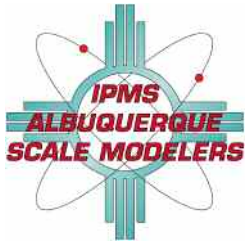


# ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<http://abqscalemodelers.com>

September 2014

## THE FEZ SEZ TONY HUMPHRIES

As you will all have no doubt heard by now, Chile Con 3 was a real success and a feather in the cap of ASM. Hopefully we will get a full breakdown of the results very soon so that you can see how well you all did. Congratulations are due not just to those of you who won trophies but also to all who entered and represented us so well. We have had nothing but positive feedback so far and the E-Board and I would like to pass on our thanks to you all for the part you played in making this event such a success. Many of you stepped up and helped out in a variety of ways and without this kind of participation and positivity from the club as a whole, we simply could not host events like this. There are too many of you to mention everyone by name, but to all who helped out, thank you! Give yourselves a pat on the back. In fact, take a short all-expenses-paid holiday. There. Did you enjoy it? Good.

Also, you are probably aware that ASM won Chapter of the Year for Region 10 this year. I believe this marks the seventh time in the last twelve years that we have won this award and again it speaks volumes for what you as members of this club put into it. We are clearly establishing ourselves as a major force in this region and we can hopefully continue to expand upon that in the coming years. In many ways we are rather like a modeling equivalent of the Dallas Cowboys, I suppose. Except of course that we win things... sadly, we don't have those cheerleaders though. But anyway, without your enthusiasm and willingness to get involved, to help out when asked and to volunteer your valuable time, we wouldn't

have won this award once, let alone seven times. So again, on behalf of the board, we thank you! Mike Blohm, our Vice-President and long-serving (and probably long-suffering) webmaster, also won Webmaster of the Year this year once again and I'm sure you will all join me in congratulating him for a job well done. The only thing we didn't actually win this year seemingly is Newsletter of the Year, although I'm pretty sure that we ran the eventual winners pretty close. Possibly the fact that we

didn't win is that it might seem excessive to give all three available awards to the same club. Sweeps probably aren't allowed with these kinds of awards. It is also no doubt largely to do with the nonsense that I write in here every month, so you have my apologies there. It's no easy job turning some of these submissions into an informative and enjoyable publication I can assure you. Especially mine, and an honorable mention must go to Joe Walters who regularly works miracles in this regard (and in other areas too) so please pass on your appreciation when you see him next. He thor-

oughly deserves all of the accolades that we can pass his way.

*[Editor's Note: Under current Region 10 rules, to be eligible for Newsletter of the Year, the editor must be an IPMS member. Thus, I do not qualify. I appreciate the good words and continued support from the club, which is worth much more to me! -JW]*

You've probably also heard that the New Mexico State Fair is coming up at the start of September too. Mike will as usual be seeking volunteers to help out with the registration and judging for the State Fair and if you can volunteer to help, please do. The Fair gets a lot of people through the door every year and it is a great way to pub-



lize ourselves as a club and IPMS as our parent (in a manner of speaking) organization. It helps to introduce people to the joys of scale modeling and in some cases, to the danger of sharp tools and glue fumes in enclosed spaces... So it's not just a display of the best in the hobby, but a public service as well and you can't say fairer than that, surely? We will be putting on a display of WWI (100th anniversary) and D-Day (70th anniversary) related models to help commemorate these historic events and to also help educate the viewing public. If you have any finished models that fit in to either theme and would like them to form part of the display then please let Mike know. We will do our best to incorporate them as long as they are not 15-foot-long dioramas of the landings on Omaha Beach or 1/6-scale Zeppelins, as space is somewhat limited. Also, if you'd like to enter your models (you don't have to stick to the display themes by the way) then please do so also. Maybe you can win a ribbon or award there? You never know until you try, so why not give it a go? ASM regularly do well in competition at the State Fair and you can contribute to that too. So take a break from the Ferris wheel, those epilepsy-inducing flashing lights, the annoying Justin Bieber soundtrack, put down that enormous over-priced turkey leg (turkey? Looks more like an ostrich if you ask me) and enter a model or two. You know it makes sense...

## CONTEST DIRECTOR UPDATE

### JOHN TATE

This summer, ASM's contest focus was understandably on July's Chile Con III Region X contest, so that event was bookended with sponsored contests at our club meetings in June and August.

