

## Water Demonstration Project

SPLASH Inc., an organization which promotes the use of austenitic stainless steel for use in potable water distribution systems, intends to bury stainless steel pipe at a municipal water project in Green Bay, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

SPLASH is an acronym for Stop Pipe Leaks, Ask for Stainless Help.

"Green Bay was one of the early adapters of ozone water treatment technology in the U.S. and is therefore interested in being one of the first municipalities to evaluate buried stainless steel pipe and mechanical fittings," says Steve Lamb, chairman of SPLASH.

About 330 metres of S31600 pipe, 20 millimetres in diameter, and 150 metres of Duplex stainless steel pipe (grade yet to be determined) are being considered for the demonstration project.

Among the questions facing SPLASH is how to monitor the extremely low rate of corrosion of the buried stainless steel pipes. One expensive method is to dig the pipe out of the ground every few years for a visual inspection. Another method entails monitoring the pipe remotely by means of a multi-electrode array sensor (MAS). This electrochemical technique is sensitive enough to measure the smallest amount of corrosion, according to Dr. Narasi Sridhar, program director for the Southwest Research Institute.

MAS has been used to monitor corrosion of nickel alloys in cooling water treatment applications where corrosion rates are as low as 0.01 micron per year.

In the case of buried pipe, MAS would employ sensors to measure corrosion in coupons of similar material buried next to the pipe and which would be exposed to the same soil and groundwater conditions. "You can probably set a steady-state condition on the coupon after only two years," Sridhar says.

SPLASH is considering other demonstration projects in co-operation with the city of Denver and the University of North Carolina. The objective is to demonstrate the corrosion-resistant properties of stainless steels so that users can specify these materials with confidence.

SPLASH is a non-profit alliance of 14 suppliers, fabricators, equipment manufacturers and metals associations, including the Nickel Institute. It was formed in 2004 to promote the advantages of stainless steel in the water distribution industry. New members are welcome.

### MORE INFORMATION:

[www.nickelmagazine.org/splash](http://www.nickelmagazine.org/splash)

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## COMING EVENTS

### Marine Corrosion

The Sea Horse Institute will host the Marine Corrosion forum in Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina, U.S.A., between August 21 and 25, 2005. This popular event provides practical information and solutions related to marine corrosion and bio-fouling in a relaxed, informal setting. Although there is an agenda, attendees are encouraged to bring examples of marine corrosion and demonstrate preventive methods during the technical sessions. The Nickel Institute will sponsor the moderators' dinner, the exhibitors' reception, and two students.

Contact Sherree Darden, Administrative Co-ordinator.  
Tel: 1-910-256-2271. Fax: 1-910-256-9816.  
E-mail: [seahorse@laque.com](mailto:seahorse@laque.com)



**OFFSHORE EUROPE** The Nickel Institute will have a stand (No. 688) at this premiere petroleum industry event, to be held in Aberdeen, Scotland, U.K., between September 6 and 9, 2005. About 26,000 industry personnel from 20 countries attended the last such event in 2003. For more information, see [www.offshore-europe.co.uk](http://www.offshore-europe.co.uk)

**SCIENCE AND MARKETS** The 5th European Stainless Steel Science and Markets Congress will be held in Seville, Andalusia, Spain from September 27 to 30, 2005. The event is organized by the University of Sevilla and CEDINOX on behalf of the European Steel Institutes Confederation (ESIC). Scientists, technologists, manufacturers and end-users are invited to present their work. Contact Instituto de Ciencia de Materiales de Sevilla, Universidad de Sevilla-Consejo superior de Investigaciones Cientificas, Avda américo vespuccio s/n, 41092-Sevilla, Spain. Tel.: 34 954 489 543. Fax: +34 954 460 665. E-mail: [stainless@icmse.csic.es](mailto:stainless@icmse.csic.es)

**WELDING IN THE FOOD INDUSTRY** A conference on welding and fabrication of food industry equipment will be held November 16, 2005, in Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A. Scheduled to coincide with the annual show of the American Welding Society, the conference will be chaired by Nickel Institute consultant Richard E. Avery, among others. Topics include food safety and welding, stainless steels and higher alloys, an overview of AWS D18.1 and D18.2 standards, hygienic design, finishing methods, and inspections. Contact: Giselle Hufsey, Director of Conferences & Seminars, American Welding Society, 550 NW LeJeune Rd., Miami, Florida, 33139. U.S.A. Tel: 1-305-443-9353. E-mail: [giselle@aws.org](mailto:giselle@aws.org)

**UK STAINLESS CONFERENCE** The British Stainless Steel Association (BSSA) is organizing a conference titled "Stainless Steel - Converting Opportunities Into Reality." It will be held Nov. 17, 2005, at the Stratford Manor Hotel, near Stratford-upon-Avon, U.K. Market issues and development opportunities in construction, water, energy and food processing will be addressed, along with the supply chain, "lean manufacturing," and sustainability. The BSSA annual dinner will follow. Contact Nigel Ward, Director, BSSA. Tel: 0114 267 1263. E-mail: [nigel.ward@bssa.org.uk](mailto:nigel.ward@bssa.org.uk)

**METAL IONS IN MEDICINE** The Ninth International Symposium on Metal Ions in Biology and Medicine will be held May 21-24, 2006, in Lisbon, Portugal. Supported by the University of Coimbra, the Instituto Superior Tecnico, and the Portuguese Society for Biochemistry, the symposium will focus on interdisciplinary research and productive collaborations, while facilitating contacts among scientists. Among the scientists slated to participate is Dr. Adriana Oiler, Manager, Mutagenicity and Carcinogenicity Program for NIPERA, a division of the Nickel Institute. E-mail: [9ismibm@ci.uc.pt](mailto:9ismibm@ci.uc.pt). Web site: [www.uc.pt/9ismibm](http://www.uc.pt/9ismibm)