



ARPM Honors Member Champions with Educational Outreach Awards

The Association for Rubber Products Manufacturers honored three member champions with the ARPM 2019 Educational Outreach Awards. Coinciding with Manufacturing Day, these awards recognize those ARPM member companies that have made a significant impact in the promotion of a career in rubber manufacturing.

Awards this year were distributed to the following three honorees:

- 1st Place: Blair Rubber Company, Seville, Ohio
- 2nd Place: Custom Rubber Corp., Cleveland, Ohio
- 3rd Place: Bruckman Rubber Company, Hastings, Nebraska

Through strategic partnerships with schools, programs and/or students, these awardees all have made significant efforts to increase interest, raise awareness and build skills within the rubber manufacturing industry.

Scholarships will be awarded for first and second place, in the amounts of \$750 and \$250 respectively, which will go to the recipient's educational institution or program of choice. ARPM congratulates the 2019 Educational Outreach Award winners and extends a special thanks to all who participated in this year's award program.

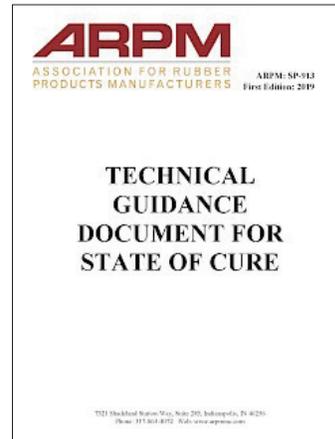
ARPM Welcomes Two New Members

The following companies have joined ARPM. The association welcomes these new members.

- HiTech Piping Ltd. – Pointe-Claire, Quebec, Canada
- Real Seal Company – Escondido, California

ARPM Releases Technical Guidance Document for State of Cure

ARPM has released its newly created *SP-913 Technical Guidance Document for State of Cure*. This publication was



drafted and approved by the member representatives of ARPM's Sealing Technical Committee. The ARPM would like to acknowledge the following member companies for their contributions in the development of this publication: 3M Advanced Materials Division; AGC Chemicals Americas; Amsted Seals and Forming; Akron Rubber Development Labs; Consolidated Metco, Inc.; Fiat Chrysler; Fluid Sealing Science, LLC; Ford Motor Company; Ford Transmission Driveline Eng.; Freudenberg-NOK Sealing Technologies; Grace Technology and Development; SKF Sealing Solutions; The Chemours Company LLC; Trelleborg Sealing Solutions Americas; Zeon Chemicals L.P. and Wacker Chemical.

"This will be the first time that the rubber manufacturing industry has a compendium of vetted and proven methods to address the most important aspect of our manufactured products – their cure state," said F. Joseph Walker, chair of the ARPM sealing committee, Freudenberg-NOK Sealing Technologies, Global Technology Director, Materials & Laboratory Services. "The direct relationship between rubber's performance characteristics and the state of cure is of principal importance. Therefore, control of the cure state of manufactured rubber articles provides greater consistency in the performance of the articles during use, thereby improving their quality, and allows for more consistent process control during their manufacture.

"This Technical Guidance Document is an industry first," Walker continued. "It provides a peer-reviewed series of methods that even the smallest manufacturer can use to measure and control the consistency and quality of their fabricated rubber articles. A document such as this has never before been available and is not available anywhere else. This document should be included in all fabricators' quality systems, as it conforms to ISO/IEC: 17025 §7.2.1.4 – the only subject-specific document to address cure state methodology. ARPM continues to advance the technical level of our rubber industry through leading publications such as this."

Keeping with ISO standards, all ARPM technical standards are reviewed every five years to establish if a revision is required to keep it current and relevant for the marketplace. The *SP-913 Technical Guidance Document for State of Cure* and over 100 other technical standards are free for ARPM members or available for purchase on the ARPM website.