The June 13 club meeting had a Special contest (World War I) and a D-Day contest sponsored by the E-Board. The World War I contest winners were Frank Randall in Intermediate, for his 1/2 Mark I Male British tank, and Brian Peck in Masters, for his nicely-done Wingnut Wings 1/32 Rumlper C.IV WWI German observation plane. The D-Day contest winners were Tim Wood in Intermediate for his sleek Tamiya 1/32 Spitfire IXc and Brian Peck in Masters for his 1/32 P-51D Mustang.

There was a well-attended swap meet at the August 5 Meeting, as well as Tony Humphrey's "France" sponsored contest. Tony endured the unendurable and handed out two awards for French subjects—Larry Glenn had the Best Aviation entry for his beautiful 1/48 Dewoitine D.520, and I had the Best Non-Aviation Entry for a Nemrod 90mm Verdun poilu.

From now until the end of the contest year, our meetings will have a busy contest schedule to allow maximum

## Year 2014 Contest Quick Reference Chart

Titles in **blue** indicate contests for points

- 03 Jan SPECIAL CONTEST #1**  
**SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY**  
Sponsored Contest: "Frickin' Laser Beams" (Patrick Dick)  
Sponsored Contest: "Best Ford-themed model" (Patrick Dick)
- 07 Feb ASM Swap Meet**—no contest.
- 07 Mar Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 04 Apr SPECIAL CONTEST #2**  
**FAMILY TIES**
- 02 May Japan**—Any kit/subject/scale.
- 13 Jun SPECIAL CONTEST #3**  
**WORLD WAR I**  
Sponsored Contest: "D-Day, June 1944" (ASM E-Board)
- 11 Jul No meeting** due to Chile Con 3.
- 01 Aug ASM Swap Meet**—no points contest.  
Sponsored Contest: "Best French Subject" (Tony Humphries)
- 05 Sep Speed Demons**—Any it/subject/scale.  
**SPECIAL CONTEST #4**  
**SEAPLANES / AMPHIBIANS**  
Sponsored Contest: "Electronic Warfare" (Gil De La Plain)
- 03 Oct Sponsored Contest: "Adversaries"**  
(Mike & Matt Blohm)  
Sponsored Contest: "Assam Valley" (Don Smith)
- 07 Nov Open Contest**—Any kit/subject/scale.  
Sponsored Contest: "Russian Bombers" (Tim Wood)
- 06 Dec SPECIAL CONTEST #5**  
**BATTLE OF THE BULGE PLUS 70**  
Plus Model of the Year competition!  
Sponsored Contest: "Fanta-storical" (Josh Pals & Patrick Dick)

entries and contest participation as the Modeler of the Year and Model of the Year competitions enter the final stretch towards a December showdown. The September 5 meeting will have two contests: a Seaplanes and Amphibians Special Contest, and Gil De La Plain's Electronic Warfare sponsored contest. Gil came up with an interesting theme that will make for some unusual entries and he's got some nice awards ideas to boot. Both contests can inspire some off-beat modeling possibilities so finish up your builds and clear your shelves to ensure there are plenty of model entries on the tables in September.

Looking ahead to October, there's a Speed Demons points contest as well as Mike and Matt Blohm's "Adversaries" sponsored contest, and Don Smith's Assam Valley contest for best Allied and Axis fighter planes that saw action in the CBI from 1943 to 1945. Further out in November, there's an Open points contest, and Tim Wood's Russian Bombers sponsored contest.

Let's finish out the year with some real show-stoppers; start cutting sprue now to have some of those dream builds ready to go and show when the weather turns cold.

## FIELD TRIP! MIKE BLOHM

### Palmdale Airparks

This article covers two outdoor airpark museums that I visited in August 2014 that are located adjacent to Lockheed Plant 42 in Palmdale, California. These two museums are only open on Friday – Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and both have free admission. The museums sit next to each other and you will be able to visit both in just a couple of hours.

The first museum is **Blackbird Airpark**, which is an annex of the Air Force Flight Test Center Museum located at Edwards AFB. This museum, dedicated to the Blackbird family, is unique in that it displays together the Lockheed A-12 aircraft used by the CIA, SR-71A Blackbird, a D-21B Reconnaissance Drone, and a U-2D Dragon Lady. Overall a group of really cool aircraft to see. The U-2D is a modified two-seat version used in testing. Also on display are a J57 engine used by the U-2 and a J58 engine used by both the A-12 and SR-71, with two of the latter's starter carts. There is a small museum/gift shop next to the aircraft, which has some wind tunnel test models and pressure suits and ejection seats used with the aircraft. There is also a pretty nice set of models depicting various A-12, SR-71, and R-21 drone-carrying aircraft. Make sure you check those out.



