



**Register
TODAY!**

**Early Discount
Deadline:
SEPT. 8, 2026**

35th International Annual Anodizing Conference & Exposition

*Staying in Step with Change:
Strategic Solutions for Anodizing Challenges*

October 6–8, 2026

Hyatt Regency Downtown • Cincinnati, Ohio USA



Focus & General Sessions • Anodizing EXPO • Networking & More!

members.anodizing.org/AnodizingConference

**Scan the code &
REGISTER TODAY!**

35th International Annual Anodizing Conference & Exposition

October 6-8, 2026

Hyatt Regency Downtown • Cincinnati, Ohio USA



ALUMINUM
ANODIZERS
COUNCIL

Schedule at a Glance

The AAC Annual Anodizing Conference and Exposition is where the anodizing community comes together to learn, exchange ideas, solve problems, and strengthen the relationships that move the professional anodizing industry forward.

This year's program has been sharpened with one goal in mind: to deliver greater value to the people who operate, support, specify, purchase, and promote anodized aluminum. While the conference format will feel familiar, the educational experience has been enhanced with more flexible preconference education and the General Sessions and Focus Sessions have been carefully shaped by member input and real issues facing the industry.

What is Included in Registration

The Annual Anodizing Conference includes access to General Sessions, Focus Sessions, the Anodizing Expo, scheduled meals, receptions, and networking events. Optional preconference education is offered to build core knowledge, strengthen technical understanding or take a deeper dive into the Anodizing Essentials Class and/or the Advanced Anodizing Class.

Each Focus Session track concludes with a Presenters Panel plus Q&A, enabling attendees to gain insights, ask questions and zero in on key points that are not to be missed!

Why Attend?

- Learn from education specific to the anodizing industry.
- Gain technical and business insights to implement in your facility.
- Hear how others address common plant and market challenges.
- Explore the Anodizing Expo's equipment, supplies, products, tech and services.
- Strengthen connections with anodizers, suppliers, customers and industry partners.
- Bring valuable ideas, contacts and information to your Company and Team.

Who Should Attend

The Conference is designed for anodizers, suppliers, customers, specifiers, purchasers, and professionals involved in operating, supporting, specifying or promoting anodized aluminum. The Program offers industry value across the organization, from owners and executives to managers, technical teams, quality professionals, sales staff, and shop floor personnel.

Hotel Information

Make your room reservations directly with the hotel by calling:

513.579.1234

AAC's group room rate is **\$215 (USD)**, single or double occupancy, plus tax. To receive this special rate, make your reservation over the phone or online **no later than Monday, September 13, 2026 (by 5:00 p.m. EDT)** and mention the Aluminum Anodizers Council (AAC)

Hyatt Regency Downtown
151 West Fifth Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202 USA



Monday, October 5

- 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** Registration
- 12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.** Anodizing Essentials Class Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.** Anodizing Essentials Class (Part 1 of 2)

Tuesday, October 6

- 7:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.** Registration
- 7:15 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.** Anodizing Essentials Continental Breakfast
- 8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.** Anodizing Essentials Class (Part 2 of 2)
- 11:30 a.m. – Noon** Advanced Anodizing Class Lunch
- Noon – 5:30 p.m.** Advanced Anodizing Class
- 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.** New Member Reception
- 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.** Welcome Reception and Expo Open

Wednesday, October 7

- 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** Registration Open
- 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.** Breakfast & Expo Open
- 8:30 a.m. – Noon** Opening General Session
- Noon – 1:00 p.m.** Lunch & Expo Open
- 1:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.** Focus Session Tracks
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.** Reception & Expo Open

Thursday, October 8

- 7:00 a.m. – Noon** Registration
- 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.** Breakfast & Expo Open
- 8:30 a.m. – Noon** General Session
- 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.** Conference and Events Committee Wrap Up – *By Invitation Only*
- 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.** Board of Directors Meeting – *By Invitation Only*

We Thank the Following AAC Member Company:

FINISHING & COATING

Electroplate • Anodize • Ecoat • Liquid Coat • Powder Coat

FinishingAndCoating.com

Official Media Sponsor

Tuesday, October 6

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

New Member Reception

Join us at the New Member Reception as we welcome and introduce those who joined our organization during the last year. This is an excellent networking opportunity for everyone! (*Invitation only*)

NEW this year: Interactive Quiz Challenges
(1st of 2 available events)

Dr. George Oh, Quaker Houghton

AAC is bringing a new level of energy to the conference with the **Kahoot!** quiz challenges for attendees. Join the individual event during the Welcome Reception, then team up with others from your company for a conference wide competition at the General Session. Both events are designed to be educational, fun and a great way to connect with fellow attendees while competing for prizes.

