“Providing the Resources for Success in the Die Casting Industry”

– Daniel Twarog, NADCA
Letter from the President

I have written a letter for every NADCA Annual report since we started doing these in 1996. These letters have looked back on the previous year and ahead to the current year in regards to NADCA’s programs and services. The transition of NADCA seen in 2011 was more than any other year that I can remember. Virtually every cornerstone service was revamped and reintroduced to the membership. Marketing, Education, Government Relations, and the Congress all had significant changes in 2011. All these changes were to better serve the membership.

Education services led the way of change in 2011. We completely changed the approach we had been taking to continuing education. NADCA introduced education webinars and custom in-plant courses. We moved from standard national courses at NADCA headquarters to in the plants that require training and on subjects they chose ahead of time. We put one hour technical webinars together and broadcast them twice per month. At a minimum, 40+ people are on one webinar. However, the actual number is unknown because many times the webinar is fed into a plant for numerous people to view. These two modes of technology transfer have been embraced by die casters and their customers.

Die casting customers viewing webinars also increased their activity on the NADCA Design website. This activity has led to leads being generated for the corporate members to follow-up on. This type of marketing effort and others were part of the strategy developed by the reconstituted NADCA Marketing Committee. The committee also identified new white paper subjects to write about and put together a marketing conference for die casting sales and marketers.

NADCA began working with a new Washington advocacy firm for the first time since 1989. Issues were identified from a survey of the entire membership and industry positions were developed. Meetings in DC and in state have taken place throughout the year with Congressmen and Senators. Our message is being heard. Upcoming in 2012 is the Washington Briefing that will be held jointly with NAM. This is great opportunity to visit Washington and express your support and/or concerns.

The final big change in 2011 was NADCA going back on its own to organize a die casting Congress in Columbus, Ohio. Over 650 people attended the three day event. This marks the largest audience ever for a NADCA only Congress. In 2012, NADCA will be back to organizing the Die Casting Exposition.

The Die casting Exposition won’t be the only change for 2012. More changes are in the works for NADCA. E-links newsletter, an Operator Training Webinar Series, Individual Member Plus, and the development of Private Research consortia are all on the drawing board for this year.

NADCA can only do this by the support it receives from the membership and the industry. We are thankful for everyone that believes NADCA’s and services can benefit their company.

Thank you,

Daniel Twarog
President, North American Die Casting Association

www.diecasting.org/information/annual
Those Who Lead
NADCA Board of Governors

Leonard A. Cordaro, Chairman
Premier Die Casting Company

Robert P. Dathe, Vice Chairman
A & B Die Casting Inc

Eric Treiber, Secretary/Treasurer
Chicago White Metal Casting Inc

NADCA 2011 Executive Officers and Terms

Jeff Albertson, 2009-2011
Robert Black, 2011-2013
DY-KAST Supply & Equipment
Paul Brancalone, 2011-2013
Premier Tool & Die Cast Corp
Hal Gerber, 2010-2012
Albany-Chicago
Patrick Greene, 2010-2011
Cascade Die Casting
Frank Haney, 2011-2013
Team Technologies
Doug Harmon, 2010-2012
Twin City Die Casting
William Hiegel, 2011-2012
Custom Alloys Light Metals
Bob Hopkins, 2011-2012
Empire Die Casting
Bernard Jaeger, 2009-2011
Kotobuki-Reliable Die Casting
Tom Johnson, 2009-2011
Ryobi Die Casting
Michael Jurcic, 2010-2012
Craft Cast Engineering
John Littler, 2010-2012
Littler Diecast Corp

Alan Loeffelman, 2009-2011
Production Castings
Mark Los, 2011-2013
BuhlerPrince
Robert Marconi, 2009-2011
RCM Industries
Mark Marshall, 2011-2013
Chem-Trend
Simon Newman, 2011-2013
Dynacast
Jerry Osborn, 2011-2013
Rimrock
Dave Rawlings, 2010-2013
Mo-Tech Corp
Tom Troxclair, 2010-2012
Tom Troxclair & Assoc
Robert Wilson, 2011-2013
Callen Manufacturing Corp.
Ryan Winter, 2011-2013
Eastern Alloys Inc.
David Wolf, 2011-2012
A. Pinkl & Sons
Robert Worthy, 2010-2012
UBE Machinery
Planning for the Future

NADCA Mission

NADCA is committed to promoting industry awareness, domestic growth in the global marketplace and member exposure.

