, feedback and suggestions from manufacturers.





## About MPI

Master Painters Institute (MPI) aims to raise the performance of paints and coatings produced by manufacturers and applied by painters and contractors by holding them accountable to higher industry standards mandated by asset owners, architects, and specifiers in the architectural, commercial, and industrial coatings industries.

MPI also works to reduce the architects, specifiers, and asset owner's risk, assure the public of the skill, reputation, and probity of the paint applicator (master of craft), while ultimately yielding a better product for the owner.

MPI is the only independent third-party organization that sets performance standards for commercially available paints and coatings that has been adopted by the US and Canadian governments. Additionally, MPI provides education on the quality and application of paint and has developed a decision-tree software that aligns the selection of coatings to the intended building substrate and service environment.

## Moving the Industry Forward

### Hands-on, Flexible Training You Control

In 2023, AMPP launched the new Industrial Coating Application Training Program (ICA). This program is a flexible and comprehensive solution for training industrial sprayers and abrasive blasters, designed to attract and train those new to the workforce or provide needed training to experienced individuals seeking to gain industry-recognized credentials. The ICA Training Program is expertly designed to be



adaptable, ensuring a training experience that suits participants' needs. Through engaging formats, including hands-on workshops and instructional videos, attendees gain practical skills and knowledge in a dynamic learning environment.



“The program is designed for success,” says Sara Badami, Manager of Education Operations. “We created this program with two specific audiences in mind after closely listening to our customers’ needs. Contractors can align training with project timelines, meet AMPP Qualification Procedure (QP) training needs, and prepare employees for relevant certifications like C7, C12 and CAS. Training providers can establish a partnership with AMPP, set pricing, and play a pivotal role in helping recruit and train those new to the industry.”

#### **AMPP Launches 2024 Dr. A. John Sedriks Seed Grant Award**

The AMPP Research Program Committee (RPC) is proud to have reconstituted a popular legacy grant program, now entitled the Dr. A. John Sedriks Seed Grant to run from January through December of 2024. This grant, valued at \$35,000, aims to support the development of innovative research programs in materials protection and performance, encompassing corrosion, coatings, degradation, and materials science. Since named in honor of the late Dr. A. John Sedriks, a distinguished corrosion researcher and pioneer in corrosion control by metallurgical modifications, this grant pays tribute to his significant contributions to the field. Dr. Sedriks’ influential work at LaQue Corrosion Technologies and the Office of Naval Research (ONR) left an enduring mark on corrosion research.

#### **New Memorandum of Understanding with the American Water Works Association**

Recognizing the importance of protecting assets from corrosion in water and wastewater systems, AMPP and the American Water Works Association (AWWA) announced an agreement in August 2023 to collaborate to benefit their members and the wider public. The cooperative agreement will “help to promulgate knowledge and technologies that protect





people, assets and the environment from the effects of corrosion.” It opens the door for cooperation on events and webinars, technical information exchange and research, and the possibility of collaboration in countries outside of the United States and Canada, particularly India.

“Every good water utility manager understands that protecting pipes and other assets is critical to maintaining strong, healthy water systems,” said AWWA CEO David LaFrance. “AWWA looks forward to tapping into the experience and expertise of AMPP through this new collaboration.”

AMPP Board Chair Amir Eliezer continued, “On behalf of AMPP’s global members and leadership, I extend our appreciation as we embark on this mutually beneficial relationship with AWWA. Expanding our international reach allows us to share corrosion-related knowledge and cutting-edge technologies with regions facing distinct challenges and needs with water systems, so establishing partnerships like this fosters progress and ensures success in the industry.”



## Chapter Achievements

### A Year of Global Dialogue: Paving the Way for AMPP's 2024 Vision

This past year at AMPP, our motto could very well have been “Listen, Learn, and Lead.” As Board Mem-

bers and staff connected with over 70 chapters around the globe, it was the voices of our members that steered the conversation. Their invaluable feedback shed light on what’s working and crucially, what we can improve upon to make it easier for our members to conduct business, and for Chapter Officers to operate more efficiently.

In a movement of collective growth, the Eastern, Central, and East Asia Pacific Areas didn’t just host conferences; they hosted conversations that mattered. These events became more than just networking opportunities—they were the catalyst for ideas that affect each region’s unique landscape.

The attendance records speak for themselves, with a significant turnout and many new faces joining the ranks. It’s clear that our community is expanding, with fresh perspectives that promise to enrich our collective knowledge base.

