

2026 New England Surface Finishing Regional Conference Event Schedule



FRIDAY NOVEMBER 6th, 2026 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Breakfast and Registration

7:00 am – 9:00 am

9:10 am – 9:55 am

Randy DiSano of Hubbard-Hall and Josh Fish of Pavco

Reducing Rejects Without Slowing Production

Most operations feel the tradeoff—improve quality or maintain throughput. In reality, the root causes of rejects often sit upstream, and small process adjustments can significantly reduce scrap without impacting line speed. This session draws on real-world experience from industry experts at Hubbard-Hall and Pavco, combining expertise in cleaning, pretreatment, and plating chemistry to address challenges across the full process. We'll walk through practical approaches to identifying and correcting sources of variation, with a focus on diagnosing issues beyond the bath, stabilizing performance, and improving consistency without adding complexity. Attendees will leave with a clearer understanding of how surface condition, rinsing, contamination control, and process discipline influence plating outcomes—and how targeted changes can reduce rework, improve yield, and keep production moving.

10:10 am – 10:55 am

Brian Morrill of GZA GeoEnvironmental

PFAS Regulation Preparation for the Metal Finishing Industry

Identifying sources of PFAS at a facility, and considerations for how to collect wastewater and/or stormwater samples to minimize the possibility of getting false positives or contamination of PFAS in those samples.

11:10 am – 11:55 am

Gerald Group on behalf of Univertical

Copper Supply Forecast

This presentation, presented by **Gerald Group**, will examine the forces shaping U.S. copper supply and what electroplaters should expect heading into 2027. We will look at domestic versus imported copper, cathode and scrap availability, anticipated changes in trade policy, pricing and market volatility, and the potential impact on copper plating costs and supply security. Particular attention will be given to the practical implications for electroplaters—from raw material purchasing and inventory strategy to managing price and supply risk. The goal is to provide a clear view of where the copper market is headed and help plating professionals better prepare for the opportunities and challenges that 2027 may bring.

Lunch Break 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

1:10 pm – 1:55 pm

Jeff Hannipel of The Policy Group

Annual Regulatory and NASF National Update

Jeff will bring us all up to date on Environmental Regulations being implemented or in the works at the NASF National level that will be impacting the metal finishing community. He will also make us aware of local regulations and restrictions taking place in various locations throughout the country that could signal a future national trend, or that could impact us locally with possible regulatory changes in the Northeast.

2:10 pm – 2:55 pm

Billy Pittman and Robert Rio of

Massachusetts Chemistry & Technology Alliance (MCTA)

Navigating the Northeast Energy Landscape & MCTA Priorities

As industrial manufacturers and surface finishers face some of the highest operational costs in the nation, maintaining competitiveness in New England requires strategic adaptation. This session will look at the driving forces behind regional energy costs and explore actionable insights for navigating high utility structures. Additionally, we will share a high-level briefing on current MCTA programs, regulatory updates, and advocacy initiatives designed to support and protect the regional manufacturing supply chain.

3:10 pm – 3:55 pm

Andrew Sullivan of Verdantas

EHS Essentials & Regulatory Updates for Metal Finishing Operations

The metal finishing community operates under evolving EHS requirements, including emerging employee exposure regulations. This presentation explores practical approaches for updating EHS programs to align with today's compliance landscape.

4:10 pm – 5:00 pm

Paul LaFlamme of Centrend Paul LaFlamme of Centrend:

CMMC Cybersecurity Registration and Updates

Paul will be talking about Cyber Security NIST 800 Registration that is being required by most companies as a mandate for doing business today going forward. He will also address how, with today's sophisticated wastewater treatment facility operating systems, cyber criminals could cause an environmental disaster by targeting your IWTF system.

DINNER 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

TABLE TOP TRADE SHOW EXHIBITORS

PLEASE VISIT AND SUPPORT ALL OUR TABLE TOPS IN BETWEEN
SPEAKER SESSIONS!

American Plating Power

Aquasgroup

Columbia Chemical

CrossAir LLC

Fisher Technology, Inc.

Gannon-Scott

Gilbert and Jones

Hubbard-Hall

KraftPowercon, Inc.

Luster -On Products

MacDermid Enthone

Maltz Sales Company

Palm International

Plating International, Inc.

Products Finishing

Pyromet

QML

Reliant Aluminum Products

RHL Associates

Sequel Anodizing Racks

Technic

Terry Recal Services

Tilton Rack and Basket