Non-Ferrous Founders’ Society

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

SUPPORT, GUIDANCE & ADVOCACY FOR THE NON-FERROUS METAL CASTING INDUSTRY
The Non-Ferrous Founders’ Society (NFFS) was founded in 1943 to help non-ferrous foundries in their dealings with the War Production Board, a government agency established by executive order to oversee production during World War II. Today, the Society continues to effectively represent the interests of the non-ferrous foundry industry in Washington, but it has grown to offer a full range of programs and services designed to help foundry leaders successfully operate their businesses.

Unlike larger associations, NFFS has the unique ability to focus its attention on issues that really matter to non-ferrous foundries. All of the Society’s board members are owners or top executives of non-ferrous foundries, and at every board meeting, the board devotes part of its agenda to identifying and addressing current issues and concerns, including how NFFS can help its members with their most pressing challenges. NFFS has become a proven resource for information and services that help foundries remain competitive and strong in a volatile business climate.

ADVOCACY & INDUSTRY REPRESENTATION

For over 75 years, NFFS has served as the voice for non-ferrous foundries. The NFFS staff and Government Affairs Committee actively monitor new legislative and regulatory developments in Washington, as well as at the regional and state levels, and effectively represents the interests of non-ferrous foundries. All U.S. non-ferrous foundries have at some point benefited from the Society’s efforts to protect the industry from misguided or overly burdensome regulations.

In past years, the Society filed comments on the proposed Silica Rule, commented on the NFPA’s revision to its guidance standard on combustible dust, submitted recommendations regarding EPA’s planned implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act amendments that reduced the permissible lead content limit, and met with representatives of the Office of Management & Budget concerning revisions to the copper benchmarks in the proposed EPA Stormwater Multi-Sector General Permit. In 2016, NFFS was the only trade association to advocate against the OSHA Beryllium Rule on behalf of general industry. You can have confidence that NFFS will continue to defend the concerns and interests of your foundry when government regulations affect our industry.

VISIBILITY & BRAND AWARENESS

NFFS membership helps put your company in front of potential business partners. All new members are announced in the NFFS Notes member newsletter and in the NFFS social media networks upon joining. NFFS also offers ongoing opportunities for publication of press releases and company news, which are read by hundreds of industry contacts. In addition, all member companies are listed in the NFFS Membership Directory, available in print or searchable online 24/7 at the NFFS website. Finally, all NFFS members receive a high-quality NFFS Member plaque for display within their facility, and employees are encouraged to use the NFFS Member logo in their print or online communications, indicating their commitment to supporting the industry and to the mission of the Society.
INDUSTRY INFORMATION

NFFS works continuously to provide its members with current information on a wide range of topics relevant to foundry management. Among the valuable resources provided to NFFS members:

- **NFFS Notes**, a monthly members-only publication which provides a variety of valuable content including economic updates and analysis, member news and information, health and safety guidance, regulatory compliance advice, foundry-specific technical articles, and more!
- **Industry Insider**, a monthly industry-wide publication that focuses on the most important and relevant news and shares information about resources available to assist your foundry.
- **Industry Economic Advisor**, a monthly newsletter released with NFFS Notes containing economic indicator trend data and relevant economic news, published specifically for NFFS members by ITR Economics.
- **NFFS Regulatory Compliance Calendar** filled with important dates, deadlines and information to help your foundry manage its Health, Safety and Environmental efforts.
- **Free monthly webinars** addressing a variety of topics including environmental health and safety, OSHA/EPA regulatory compliance, government relations, operations, and more!
- **Access to a wide variety of members-only content and resources** through the NFFS website, including publications, webinars, document templates, and e-learning modules.

EHS GUIDANCE & EXPERTISE

NFFS is the industry leader when it comes to environmental health & safety. Our many resources included with NFFS membership include the following:

**NFFSummit Health & Safety Webinars**

NFFSummit webinars are offered on the second Tuesday of every month, at no additional cost to NFFS members. These on-line meetings enable attendees to engage in live discussion about a variety of environmental health and safety topics. A recording of these webinars is sent to all registered attendees following the webinar, and the slides are archived on the NFFS website for download 24/7. The archive of webinar slides includes over 50 different health and safety topics, including respirable silica, lockout/tagout, the EPA R Form, air sampling, stormwater sampling, OSHA inspections, and much more.

