

Kathy L. Hayrynen, PhD, FASM

Kathy has a BS, MS and PhD in Metallurgical Engineering from Michigan Technological University. Her graduate work focused on production of ductile iron and ADI. Following a post-doctoral research position on Ausformed/Austempered Ductile, Kathy joined the AP companies in 1995. She is currently the Vice President of Research & Development. Kathy is well known in the Austempering world having authored and co-authored many papers on ADI and frequently speaks on said topics. She is a past Chair of the AFS Cast Iron Division, a former President of the Foundry Educational Foundation and a member of the External Advisory Board for the Department of Materials Science & Engineering at Michigan Tech. Kathy has received several industry/academic honors including: an AFS Award of Scientific Merit, an AFS Ray H. Witt Management Award, the Women in Metalcasting Award of Excellence, 5 best paper awards from the AFS Cast Iron Division, the Ductile Iron Society Annual Award, ASM Fellow, ASM Education Foundation George Roberts Award and induction into the MSE Academy at Michigan Tech. More recently, she received an AFS John H. Whiting Gold Medal for her exemplary work in cast iron research and standards, chairing the AFS Technical Council, leadership in streamlining the AFS Cast Iron Division, as well as for advocacy and mentorship of students and women in metalcasting.

Steve Metz, BS, MS, MBA

Steve holds a BS and MS degree in Materials Engineering and an MBA from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He has worked in the metals manufacturing industry for his entire 25-year career. He was with Kohler Company for 14 years where he gained significant experience in quality systems, pattern and tooling design, process engineering, gating/rising design (using traditional and computer modeling methods) and operations management. He then worked for Castalloy (a division of Wheelabrator) as Director of Engineering for a jobbing foundry specializing in alloy white iron, stainless steel, alloy steel and Manganese steel production. Steve joined Applied Process in 2011 after having been a customer of, or a supplier to Applied Process for 19 years. Steve truly enjoys all aspects of the Applied Process value proposition, be it excellence in operations management, assisting customers in developing unique solutions to opportunities or problems as well as direct sales and educating customers through personal visits and presentations.

Jeremy Lipshaw, BS, MS

Jeremy received a Bachelor's in Materials Science and Engineering in 2017 and a Master's in Mechanical Engineering in 2018, both from the University of Michigan. In addition to his studies, Jeremy worked at, and eventually managed Joyworks Studio, a prototype foundry specializing in castings education and ductile iron research. After graduation, he joined Applied Process as a Product Development Engineer where he assists with cycle development, designs lightweight and sustainable casting conversions, characterizes novel heat treatments, and improves internal modeling capabilities. Jeremy also serves as the Vice Chair of the Ductile Iron Society Research Committee.