Strategic Areas of Concentration

Chapter Relations:
Foster community and local business relations, attend speaker and networking events, influence both association direction and industry change.

Research and Development:
Identify industry needs and expand funding sources that optimize die casting processes and techniques.

Education:
Present industry knowledge for creating improved die cast parts and processes, incorporating the latest standards and educational curriculum.

Meetings and Expositions:
Provide public and networking opportunities to develop customer relations and position association members as leaders in die casting.

Marketing:
Bring business and engineering focus to die casting as the process of choice.

Membership:
Provide member base with industry news, technical information, promotional activities, networking and referral opportunities and trade events.

Government Affairs:
Foster strategic alliances and increase grassroots efforts to effectively bring industry matters directly to leaders in legislature and Washington.

Globalization:
Assert NADCA’s member die casters’ presence in the global and domestic markets.

Membership – The Association’s Backbone

NADCA has seen some growth in terms of membership in 2011. Individual membership is on a “slow but steady” increase and although corporate membership numbers did not fluctuate from last year’s increase NADCA did gain 14 new corporate members including: Delaware Dynamics LLC, Flow Science, Peerless AV, J L French, Kinetic Die Casting Inc, YXLON International Inc, Columbus McKinnon Corp, RAYTEQ LLC, CRD, HPM North America, Roberts Sinto Corp., Rike Equipment Corp., StrikoDynarad Corp. and Sundaram - Clayton Ltd. As the economy continues to strengthen NADCA expects continued growth during the next few years.

There was very little change in the growth of corporate membership this year. However, with the assistance of the retention committee NADCA’s corporate membership remains steady from last year’s increase.

NADCA individual membership has seen a 14% increase this year. Although NADCA is still rebounding from the membership drop in 2009 we remain confident that the value of a NADCA membership will continue draw in more individual members. Frequent members only promotions and exclusive offers will also increase the value of individual membership.

The Association has begun to look toward the future of NADCA Membership. NADCA continues to create value in its membership by creating clear benefits and savings for members vs. non-members. NADCA’s Corporate Membership Savings Calculator, which can be found at www.diecasting.org/membership/calculator, allows companies to estimated annual savings by choosing services which you, or your company plan to utilize during the year. The calculator will then estimate your specific membership savings as a Corporate Member of NADCA.

In 2012 NADCA will be introducing “Online” Individual Membership options to target those that prefer a more web-based membership. NADCA believes that by tailoring membership based on what companies and individuals consider “valuable” this will create a personalized incentive to obtain membership.
NADCA Chapters – Reaching the Industry

NADCA membership and resources are represented across the country through the efforts of its 15 active area Chapters. Active chapters are located in:

- 3 Michigan
- 5 Chicago
- 6 Cleveland
- 7 New York
- 9 Central NY
- 10 Ontario
- 12 Wisconsin
- 14 S. Ohio
- 15 Southeastern
- 16 Minnesota
- 17 St. Louis
- 25 Indiana
- 29 South Central
- 30 Los Angeles
- 39 SW Michigan

Chapters have again reported varying levels of attendance and continued to hold local meetings, host social events and organize plant tours. This year Chapters have started branching out from the standard meeting venues and expanded into the virtual world. This spring Chapter 7 hosted the first webinar Chapter Meeting. This webinar was promoted to all Chapter 7 members. Attendees were presented with a condensed version of NADCA’s Porosity Series Webinar.

Ryan Winter, Chapter 7 Secretary commented, “The New York/New Jersey NADCA Chapter 7 held a live webinar training session on Porosity for our local members in October 2011. Due to chapter consolidations over the last several years, our chapter is now very large geographically with membership ranging from New England to Maryland. It is very difficult as a chapter to provide activities and services to all of our members, but holding this webinar was our attempt to provide an activity to our membership without the need to travel long distances. We had good feedback, as well as suggestions for improvement from those that attended the webinar. Overall, I think this type of service provided by NADCA is a benefit to the chapters, especially with the current geographical challenges most of us face, and something Chapter 7 will continue to pursue in the future.”