**Regulatory Compliance Hotline**

For over 30 years, the OSHA and EPA compliance specialists at Joseph A. Guimond & Associates have worked to assist NFFS members with their environmental health and safety questions and problems. Skip and Martha Guimond are well known as industry experts in providing no-nonsense compliance assistance and advice. They are available to members via the NFFS Regulatory Compliance Hotline, and most consultations are without additional cost.

**Foundry Safety Training**

Unsafe work practices are dangerous and expensive. These online safety training programs were developed specifically for non-ferrous foundries and ingot manufacturers to assist them with developing safer work practices. Access to these training programs is free for NFFS members! Programs are available in both English and Spanish, and topics include: Foundry Air Contaminants (including silica), GHS/HazCom, Foundry Noise Exposure, Emergency Planning, Electrical Safety, Lockout/Tagout, and Lead Hazards.

**Regulatory Compliance Templates**

One of the most important goals of the Non-Ferrous Founders’ Society is to reduce the burden that laws and regulations create for foundries. The Society has an archive of written safety and health program templates for use by NFFS members to help them simplify compliance with many of the regulations that apply to our industry. These documents can be downloaded and then edited to customize them to your facility. Templates are available for a wide variety of topics, including asbestos, bloodborne pathogens, cadmium, confined space, electrical safety, emergency action, hearing conservation, hazard communication, lead, lockout/tagout, medical access, personal protective equipment, and respiratory protection.
NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

NFFS offers opportunities for members to meet their peers and develop a network of lasting business relationships. The annual Industry Executive Conference provides industry leaders the chance to connect with colleagues, see old friends—and make new ones—while benefiting from high-quality educational programming tailored specifically to non-ferrous foundries. In addition, attendees have the opportunity to interact with industry suppliers at the Industry Executive Conference Tabletop Exhibition, and to share ideas and experiences with other foundry leaders in a series of relaxed, social events designed to facilitate relationship-building.

NFFS members are also encouraged to take advantage of leadership opportunities within the Society. Regardless of the size of your company, you can make your voice heard and share your thoughts regarding important issues affecting the metal casting industry. Government Affairs, Membership, Programs, and Scholarships are just a few of the volunteer committees working through NFFS to further the success of our industry.

COST SAVINGS PROGRAMS

Grainger Program

Use your NFFS membership to take advantage of substantial product discounts. Chris Shanks, Sr. Vice President at Ford Meter Box, said, “The Grainger purchasing program available through NFFS saves Ford Meter Box many times the cost of our annual dues per year. NFFS membership is an easy decision if you purchase almost anything from Grainger.”

Other Grainger benefits include:

• Even deeper discounts on frequently purchased products
• Exclusive product lines, including quality brands like Dayton, Condor, Tough Guy, Air Handler, Westward and more!
• Real-time product availability and order tracking
• 10% off all Grainger catalog and online products
• Prepaid freight on orders shipped via ground transportation
• After-hours emergency services—call to open up a branch at any time (fee may apply)

Energy Buyers Program through APPI

NFFS has endorsed APPI Energy to provide data-driven procurement solutions that reduce and manage electricity and natural gas supply costs for members on an ongoing basis. Every day, APPI Energy identifies the wide range of energy supplier prices across the U.S., and utilizes that data to provide the lowest prices available among many vetted, competing suppliers. Stan Bass, President of Fort Worth Aluminum Foundry, said about the program: “APPI Energy helped us complete an energy efficiency retrofit project that did not require any out-of-pocket costs. Making apples to apples price comparisons, and forcing suppliers to compete for our business, our company was able to make the most informed buying decision.”

Freight Discounts through YRC

Lower costs and increase margins when you ship with YRC Freight, the original LTL (less-than-truckload) experts. NFFS has negotiated special rates for members on qualifying LTL Shipments. YRC Freight delivers flexibility and reliability to your supply chain through a comprehensive North American network and a broad portfolio of standard, guaranteed, expedited, specialized, and Canada and Mexico cross-border LTL services.

BY THE NUMBERS

In the 2018 Non-Ferrous Founders' Society membership survey:

- Over 94% of NFFS members said that they were very or extremely likely to renew their NFFS membership;
- Over 91% said that they were very or extremely likely to recommend NFFS membership to other foundries; and
- Over 85% reported that their NFFS membership is very or extremely valuable.

“NFFS has been great. The support and information that you’re putting out there is invaluable to small guys like us. The environmental resources that NFFS provides have been HUGE. And of course there is the fellowship, the ability to ask others, “How are YOU dealing with this particular problem?” Our investment in NFFS membership has been well worth the money.”

- Bret Markum, Aluminum Castings Co.