A highlight of the Eastern Area Conference was when AMPP Board Chair Amir Eliezer took the stage; not just to speak, but to engage in a meaningful roundtable discussion with members. His keynote address resonated with a shared vision for the future.

Meanwhile, the Four Corners Chapter's hosting of the Central Area Conference marked a milestone with the inaugural AMPP Area Taskforce Meeting—a testament to our commitment to listening and adapting.



## Expansion of Student Chapters

In an impressive stride towards global engagement, this year marked the addition of 20 new AMPP Student Chapters, with 13 established outside of the US. This expansion signifies not just growth, but a strategic cultivation of a globally diverse, member-centric community. These chapters serve as a testament to AMPP's commitment to removing geographical and cultural barriers in our sector, providing a platform for emerging professionals worldwide to connect, learn, and contribute to the field of materials protection and performance. As these chapters evolve, they promise to bolster our network, enrich the industry with fresh perspectives, and sustain our legacy of building members across the globe.

### AMPP Pakistan Chapter Exhibition

The AMPP Pakistan Chapter collaborated with the Institute of Metallurgy and Materials Engineering (IMME) and the University of the Punjab to organize a Corrosion Engineering Open Ended Lab (OEL) Exhibition. Students in their 6th semester were assigned a specific topic to develop and conceptualize an experiment, formulate a procedure, fabricate the equipment and conduct experiments, and conclude with a final presentation of their experiment.







### AMPP Malaysia Chapter Hosts the First Painters Competition

Organized by the AMPP Malaysia Chapter, the inaugural Malaysia Painters Competition 2023 was held in Teluk Kalong, Terengganu, Malaysia this past August. The event featured networking, opportunities to learn from peers on painting skills, and sourcing for products, services, and the latest in cutting-edge technologies. The event successfully showcased Malaysian surface preparation and industrial painting craftworkers, resulting in a crowd of nearly 100 people to witness some of Malaysia's finest industrial painters showcasing their skills.



The AMPP Malaysia Chapter also hosted the two-day Corrosion Camp 2023 for students at the Engineering Campus of Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). They were able to participate in seminars and various activities conducted by industry experts on topics such as corrosion monitoring and mitigation, welding, failure analysis, asset management and more.



### Did You Know?



The AMPP Kuwait Chapter Annual Corrosion Conference #KuwaitCorr2023 is celebrating its 6th year of bringing industry professionals together to make an impact in the fight against corrosion in the Middle East and globally.







### IMCORRS Seminar with the AMPP Mexico Chapter

The AMPP Mexico Chapter hosted the third edition of the Integrity Management and Corrosion Seminar (IMCORRS) in Villahermosa, Mexico this past October. More than 300 participants were able to attend this crucial initiative, as international experts and researchers presented technical seminars on corrosion mechanism, cathodic protection, chemical treatment, and much more.

With more than 90 chapters worldwide, AMPP offers one of the largest communities of professionals dedicated to materials protection with whom to network.

Visit **AMPP.org** to find your local chapter today!

## AMPP Advocates for You

Corrosion threatens our environment and public safety, sometimes with catastrophic results. Whether in the form of a bridge collapse, a pipeline failure, or even a dead car battery; corrosion harms people, assets, and the environment at a cost of more than \$500 billion a year. Fortunately, when properly addressed, the harmful effects of corrosion can be mitigated, and costs can be reduced by as much as thirty percent.

The Association for Materials Protection and Performance (AMPP) advances the corrosion prevention and coatings industry through member and workforce education, technological innovation, and global standardization to protect people, assets, and the environment. We advance this mission by working with policymakers throughout the world to emphasize the importance of corrosion planning and training.





This year marked another successful **AMPP Legislative Day** in Washington, D.C., June 20-21 where our staff, volunteers and registered attendees took part in 70 meetings on Capitol Hill. This vital annual event allows us to get in front of lawmakers and regulators to inform them of the importance of corrosion control. In addition to supporting the Department of Defense Office of Corrosion Policy & Oversight (CPO), we are dedicated to developing best practices and standards that prevent corrosion of important water and wastewater assets as well as renewable energy assets.

This year, we joined with more than 500 trade associations, professional societies, businesses, and employers to form the **Tomorrow's Workforce Coalition**, established to build support for the Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act (S. 722 / H.R. 1477).