Chapter 17 has also expressed interest in this form of webinar meeting and is ironing out a date to hold theirs in 2012.

In 2010, NADCA staff began a cross country tour to address the current state of the industry at chapter meetings. NADCA staff successfully visited all 15 Chapters with over 300 attendees collectively! Of these attendees 32 Corporate Companies and 14 Non-Corporate Companies were present. This outing was so successful that NADCA will be repeating this “tour” in 2012.

For the third year in a row Chapters have subsidized conference fees to send representatives to the annual Metalcasting Government Affairs Briefing in Washington, D.C. The investment was made so die casting representatives could emphasize the importance of die casting to the U.S. manufacturing industry to lawmakers. In 2011, Chapters 3, 17 and 39 subsidized 11 individuals’ costs to attend the Washington Conference (approximately $6000). In addition, chapter members are sent an email urging them to submit and questions they would like to have answered during the Briefing. The representatives that attend gather answers to these questions and present a report of their findings after they return. This program is an excellent way to not only promote NADCA but also to make our voices heard in Washington.

NADCA continued to support active Chapters through the establishment of a yearly stipend based on total membership. Every chapter that qualified received a $10 credit for each current member. The funds are held in an account at NADCA to be used for educational courses.

www.diecasting.org/information/annual
Maximizing Productivity with Research & Technology

At the beginning of 2011, the research project portfolio consisted of 22 projects with a total leveraged value (direct funding plus cost share) of $32,000,000. During the year, fourteen projects were completed and two new projects were added, decreasing the total leveraged value of the portfolio to nearly $24,000,000. Projects that were completed included: four NADCA funded projects; one USAMP project; four CMC Energy-SMART projects; and all five of the AMC CIR Program projects. The two new projects added were NADCA funded projects on the evaluation of commercial coatings and achieving flash-free die castings. During late 2011, the proposal submitted for the next phase of the AMC Program was selected for funding. This next phase, entitled “Casting Solutions for Readiness (CSR)” will be launched during the first quarter of 2012 adding over $2,000,000 of leveraged value to the portfolio. With funding scarce and a very high level of competition for funds, two other proposals submitted in 2011 were not successful in securing funds. Although there will be 13 active projects at the start of 2012 with the next phase of the AMC Program, as opposed to 22 at the start of 2011, the portfolio still maintains a good balance in the areas of cast materials, die materials, computer modeling, process and energy/environmental technologies. Sources for funds for the projects are: the United States Department of Defense (DOD) through the Defense Supply Center Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, the Defense Logistics Agency, Ft. Belvoir, VA, the Armaments Research and Development Engineering Center, Picatinny, NJ and Benet Laboratories, Watervliet, NY and the American Metalcasting Consortium (AMC); DOE through the Vehicle Technologies Program, the Industrial Technologies Program (ITP) and the Cast Metals Coalition (CMC), and the United States Council for Automotive Research (USCAR)/United States Automotive Materials Partnership (USAMP) Program; and NADCA.

The accomplishments resulting from R&D projects and other research and technology efforts in 2011 include: an updated version of the Special Quality Die Steel and Heat Treatment Acceptance Criteria for Die Casting Dies document (Item #229); revision of the Product Specification Standards for Die Castings (Item #402) which is the 8th Edition and is being made available in early 2012; publication of the 2012 Research & Development Strategic Plan and Roadmap; and the 2011 Die Casting Congress Transactions. In addition, the NADCA owned DTE System provided highly successful results at one die casting facility, two bi-metallic cores were produced and will be placed in operation at two die casting facilities in early 2012, three webinars on research results were conducted, and a Shock Absorber Calculator App was developed. More accomplishments are cited in other sections of this annual report.

The 2011 Die Casting Congress was considered to be one of the best ever. Excellent technical information was provided through outstanding presentations and subsequent Q&A and discussion. There were twelve sessions, nine of which were standard format sessions with paper presentations on topics including cast materials, die materials and coatings, computer modeling, process control and process engineering. Three of the sessions were of the special format type, comprised of a keynote paper/presentation, success stories from die casters and suppliers and a panel discussion. The topics of the special format sessions were Aluminum Alloys, Magnesium Alloys, and Metal Melting Equipment.

