



## Message from the Chairman:

*Another year has passed and our next conference is almost upon us this fall. This being the first inaugural newsletter of the ACMC, I will try and explain some of our progress.*

*Two steering committee meetings were held this year resulting in an interesting and educational agenda for the fall conference.*

*Technology is changing rapidly and most people feel intimidated by the changes. If you are not keeping up with the times, chances are you will be falling behind in the near future. We can't resist change, we must embrace it. With this in mind we have structured some very interesting experts for lectures on technology and what's new in the industry.*

*Thomas Dillon, Publisher of Industrial Machinery, says it all. "The point is, we shouldn't be like the man on horseback looking at the first automobile, and swearing the trend wouldn't last. To prosper and survive we all need to be open minded and ready to free the new, not repel it".*

*That is the mandate of the steering committee of the ACMC, to continue to bring the present to you through information newsletters and conferences.*

*Hope to see you this fall at Durham College.*

Wes Lowell

## Nationwide Measurement Assurance Program

Through this program an ACMC member can gain access to a calibrated artifact which, when used in the prescribed manner, enables measurements made of this artifact on the member's CMM to be traceable to national and international standards.

NRC now has such an artifact available—a 320 mm X 320 mm ball plate containing 25 ceramic balls. The balls are positioned at nominal intervals of 60 mm in a 5 X 5 array in the neutral plane of the plate. The coordinate position of each ball has been determined from measurements made on a high precision coordinate measuring machine with direct reference to interferometrically calibrated length standards. The ball plate has also been measured by NIST.

The ball plate is available to ACMC members for CMM applications on a fee-for-service basis. The ball plate is supplied with specific instructions for its use along with data sheets for recording measurement results. Measurement results are forwarded to NRC for assessment. The price of a week use of the ball plate use is \$400. For full details, please contact ACMC.

The program, sponsored by NRC, is advantageous to small and medium size companies whose budgets do not allow for purchase and maintenance of such artifacts—initial price approximately \$20,000 and calibration cost of approximately \$10,000.

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## Technical Conferences

This year, as you already know, ACMC is organizing two conferences. The ACMC Annual General Meeting will be held on 27-28 September 1996 at Durham College in Oshawa, and the CMM User's Meeting on 30 October and 1 November at Laval University in Quebec City (French only). We hope this will become a tradition.

## Technical Seminars

Issues such as "hand-on-experience", "user problems" and the isolation of West Coast CMM users were discussed at the ACMC steering committee meeting. The committee recommended organizing a technical seminar in Vancouver B.C. Mr. Bob Mc Kenzie from Canadian Autoparts Toyota, B.C. volunteered to coordinate the first west coast seminar scheduled for 12th September 1996. Mr. Kostadin Doytchinov, NRC-Ottawa, will be the guest speaker.

Seminars in convenient locations across Canada is an objective of our association. We encourage ACMC members to call us with their needs, and problems. We will collate these requests and when numbers warrant a group seminar or workshop in a particular area of the country, plans will be initiated. The steering committee will arrange for speakers who can address the suggested topics. A fee may be charged to the participants in order to cover expenses for renting a facility and for travel expenses of speakers, if applicable.

## Technical books at a discount

ACMC has negotiated a special discount of 25% - 30% for its members from Marcel Dekker Inc. On some titles the discount can be even greater. To be eligible for the discount you must order through ACMC.