The bipartisan, bicameral Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act would expand qualified expenses under 529 savings plans to include postsecondary training and credentialing, such as licenses and professional certifications. The bill would provide valuable tax-advantaged resources for families, students, and workers—with or without a college degree—who pursue career growth, mid-career changes or pathways that diverge from a typical academic route.



*"The Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act aims to establish a solid and fair job market focusing on workforce training, encouraging company investments in skill development, and fostering job creation and economic growth," said AMPP CEO Alan Thomas. "Supporting the materials protection and performance workforce is an AMPP advocacy priority. This includes supporting legislation that expands access to training and education, ultimately bolstering the careers of professionals in our industries."*

Training and credentialing organizations help expand industry excellence, establish, and strengthen professional pathways, increase workers' earning power, foster marketplace competition and supply consumers with the best products, services, and expertise. All values and goals that AMPP aims to achieve with our world class programs and advocacy efforts, together with our members and volunteer leaders.

The bill is led by Representatives Rob Wittman (R-Va.) and Abigail Spanberger (D-Va.) in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senators Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) and Mike Braun (R-Ind.) in the U.S. Senate. A full member roster can be found at [powerofassociations.org](https://powerofassociations.org).





## AMPP Applauds Bipartisan Congressional Support of the Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act of 2023

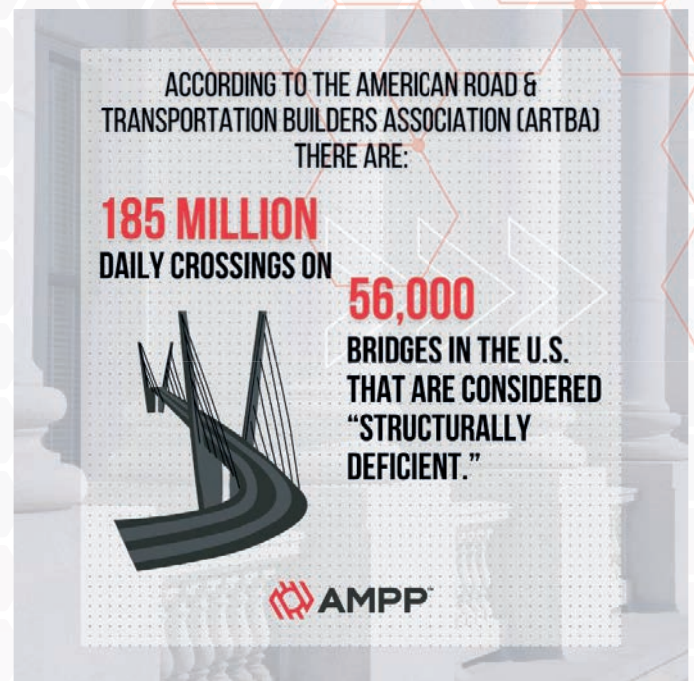
This year, AMPP welcomed the recent introduction of the bipartisan supported H.R. 4064/S. 1932, Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act of 2023. The legislation requires corrosion planning and the use of qualified and trained professionals on all bridge construction, repair, and maintenance projects throughout the country, which will be instrumental in AMPP's mission to advance materials performance to protect society, assets, and the environment.

The H.R. 4064/S. 1932, Bridge Corrosion Prevention and Repair Act of 2023, sponsored by Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA), Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA), and Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), recognizes the urgent need to address the detrimental effects of corrosion on U.S. bridge infrastructure.

"Corrosion has long been a silent threat, undermining the structural integrity and resilience of bridges across the country," said Paul Vinik, vice chair of the AMPP Board of Directors. "This significant legislation marks a crucial step toward ensuring the safety and longevity of our nation's bridges and is a testament to our commitment to enhancing the protection, sustainability and reliability of these vital transportation arteries."

"As a leading advocate for infrastructure improvement and corrosion control and prevention, AMPP thanks Senators Casey and Stabenow and Representatives Garamendi and Fitzpatrick for their support of this bill which aims to create a standardized framework for corrosion protection nationwide," said Alan Thomas, AMPP CEO. "We believe establishing industry standards and using high-quality materials, along with the certification of contractors and skilled craftworkers, and the engagement of competent inspection companies, is essential for ensuring effective corrosion protection in bridge projects funded by the federal government."

To learn more about AMPP's global advocacy strategy and available resources, please visit [www.ampp.org/about/government-affairs](http://www.ampp.org/about/government-affairs)





# Thank you AMPP Volunteers!


## Volunteer Appreciation Week April 17 - 23


In observance of National Volunteer Week, AMPP embarked on an inspiring campaign to recognize and celebrate the invaluable contributions of our dedicated volunteers. This week, which ran from April 17th to April 23rd, provided a fitting platform to extend our gratitude to these selfless individuals.