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Welcome Reception and Anodizing Expo

Whether you are looking to reconnect with friends and colleagues, or meet and mingle with new contacts, the Welcome Reception is the place to bridge your connections. Set amid the business-friendly Anodizing Expo, this provides a great opportunity to ask questions, get answers, and establish new contacts in the anodizing industry.

Wednesday, October 7

8:30 a.m. – Noon

Opening General Session

8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

AAC Chairman's Welcome

AAC Annual Meeting and Business Report

Jon Ledin, AaCron Anodizing, Inc.

8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

AAC Committee Chair's Report Update

9:45 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.

Ducker Study

Jason Weber, Aluminum Anodizers Council

AAC's 2025 Ducker Carlisle study provides a comprehensive look at the North American anodizing market, including demand trends, applications, competitive threats, and growth opportunities. This session will connect the study's findings to practical opportunities for anodizers.

10:10 a.m. – 10:25 a.m. BREAK

Wednesday, October 7

10:25 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.

Beyond the Paycheck; Retention, Engagement, and Growth in Aluminum Operations

Zack Wolchesky, Hydro Aluminum

11:10 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.

Young Anodizers Panel

The "Young Anodizers" panel discussion features young professionals who came to the anodizing industry to fulfill a job opportunity and chose to build their careers. They will share their perspectives on what drew them to the industry, and what continues to motivate them about anodizing.

Noon – 1:00 p.m. Lunch with Expo

Thursday, October 8

8:30 a.m. – Noon

General Session

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Implementing AI in a Metal Finishing Job Shop: Lessons Learned From an ERP Transformation

Dean Halonen, Steelhead

Mark Spencer, AaCron Anodizing, Inc.

Our focus will be on how anodizing and metal finishing job shops can effectively leverage AI and modern ERP technologies to improve business performance, operational efficiency, customer service, data management, and overall competitiveness.

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Washington Update: Fall Policy Review and Election Outlook

Christian Richter, The Policy Group

This session will provide an overview of Washington's fall policy landscape, examining key White House, regulatory and legislative developments for industry and how the midterm elections could reshape the policy environment heading into 2027.

10:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. BREAK

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

The Anodizers Response to Secondary Aluminum

Dr. Jude M. Runge, CompCote International

11:35 a.m. – Noon

NEW this year: Interactive Quiz Challenges
(2nd of 2 available events)

Dr. George Oh, Quaker Houghton

Please print clearly. One registrant per form. Photocopy this form for each additional registrant. Only those registered may attend Anodizing Conference Functions. Registration includes: program sessions, take-home materials, scheduled receptions, meals and break refreshments based on Conference or Class registration.

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Preferred Name for Badge _____

Company _____ Job Title _____

Company Address _____

 Number of Employees in **all locations** _____ Phone _____ Fax _____
(Regardless of Country)

 Email _____ ☐ Check here if you need additional assistance or a dietary restriction during the event.
 AAC will contact you.

REGISTRATION FEES

(Please copy this form and complete top portion for each attendee.)

Registration Options <i>(choose one)</i>	Member		Non-Member		Total
<i>(U.S. dollars only)</i>	by or on 9/8/26	after 9/8/26	by or on 9/8/26	after 9/8/26	
☐ Anodizing Conference Registration	\$1175	\$1275	\$1875	\$1975	\$
☐ Anodizing Essentials Class (Only)	\$475	\$475	\$875	\$875	\$
☐ Advanced Anodizing Class (Only)	\$475	\$475	\$875	\$875	\$
Add-on Options	Member		Non-Member		Total
Spouse Registration (includes Breakfasts & Receptions.) <i>Please provide name for badge:</i>	\$375	\$375	\$375	\$375	\$
☐ Anodizing Essentials Class (Add-on)	\$475	\$475	\$875	\$875	\$
☐ Advanced Anodizing Class (Add-on)	\$475	\$475	\$875	\$875	\$
GRAND TOTAL =					\$

FOR AAC USE ONLY Entered _____ check # _____ ID# _____ AMT \$ _____ TYPE _____

PAYMENT

Payment must accompany registration form; registration is not complete until payment is received.

☐ Check enclosed for \$ _____

Make check payable in U.S. dollars, drawn on a U.S. bank, to the Aluminum Anodizers Council.

 or Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx ☐ Discover

Printed name of cardholder _____ Signature _____

Billing Address (if different from above) _____

Send Completed Registration Forms and Payment to:

Aluminum Anodizers Council
 1930 Innovation Way, Suite 232
 Libertyville, Illinois
 60048 USA

Tel: 847.526.2010

Fax: 847.238.3859

SECURE FAX: fax with credit card information to **847.238.3859**

NOTE: For your protection, please **do not email** form with credit card information. Please fax or mail completed form to the Aluminum Anodizers Council (AAC).