Note: Contributions to the above have been made by the technical committees and task forces.

Aluminum Under One Pound
Juqueuir H. Janz – Germany
Angular Hinge

Aluminum One to Ten Pounds
Kong Sing Manufactory Co., Ltd. – San Gabriel, CA
Multi-Function Food Processor Body
In 2011, NADCA conducted the Executive Conference, Plant Management Conference, Metalcasting Industry Government Affairs Conference, Die Casting Congress & Tabletop and Marketing Conference.

The Die Casting Executive Conference was March 20-23, in Tucson, AZ at the Omni Tucson National Resort. The annual conference was a three day event that featured presentations on Health Care Reform, Crisis Management and Investor Insights. The conference was well attended by both die caster and supplier executives.

The 2011 Plant Management Conference was May 18-20 at the Hilton Garden Inn Cleveland, OH. Special presentations included Die Technologies for Productivity & Energy Efficient Melting Practices, High-Q-Cast™ Technology and Die Casting Success Stories. Empire Die Casting, Visi-Trak Worldwide and Case Western Reserve University hosted plant tours for conference attendees.

More than 100 U.S. metalcasters visited Washington, D.C. to attend the 2011 Metalcasting Industry Government Affairs Conference, which was held May 4-6 at the J.W. Marriott, Washington, D.C. Conference participants met with lawmakers and key staff from 22 different states in more than 50 pre-scheduled meetings during Metalcasting Advocacy Day. Pertinent issues such as concerns regarding the new Health Care Laws, EPA attempts to regulate GHG, the importance of healthy manufacturing, and several other issues that are important to the die casting industry.

The North American Die Casting Association’s (NADCA) Die Casting Congress & Tabletop was held on September 19-21 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, OH. The Congress was met with great interest from the die casting industry. Sponsored by solely NADCA, the event attracted over 675 attendees (over 285 different companies were represented) and 91 companies showcased the latest technology, research and services available to the die casting industry. The exhibit hall housed the 91 companies who were eager to educate attendees on their products, services, capabilities and implementation of new technologies. The papers and presentations exposed a variety of new technologies, case studies and success stories. The topics included advanced technologies, die materials, computer modeling, cast materials, die surface engineering, equipment and process control.

The Marketing Conference was reintroduced in 2011 and was held immediately following the Die Casting congress & Tabletop. The one day event featured eight presentations covering the Importance of Social Media, Use of Sales Reps and Internet Directory Effectiveness. The Conference provided individuals interested in the sales and marketing aspects of the die casting industry with up-to-the-minute information on industry trends affecting today’s changing casting marketplace.
Marketing

The upswing in the economy brought about new emphasis on marketing of die castings to the designers and purchaser around the world. NADCA newly reformed Marketing Committee set some ambitious goals in 2011 and achieved all of them. The committee organized a Marketing Conference and had over 45 marketing experts from die casters and suppliers around the country attend. Capturing leads from social media, CRM software, website design optimization, and several other marketing focused topics were discussed. The committee also identified subjects for future white papers.

Marketing white paper are available to industry members. The white papers are on various subjects important to understanding the applications and design advantages of die castings. Three white papers were published in 2011. They were:

- Technologies and Strategies for Longer Lasting Die Casting Dies (2011)
- For Efficient Manufacturing, Look to Die Casting (2011)

White papers are available to download or read from the NADCA Design website. The Design website was actively used in 2011. Over 45,000 inquires were made from purchasers and designers of die castings. The website provided guidance on technical questions, where to find the die casters, and common design standards for the industry. NADCA captured many of the visitors and created a list of leads that is shared with NADCA Corporate Members. Over 500 lead were generated for the Corporate members in 2011.

The Design website and direct mailings were sued to promote free design seminars around the country and in-plants. Seven design seminars were run throughout the U.S. in 2011 and over 100 designers attended these sessions. This was another source of leads for the industry to follow-up on.

NADCA also organized the International Die Casting Competition. Since 1972, the competition has featured the top designed die castings annually. Nine winners in the various categories were selected. The amount of media interest and subsequent articles in other design trade journals, for the winners, was great press for the industry.