Throughout the campaign, we spotlighted the stories and experiences of several outstanding volunteers, each embodying the spirit of service and commitment. These narratives, sourced from AMPP members and staff around the world, served as a source of inspiration, illustrating the profound impact that volunteers make within our organization and the broader community.

We encouraged our members and supporters to join us in commemorating these remarkable individuals by sharing their stories on social media using #AMPPVolunteer or sharing the profiles we featured on AMPP platforms. By doing so, they helped amplify the message of gratitude and recognition during National Volunteer Week. Together, we underscored the immeasurable value of volunteerism and the positive influence it brings to our collective mission.








Volunteer Spotlight


**STEPHANIE DECKER**

North American Business Development Manager for Tinker & Rasor in Fellsmere, FL. Volunteer for 15+ years with 26 years in the industry.

**"I care about our present and our futures. Volunteering brings us together, strengthens us as an association, promotes personal growth and gains professional experience from peers. If you want to make a positive impact, getting involved is the best way to make a difference."**

National Volunteer Week @ampporg





Volunteer Spotlight

**DONALD SAVOIE**

Corrosion Specialist for Buckeye Partners in Baytown, TX. Currently the Vice Chair for the Houston Chapter.

**"I value the friendships and knowledge that are gained. Networking in the field that you work in is both fun and beneficial. You can learn tons by just sitting around talking to folks in your industry."**

National Volunteer Week @ampporg



## Be a Part of Something Amazing

Giving back is one of our core tenants and helps to foster a greater sense of belonging within our membership, the industry, and the larger community. When our network gives back, it elevates the perception of our industry and the organizations within it, as well as motivate more people to recognize the global impact of corrosion and protective coatings.

AMPP offers a variety of volunteer options throughout the year tailored to fit your schedule and interests, from one-time opportunities to longer-term commitments. No matter your skill set and expertise, there is a place for you within AMPP.

### AMPP Program Committee Nominations

(July- September)

### AMPP Global Center Program Committee Nominations

(December- February)

### AMPP Chapter Officers Self-Nominations

(March – April)

More areas to get involved:

- Help create certification exams to shape the future of AMPP
- Join a standards committee to influence the industry
- Attend and support local chapter events
- Showcase your technical expertise at annual conference
- Motivate and educate through our Forefront Innovation Series
- Join an online community of interest
- Inspire the next generation of professionals by supporting our EMERG program

Visit [www.AMPP.org](http://www.AMPP.org) for more information.

## Be part of the Technical Communities of Interest



Join Us Now!

AMPP





## Did You Know?

The Association for Materials Protection and Performance (AMPP) represents the largest global community of corrosion and protective coatings professionals and supporting a truly global audience is a source of pride for us.

In addition to our worldwide offices and Global Services we wanted you to know that our Customer Support team is comprised of team members who are fluent in Mandarin Chinese, Punjabi, Spanish and English.

If you'd prefer support in one of these languages, you can submit a request to our team at [www.ampp.org](http://www.ampp.org) or call us at 1-800-797-6223 (US) or internationally at +1-281-228-6200. Over the next several months, our Customer Support team will be improving our knowledge base to include these languages to better serve your needs.

Did you know that your online profile allows you to access virtually all of the common activities or questions you may have regarding your AMPP journey? Read below for some highlights and we encourage you to review your profile and update your information to continue receiving maximum member benefits.



### PREPARING FOR YOUR CERTIFICATION EXAM?

We are now offering practice exams for our most popular certifications!

Take a test run for your certification with one of these new practice exams:

- Coating Inspector Program – Level 1
- Coating Inspector Program – Level 2
- CP1 – Cathodic Protection Tester
- CP2 – Cathodic Protection Technician

Along with Exam Preparation Guides, these practice exams will help you attain certification.

Get started:



- **My Certification Portal** allows you to see your digital badge, manage your certification application and renewals, and as of this year, will now house practice exams to keep you prepared.
- **Education History** shows the courses you have completed and allows you to download completion letters and certificates when available.
- **Downloadable Products** provides a list of all your downloadable purchases allowing you 24/7 access on the go.
- **Online Courses** provide links to all online purchases. No more waiting for instructions, just click and go!

