

Our ref: PR012 25.02.05
FAO: News Desks
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PRESS INFORMATION



Award Success for Innoval Technology

Douglas Boomer, Innoval Technology's joining expert, has been awarded the Arch T. Colwell Merit Award by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) for his paper entitled 'A New Approach for Robust High-Productivity Resistance Spot Welding of Aluminium'. The paper was selected from 2,492 which were published for SAE conferences and meetings during 2003.

The Arch T. Colwell Merit Award was established to recognise authors of outstanding papers presented at SAE meetings. Papers are judged for their value as contributions to existing knowledge of mobility engineering, and primarily with respect to their value as an original contribution to the subject matter.

The winning paper was written in response to the reluctance of the automotive industry to embrace spot welding for high-volume production of aluminium vehicles. It addresses the concerns voiced by the industry and describes a low-cost joining method which offers increased electrode-life and improved joint consistency, as well as significantly reduced weld failure rates (below 1%).

Douglas and his Alcan co-authors will be presented with the award at the Honors Convocation during the SAE 2005 World Congress in Detroit in April.

- Ends -

Notes to editors:

Innoval Technology Ltd was formed by materials scientists, engineers and business managers as a buy-out from the Banbury Research Centre of Alcan International. Innoval provides a range of services for Novelis businesses and for other aluminium and light metals end-users around the world, including process development; metallurgy & surface technology; materials characterisation and analysis and knowledge management. Collectively the Innoval team has published in excess of 350 technical papers and patents.

Copies of the paper (2003-01-0575) by Douglas Boomer can be obtained directly from SAE.

Further details and images can be obtained from:

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