Besides the press that the competition winners receive, NADCA also released many different articles about the die casting industry. These press releases were about Industry Scholarships, Safety Award Winners, Die Casting wages, Industry conditions, and several more timely topics that would interest the purchasing and design community. Another major vehicle of communication with the design community is the Die Casting Design newsletter. Over 5000 designers are sent this eNewsletter each time it is published.

NADCA Die Casting Industry Marketing continues to generate leads and interest daily from the design and purchasing departments in almost every OEM in the country. Providing these names to our members is a valuable service that they have capitalized on many times over.

Industry Facts & Figures

The Wage and Benefit Survey, published annually by NADCA, was conducted in December of 2011. The survey represents 54 companies in the die casting industry nationwide. The participating companies table defines the group of facilities in terms of annual sales, number of die casting machines, number of employees, etc. Information is provided both nationally and by region.

This year, the typical participating company had annual sales of $27.5 million per year; utilized 21 die casting machines, employed 154 full-time direct labor employees. Fourteen (26%) were union shops. Eighteen percent of the total production employees reported were temporary. Almost 77% of the survey participants’ total employees were hourly production employees.

Less than half the companies (37%) reported a general wage adjustment in the last 12 months but a larger percentage (54%) plan to make a general wage adjustment in the next 12 months. The median value of adjustment in the last 12 months was .5% less than the amount in 2010.

The report also covers how hourly employees are compensated, what benefits they receive and how practices vary by company size and location.

Magnesium Under .5 lb.
Phillips Plastic Corp. – Eau Claire, WI
Bezel Display

Magnesium Over .5 lb.
Pace Industries Product Tech. Division – Maple Lake, MN
Oil Tank
Die Casting Engineer (DCE) magazine is distributed to all Individual Members, Corporate Members and subscribers. In 2011, more than 15,000 copies of Die Casting Engineer were in circulation, with an average of 2,400 people receiving each issue.

The magazine’s purpose is to act as a vehicle to promote the industry. It does so by featuring upcoming educational courses, conferences, industry news and technical articles submitted by the industry’s leading educators, scientists and suppliers. The past year featured numerous technical articles throughout the six issues. The themes for 2011 included energy, zinc, plungers & lubrication, computer modeling, magnesium, and advanced technology.

DCE has its own Web site, located at www.diecasting.org/dce. The Web site is designed for ease-of-use and to be very user-friendly. The site is accessible through NADCA’s main Web site through a link at the top of the page.

Visitors to the site can easily submit articles, news releases and comments, and order reprints of previous issues, or single articles. Members and subscribers that visit the Web site can log in to view the entire current issues and a few previous issues.

Die Casting Industry LINKS finished its tenth year of publication for Corporate Members only and continued to provide a diverse content to satisfy the needs of many different levels of upper management, sales and marketing departments, as well as presidents and CEOs of die casting companies and suppliers.

Because the magazine only targets these individuals — the key contacts of all NADCA’s corporate member companies — much of the information is very sought-after and is available only to these companies. Recipients of LINKS look forward to the full State of the Industry Report, in-depth industry marketing updates, Wage & Benefit Survey results, Financial Survey results and many other features stories addressing ways to improve a company’s bottom line. A large portion of LINKS content is derived from NADCA staff and another portion comes from business consultants, some involved with the industry and some from outside the industry.

Back in 2009, LINKS began to be printed and mailed in-house at NADCA. While this saved on the bottom line costs for the magazine, it still allowed for the same great content and articles that our readers look forward to each issue.

NADCA also regularly sends out its own eNewsletters. The NADCA Update eNewsletter is sent to over 7,000 different people weekly. The eNewsletter updates its recipients on new in the industry, upcoming conferences and meetings, and new products and publications. It is a great way to easily stay connected to the die casting industry.
Publications – Improving the Industry’s Knowledge

NADCA introduced several new and revised publications and software in 2011 that will continue to spread information and technology that is being developed. The following publications were revised or new in 2011 and are currently available in NADCA’s bookstore.

