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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Investment Casting Institute
Brings Conference to Cleveland
Event to Showcase the Latest
Applications and Processes in
Investment Casting**

October 10, 2003; Cleveland, Ohio – Members of the investment casting industry from across the country and beyond will convene in Cleveland for the Investment Casting Institute's 51st Technical Conference & Expo in Cleveland, November 2-5, 2003, at the Cleveland Renaissance Hotel.

The conference and expo will bring together the latest technical information, the newest in products and services and award-winning investment casting applications. This event is expected to attract more than 500 industry representatives worldwide, including some from Europe and Asia. Presentations will be related to virtually every phase of the investment casting process from new technology to research and development to process innovations.

Nipendra (Nip) P. Singh, Partner of Cleveland-based S&A Consulting Group LLP, and two other Ohio-based ICI Board members were instrumental in bringing this year's event to Cleveland. This is the first time in the Institute's 50-year history that the technical conference is being held in Ohio.

"Fortunately, U.S. investment casting still holds a technology advantage and provides more than 60% of all precision castings produced in the 'free world,' Mr. Singh adds. "Ohio plays a major part in our country's investment casting industry. Our firm estimates that Ohio is responsible for more than \$1 billion revenue in casting, material and tooling/supplies."

We are what we repeatedly do.
Excellence is then not an act but a habit.
Aristotle

Excellence

"This annual gathering is the only industry conference in the United States devoted exclusively to investment casting. We provide a relevant agenda focusing on practical improvements, best practices and advancements that people can implement fairly quickly to improve their process and enhance competitiveness," said Michael C. Perry, Executive Director of the Investment Casting Institute (ICI). "We're pleased to have the conference in a centralized location like Cleveland that is easy to get to at an affordable price, plus there are lots of foundries in the Midwest."

Investment casting, also known as the Precision Casting process, dates back to more than 5,000 years ago – traced back to Egypt, China and India. This process has been technically upgraded to become a major manufacturing process requiring exact dimensional and metallurgical properties for jet engine components and the commercial and automotive industries. Singh claims that every day we are in contact with a product which uses investment casting components.

S&A Consulting Group will present a paper on "Inclusion – A Systematic Approach for Reduction in Investment Casting." This paper is considered very timely as the casting industry is facing many challenges including the imports from China and Eastern European countries. Other presentations in the technical program represent a balance between foundries, suppliers and universities. Techniques, procedures, processes, equipment and materials that improve the process and reduce the cost of the final product will be covered.

On November 3, three winners of the Casting Contest will be announced as part of the event. They will be recognized from the numerous ICI members who submitted new castings that show the advantages of the process and showcase solutions.

The cost of the four-day event is: \$495 for ICI members and \$895 for non-members. To attend only the exhibition on Nov. 3 & 4, the cost is \$75, and the fee for the reception only on Nov. 2 is \$150.

Established in 1953, the Institute is a non-profit corporation whose purpose is to promote quality standards, collect and disseminate information about the industry, and provide industry education opportunities to members. It is the largest investment casting trade association in the world since the bulk of technology, as well as the largest concentration of casters, are located in the North America. ICI consists of more than 200 companies, half of which are casting members and half of which are supplier members.

For more information, visit the Institute's Web site at: www.investmentcasting.org or call 201-573-9770.

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What is honored in a country will be cultivated there.

Alata

Excellence