- **Education and Job History** are efficient ways to keep track of your professional accomplishments making it easy to share your experience with others.
- **Community Notifications** are available to customize how you stay connected with each community of interest you belong to, to ensure you never miss what's being talked about within your AMPP network.

## Looking Ahead to 2024



## Join us March 3-7, 2024 in New Orleans for the AMPP Annual Conference and Expo

As the industry's largest and most comprehensive professional conference, AMPP Annual Conference + Expo offers you the opportunity to learn the latest corrosion and materials best practices, get informed on the latest industry trends, and interact with professional colleagues and potential business partners. From networking events to technology demonstrations on the exhibition floor, you'll find everything you need to stay ahead of the curve in materials protection and performance.

**Don't Miss Out!**





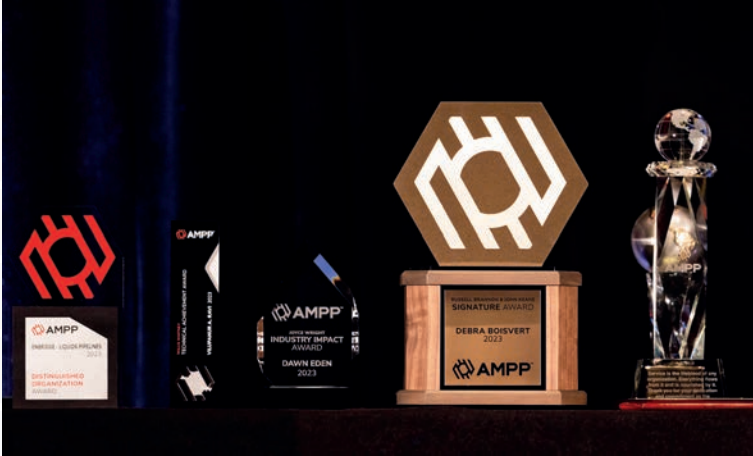
## Celebrating Industry Leaders

In 2024, the AMPP Awards truly embody the spirit of diversity and innovation, underscoring our commitment to recognizing excellence across a broad spectrum. As we reflect on the work done this year, we can't help but feel a sense of pride in how our community has come together to celebrate these achievements.



One of the most heartening aspects was the diversity among the winners. This year, we saw a significant shift towards a more globally representative group of awardees. Over half of our winners came from outside the US, illustrating our ex-

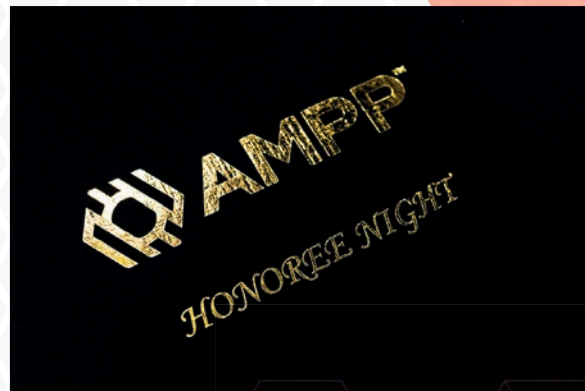




panding international reach. This global diversity is not just about geography; it's a diversity of thought, experience, and approach that enriches our entire field.

Moreover, the gender diversity among winners marked a notable achievement, reflecting our ongoing efforts to promote inclusivity and equality in our industry. These winners are not just exceptional in their professional accomplishments; they are trailblazers who inspire future generations to break barriers and pursue excellence in material protection and performance.

Join us Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> to see all of the 2024 AMPP Award Winners as we recognize and celebrate their achievements.





## Stronger Together

As we approach the end of 2023, I am honored to reflect on the incredible journey we've embarked upon together as one team to create true value for our members. This report encapsulates the essence of our efforts to listen, engage, and evolve, with a relentless focus on our members, the heartbeat of AMPP.

The sentiment "stronger together" has echoed in our actions, reinforcing our commitment to unity and collaboration. We've emphasized that AMPP truly belongs to the people, and our activities throughout 2023 have eloquently communicated this dedication. "Here to serve you" wasn't merely a rallying cry but a guiding principle propelling the Board of Directors and me forward.

Our 'world show' has taken center stage this year, with Board members and staff leaders crisscrossing the globe to meet with 85% of our Chapters. This endeavor has unearthed a treasure trove of expertise within and across our Chapters, forming the bedrock of our collective strength. Our Board members, now 50% international, are not just leaders but global ambassadors, working tirelessly to understand the nuances of each region and maintain consistent outreach.