- Die Casting Industry Capabilities Directory
- PQ² Software Version 4.0
- Recommended Procedures for H-13 Tool Steel
- 2010 End Market Survey - Download
- Die Casting Shipment Report
- The Future of Die Casting in Electric Vehicles
- Die Clamping Brochure
- Porosity In Die Castings: An Overview and Analysis

NADCA’s commitment to implementing the most up to date technology has led to the arrival of the NADCA eStore. The NADCA eStore effectively makes information and tools related to the die casting industry quickly available through downloadable applications, ebooks and webinars.

NADCA currently has made 38 of its publications available in eBook format! eBooks allow readers instant downloadable content and the ability to click to a specific section for quick and easy answers to all your industry questions. Also available are several applications.

Flash Calculator - This app can be used to stop guessing the source of a flash defect, and determine whether the defects are being caused by the die and die casting machine configuration!

PQ² Lite - This app is intended to quickly produce a PQ² chart. PQ² can also be used to troubleshoot existing castings. This app also provides links to added resources covering PQ².

Shock Absorber Calculator - This app allows you to quickly calculate the relevant dimensions when designing a shock absorber. These absorbers are needed when designing tangential gates. Take the guesswork out of shock absorber design by using this app.

NADCA began holding webinars in 2011 in efforts to continue technology transfer efforts. NADCA launched a series of webinars to provide additional opportunities for individuals to obtain information.

Attending a webinar is an excellent way to obtain vital information without the hassle or cost of travel. These 60 minute presentations held weekly address vital information on the topic but also provide adequate time for questions, answers, and discussion. These weekly sessions focus on industry specific topics. Held mainly on Wednesdays at noon throughout the year, these webinars provide an efficient method of disseminating information quickly and efficiently to the industry. Some of the topics held in 2011 include:

- Arc Flash
- BiMetal Tooling
- Coatings
- Combustible Dust
- Cooling Line Placement
- Die Thermal Control
- Dross Shipment Rules
- Energy
- Flash
- Longer Lasting Tooling
- Machine Sizing
- Porosity
- Protective Equipment
- Short Run Tooling
- Soldering
NADCA Online – www.diecasting.org

NADCA launched a new Online Education system. Online education & training offers students the convenience of taking courses anywhere there is an internet connection and the ability to complete courses at their own pace. In addition, companies and individuals can save money on travel expenses and reduce time away from the office. NADCA Online Education currently offers the following full and short courses:

**Full Online Courses**
- Introduction to Die Casting
- Metal Melting & Handling
- Product Design
- PQ
- Defects
- Gating
- Die Setup for Die Casting Personnel

**Short Online Courses**
- Energy Training
- Dross Training
- Managing Combustible Dust Hazards in Die Casting
- Greenhouse Gas
- Safety

NADCA’s Online Education system allows students to leave the course and begin where they left off. Each full course concludes with an exam and can count towards certification. New courses are being added frequently.

2011 also saw the launch of the NADCA eStore. The eStore effectively makes information and tools related to the die casting industry quickly available through downloadable applications, ebooks and webinar presentation and recordings.

A new directory was added to the website. NADCA’s Consultant Directory was added to aid the industry in finding experienced consultants to the Die Casting Industry.

Advertising revenue for the website in the year 2011 continued to offset the expenses of the website.
NADCA Government Affairs –
Takes New Direction in 2011

NADCA returned to having its own voice in Washington in 2011 after a joint venture
effort with the AFS from 2004 through 2010. NADCA signed an advocacy agreement
with Artemis Strategies through 2012 as we move forward with an aggressive Government
relations agenda. A revamped website and improved monthly updates highlighted
the improvements made in NADCA’s government affairs activities in 2011.

Advocacy Issues Ranking for 2012

A survey was conducted of the NADCA membership in August, 2011 to determine their
views on what the die casting industry advocacy priority issues should be for the remain-
der of 2011 and all of 2012. One hundred and sixty five NADCA members participated
in the ranking survey.

After tallying the responses, the average was calculated for each issue. The lowest aver-
age number was the highest ranked issue. Based on these results, NADCA and Artemis
Strategies developed the industry positions on four important issues.