Cancellation policy:

Registration fees will be refunded only if written notice is received on or before **September 14, 2026**. A 20% administrative fee will be deducted from the refund.

Substitutions may be made at any time without penalty.

For your protection, this portion of the form will be destroyed after processing your credit card information.

 Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____ V-Code: _____
 (3 or 4 digit code on card)

AAC includes the following value added courses as additional educational options during the 35th Annual Anodizing Conference. *Additional fee and registration are required.*

Further program details can be found online at members.anodizing.org/AnodizingConference

Anodizing Essentials Class

AAC will be holding a two-part anodizing class in-conjunction with the Annual Anodizing Conference.

PART 1: Mon., Oct. 5 • 1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

PART 2: Tues., Oct. 6 • 8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

The timing has been adjusted to give registrants time to travel.

Includes: Mon. lunch and Tues. continental breakfast & class materials

This class provides more than the fundamentals of anodizing. It is designed to increase the knowledge and ability of anyone involved in operating an anodizing line. This Class details the foundation of quality anodizing – taking the learner through the entire process – beginning with the metallurgical properties of aluminum alloys commonly anodized through to the final rinse and sealing processes.



Advanced Anodizing Class

Tues., Oct. 6 • Noon – 5:30 p.m.

Includes: Tues. lunch & class materials

The entire anodizing process is discussed in scientific terms and directly tied to the engineering processes of decorative and hard anodizing. Specific attention is paid to pulse anodizing and anodizing difficult alloys, manufactured by way of cast and wrought processes. Students will take away a deeper understanding of anodizing science and practice. By making the connection between anodizing science and practice, the student will develop new approaches to meeting anodizing process challenges, which enables the refinement of existing capabilities and expansion into new process capabilities.



Focus Session Tracks* Wednesday, October 7

Choose one session within each time slot. Feel free to move between tracks to attend relevant sessions.

** AAC reserves the right to alter the schedule and substitute speakers as needed.*

1 Deep Dive

1:15 PM to 2:00 PM	Interfacial Phenomena in Electrochemical Systems: Implications for Anodizing and Surface Control Kirk Ziegler , University of Florida
2:00 PM to 2:45 PM	Tuning the Pores Dr. Wojciech J. Stępniewski , Military University of Technology Warsaw, Poland
2:45 PM to 3:30 PM	Expanding the Porous Alumina Engineering Toolbox for Nano-optics: Multiscale Morphological Tuning via Square-Wave Pulse Anodizing Mikhail Pashchanka , Warsaw Institute of Technology
3:30 PM to 4:15 PM	Microstructure and Electrolytic Color Dr. Jude M. Runge , CompCote International
4:15 PM to 5:00 PM	Presenters Panel Kirk Ziegler; Dr. Wojciech J. Stępniewski; Mikhail Pashchanka; Dr. Jude M. Runge

2 Baseline & Benchmarks

Anodizing to Specifications Casey Selle Charging , AaCron Anodizing, Inc.
Maintaining Peak Performance: Best Practices in Aluminum Pretreatment – Cleaning, Etching, and Deoxidizing Kevin Janis , Reliant Aluminum Products
Sealing Smarter: Practical Lessons for more Reliable Anodize Finishing Judson Delancy , Surventis
Beyond the Tank: How Analytical Procedures Improve Anodizing Performance Pinakin Patel , Techevon LLC
Presenters Panel Casey Selle Charging; Kevin Janis; Judson Delancy; Pinakin Patel

3 Current Landscape

From Shop Floor to Search Result: How LinkedIn, AI, and Free Industry Tools are Redefining How Buyers Find Anodizers Mark Spencer , AaCron Anodizing, Inc.
Anodizing From a Chemical Perspective. Dr. George Oh , Quaker Houghton
Dye for Design: Optimizing the Anodizing Process for Light Colors Jacqueline Cook , Reliant Aluminum Products
Wastewater System Sizing: How to Qualify the Size and Performance of Your System. Steven Buday , Haviland Products Company
Presenters Panel Mark Spencer; Dr. George Oh; Jacqueline Cook; Steven Buday



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Libertyville, IL 60048 USA

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Awards of Excellence are presented annually to recognize outstanding contributions to advance & promote exemplary work in the field of anodizing. Learn more at Anodizing.org