Our focus on deepening connections between members and staff has yielded tangible results. The expansion of student outreach has given rise to 20 new student Chapters, with up to five Chapters in the formation process. The thriving India West Zone Student Chapter is even planning to host a student-run conference called CORSYM 2024 in February. This signals not only growth but a commitment to nurturing the next generation of leaders in our field.

Looking ahead, we recognize that to be true global leaders, we must focus on the future. We are committed to stay ahead, simplify our business for ease of customer access, and become more effective and agile in meeting member needs.

Our strategic partnerships with organizations such as the American Water Works Association, the World Corrosion Organization, the Confederation of Indian Industry Corrosion Management Division, the Australasian Corrosion Association and the Standardization Institute of the Chinese Petroleum Society showcase our collaborative spirit with the world. These agreements underscore our dedication to working hand in hand with other associations to create a more robust and interconnected community.

In closing, let me express my deepest gratitude to our dedicated AMPP staff, motivated members, and hardworking volunteers. Your support, engagement, and unwavering commitment to AMPP have been the driving force behind our success. Let us continue this journey together, strengthened by the awareness that our collective vision for AMPP is becoming a reality. We are all stronger together.

**Amir Eliezer**  
Chair, AMPP Board of Directors



AMPP CEO Alan Thomas with AMPP Board of Directors Chair Amir Eliezer and AMPP Global Board of Directors Past Chair Cris Conner, at EuroCorr reconnecting with students from the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

## 2024 and Beyond

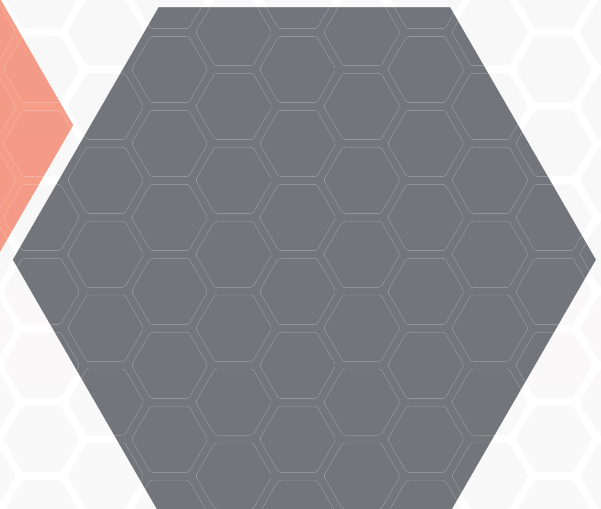


Entering a new year, the AMPP and AMPP Global Center Boards are energized to deliver on **ONE. ALIGN. SCALE.** Refocusing our strategy on desired outcomes to truly become **one**; emphasizing workforce development at all levels, building a best in class user experience for AMPP's Members and industry leaders, and establishing AMPP as the cornerstone of thought leadership, innovation, advocacy, and organizational health. The path to get here has been one with twists and turns, but also one of growth and great excitement in knowing the capabilities AMPP has by **aligning** our dedicated members and staff towards the mission and vision.

Delivering and **scaling** AMPP's value globally, we are establishing ecosystems to support our members and the industry. The first of many steps taken in 2023 was renewing partnerships with the World Corrosion Organization (WCO) and signing a Strategic Alliance with the Australasian Corrosion Association (ACA). Looking forward to 2024, we will begin implementing the strategic initiatives created with these and many other global organizations. Leveraging these partnerships will allow AMPP to broaden our global advocacy in pursuit of achieving our vision of "a world built and protected with safe, reliable, and sustainable materials."

AMPP's members are the lifeblood of our organization and the industry. The commitment given by our volunteer members on Program committees, technical communities, standards development, education and training classes, and more is unmatched. Through that dedication, I have no doubt AMPP will achieve great things and I look forward to continuing to serve with you in 2024 and beyond.

**Kristin Leonard**  
Chair, AMPP Global Center Board of Directors







As we stand on the cusp of 2024,  
we're not just waiting to introduce changes—we're eager to.  
The roadmap drawn from this year's dialogues  
is set to transform the way we operate,  
bringing us closer to what you—our members, volunteers,  
and leaders envisioned.  
So, stay tuned.  
The best is yet to come.





2023 AMPP Annual Insights | [ampp.org](https://ampp.org)