1. Enact Pro-Growth Tax Agenda & Simplify Compliance

**Issue:** U.S. manufacturers already face higher tax costs than the majority of our
foreign competitors. In fact, the corporate tax rate in America is the second high-
est among developed nations. With the expiration of dozens of tax breaks, including
the Bush tax cuts on December 31, 2012, there is growing interest in the Congress to
reform and simplify the tax code. Some lawmakers favor the elimination of general
business credits and other tax expenditures, but also support lowering overall tax rates
for individual and corporations. It is critical for Congress and the Administration to
enact a pro-growth tax agenda that brings rates in line with global competitors and
makes compliance simpler.

2. Restore Balance to the Regulatory Process

**Issue:** The average regulatory cost for each employee of a mid-size manufacturer now
exceeds $13,000 per year. A staggering 3,503 final rules were promulgated alone in
2009. The EPA is advancing over 30 proposed major rules and 173 others. The cumula-
tive burden of these new and costly regulations has reached the tipping point.

NADCA Activity: Regulatory Reform is currently a NADCA priority issue. NADCA
members weighed-in during the May Government Affairs Conference. In addition, the
Washington Office sent letters to Congress in support of regulatory reform legislation.
The House of Representatives is expected to vote on legislation this fall.
REINS Act [Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny] – (H.R. 10/S. 299) - This bill would ensure Congress retains ultimate control and accountability for the implementation of new major laws it writes. It requires that Congress vote to approve new regulations with an economic impact of $100 million or more annually before they could take effect. If Congress does not approve a regulation within 70 days, it is cancelled and cannot be considered again.

TRAIN Act [Transparency in Regulatory Analysis of Impacts on the Nation Act of 2011] – (H.R. 2401/S. 299) - This bill would create an interagency federal committee tasked with conducting cost-benefit analyses of 10 specific EPA regulations aimed at curbing pollutants, such as heat-trapping gases, fine particulates, ozone, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide. These studies are intended to reveal the effects of clean air rules on consumers, small businesses, state and local governments, labor markets and agriculture.

Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2011 – (H.R. 527) - The legislation would improve the regulatory process for small businesses by requiring federal agencies, such as the EPA, to consider the indirect impact of federal regulations, which could lead to a more accurate assessment of a regulation's true cost to business. The legislation would require a broader analysis of the cumulative impact of all regulations on small businesses, which could set the stage for repealing or modifying existing regulations.

3. Support Reliable and Affordable Energy

Issue: Affordable and reliable energy are essential to the long-term health of the U.S. economy and manufacturing. America must expand access to our domestic energy supply in order to meet current needs for affordable energy. Developing domestic energy resources is critical to American energy independence, economic growth and job creation. We embrace all forms of domestic energy production while expanding existing conservation and efficiency efforts.

Congress is considering a variety of measures including the Clean Energy Financing Act of 2011. The bill’s key provision is the establishment of a Clean Energy Deployment Administration, or CEDA, an independent institution dedicated to providing affordable financing for clean energy technologies, particularly those that have been unable to attract financing from other channels.

Other measures Congress is examining would promote commercial energy efficiency, authorize research and development programs at DOE to promote new nuclear reactors, and reform and reauthorize grant and loan guarantee programs to promote electric vehicles.

4. Health Care Reform

Issue: Signed into law on March 23, 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) brought about major reforms in health care coverage, affecting both insured and self-insured health care plans. While several elements of the law have already gone into effect, additional provisions affecting employer-sponsored plans will be phased into law through 2018. Although employer-sponsored health plans are in the process of implementing PPACA, many NADCA members have continued to experience increased costs in their plans.

New provisions soon to be enforced include a new tax on health care plans, an employer mandate to provide a certain level of health care benefits, new restrictions on Health Savings Accounts and Flexible Savings Accounts and much more. Congress is considering modifying certain provisions of the law and series of bills have been introduced to make the PPACA less burdensome to business.

NADCA will be conducting their Government Affairs Briefing at the same time as NAM. Separate hill visits will be organized for the die casting industry members that attend the event. NADCA members will also be able to attend the NAM organized presentations on the issues and the NAM social activities. Please mark your calendar for early June to attend this two day event.
Education – New Ways to Learn Through the Web

In 2011, we began to see an increase in education activity. A full schedule was run in the spring, and an abbreviated schedule was run in the fall for National Courses. National, Chapter, In-Plant, In-House, Train-the-Trainer and Online class attendance in 2011 totaled 950 students for 25 course offerings extended by NADCA. Nineteen national courses were taught with 67 students, seven Chapter courses with 130 students and 38 In-Plant courses with 691 students. The In-House Program was completed by 30 students at one facility, nine new trainers for the In-House Program were trained and 32 students completed online courses. NADCA licensee Southwestern Michigan College (SMC) suffered in 2011 also. Not a single NADCA course typically offered through SMC was offered in 2011 due to lack of attendance. Therefore, the grand total for 2011 attendance was 950 as compared to the 2010 attendance level of 404, 2009 attendance level of 449, 2008 attendance level of 924 and the 2007 level of 1,238. In-Plant courses showed the largest increase and reached the largest number of individuals. This increase was in part due to courses customized for company specific needs. The overall incline in activity was due to the improved state of the economy. With the economy and state of the industry projected to recover even more in 2012, attendance is expected to continue to recover as well.

2011 also brought the addition of new online courses. We now offer seven full courses online as well as five short courses. We transitioned onto our own online education software. We also developed a new course, EC-204 - Die Set-Up for Die Casting Personnel. This course focuses on the correct sequence of tasks to ensure smooth and efficient changeover of dies used in die casting machines.

In its continuing education and technology transfer efforts, NADCA launched a series of webinars to provide additional opportunities for individuals to obtain information. These hour long presentations typically run every week and cover topics such as Safety, Results of Surveys and Studies, Various Processes, Economic Industry Data, Energy Conservation Efforts, NADCA R&D Research Results and New Technologies. Over 330 people attended webinars in 2011. In addition to being able to participate in a webinar, the webinar presentations are recorded and subsequently made available for individuals to purchase.

Opportunities for Interns – David Laine Scholarships

For more than 30 years, NADCA has encouraged studies in the many disciplines related to die casting with David Laine Memorial Scholarships. Established in 1975, the scholarships honor David Laine, who served for 29 years as secretary of the American Die Casting Institute (ADCI), a forerunner of NADCA.

The main objectives of the scholarship program are to provide financial assistance and encouragement to students who are interested in careers in the die casting industry, to foster and improve engineering education in die casting technology and to stimulate awareness of and interest in the die casting process.

Internships for 2011 gave opportunity for students to be involved in various projects, which included assisting in die changes, performing safety audits, runner and gating design, part modeling, die casting sales & marketing and quality control. In 2011, NADCA awarded nine students with a combined scholarship of $9,000 through the David Laine Intern & Scholarship Program.

In recent years, NADCA has seen increased interest and applications for the Laine Scholarship. Those who receive this prestigious award are better-positioned to focus on their academics and career development. Indeed, the Laine Scholarship has also had a significant impact on retaining talent in metalcasting: more than 75% of the past scholarship recipients have gone on to work in die casting.

The scholarships provided by the Laine Fund are supported entirely by contributions and pledges from the die casting community. For more information, visit www.diecasting.org/scholarship.
Promoting Industry Awareness, Domestic Growth in the Global Marketplace and Member Exposure.

Bottom Line

In 2011, NADCA ended well above expectations financially. Gross revenue came in 9% under budget with department expenses coming in 36% under budget and general & administrative expenses also well under budget. Overall, expenses were 23% under budget while revenues were 10% under budget.

NADCA’s Magazine department was one of the departments where net revenue ended up over budget. The magazine’s revenue for the year was 26% over budget. Expenses were 2% below budget.

Our education department also did well in 2011. At year end, total revenue from education classes was 60% above budget with expenses 55% over budget.

In September of 2011, NADCA held a very successful “die casting only” trade show in Columbus, Ohio. Exhibit sales were 35% above expectations. The expense side saw a negative variance of 7%. Overall, NADCA’s profit from the Die Casting Congress & Tabletop was ahead of budget. We are looking forward to a successful Die Casting Congress & Exposition in Indianapolis, Indiana.

2011 NADCA Service Areas Contribution to Revenue

- Membership: 35%
- Magazine: 7%
- Meetings & Conferences: 8%
- Congress & Exhibitions: 4%
- Education: 29%
- Marketing: 7%
- Research & Development: 10%
- Government Affairs: 0.01%