The second museum that I visited is the **Joe Davies Heritage Airpark**, which is supported by the city of Palmdale. This museum has a total of eighteen aircraft on display arranged along a circular walk path where the aircraft are never too far apart. The one exception is the B-52 which takes a little bit of a hike to get to. The aircraft include a F-86F, B-52D with AGM-28 Hound

## FRED'S FOTO FILE FRED FRANCESCHI

### Bridging Boat

Well, folks, here's a "what is it." I took these photos in a private military vehicle storage and parts yard located in Utah in July of 2013—not long ago, by my timeline. It had a military history, then was picked up by a sheriff's department. It looks like a cutout was made in the stern to accommodate an outboard motor.



Okay, I know that it's a boat, but maybe it's not a boat. I think this was a component of a bridging system. Notice the fittings on the stern of the boat; they are made to be pinned to the stern of another similar boat. And this boat is flat from the stern to most of the way forward. So it looks like a group of these boats could be connected in pairs and a temporary bridge laid across them. I am a bit curious about the weight limits. Could this handle an M4 tank? Probably. Could it handle an M-60 tank? I don't know.



For you armor diorama folks, this could make for an interesting display. But I don't know when it was used, so a bit more research is necessary to put a vehicle from the appropriate era in the diorama.

[Editor's note: All of Fred's photos of this bridging boat (larger and in full resolution) are in the [Bonus Pages](#). -JW]



Dog missile, F-100D (former Thunderbird), F-101F, F-104C, F-105G, F-4D, YA-4C (currently in refurbishment), A-7B, F-14D, T-33, T-38A, F-5E, C-140, Triumph business jet, Space Shuttle Escape System Test



Vehicle, and an F-16 that needs a lot of work. Unfortunately the only World War II era aircraft is a nicely restored C-46D Commando. There are also several types of engines, bombs, and missiles also on display. A 1/2-scale model of the B-2 Stealth Bomber is mounted on a pole near the museum entrance. Overall these aircraft

are in great shape for being in an outdoor display in the hot California desert.



Highly recommended to visit if you happen to be in the Palmdale or Lancaster area of southern California. Check out their websites at the links shown here.

<http://afftcmuseum.org/visit/blackbird-airpark>  
<http://www.cityofpalmdale.org/Airpark>

[Editor's note: All of Mike's photos (larger and in full resolution) are in the *Bonus Pages*. -JW]

## IN THE BONUS PAGES!

### JOE WALTERS

In this month's **Bonus Pages**:

- All of Fred's photos of the bridging boat
- Mike Blohm's photos from the Palmdale museums
- Joe's report on the big (but only vaguely modeling-related) Star Trek convention in Las Vegas

**Master**

James Guld . . . . .	604
Brian Peck . . . . .	437
Tony Humphries . . . . .	420
Larry Glenn . . . . .	391
Ken Liotta . . . . .	249
James Strickland . . . . .	249
Victor Maestas . . . . .	222
Michael Foust . . . . .	154
Glenn Bingham . . . . .	110
Mike Blohm . . . . .	108
Dave Miller . . . . .	104
Patrick Dick . . . . .	8

**Intermediate**

Don Smith . . . . .	768
Adrian Montaño . . . . .	737
Gorham Smoker . . . . .	700
Partap Davis . . . . .	410
Frank Randall . . . . .	216
Pete Armijo . . . . .	150
Jack Garriss . . . . .	150
Jerry Little . . . . .	127
Len Faulconer . . . . .	125
Steve Brodeur . . . . .	85
Ken Piniak . . . . .	12
Matt Blohm . . . . .	8
Gil Johnson . . . . .	2
Tim Wood . . . . .	2

**Basic**

Jeannie Garriss . . . . .	550
Michel Wingard . . . . .	4
Rolf Nitsche . . . . .	2

**Junior**

Aleya Montaño . . . . .	855
Marie Smith . . . . .	200

## MODELER OF THE YEAR POINTS STANDINGS

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ASM members are encouraged to submit articles, reviews and other items as appropriate. Contact editor Joe Walters for details and specs. Submission deadline for each issue is the 20th of the preceding month.

# BONUS PAGES! FRED'S FOTO FILE FRED FRANCESCHI

## **Bridging Boat**

Here are all the photos Fred supplied of this bridging boat.











**BONUS PAGES!**  
**FIELD TRIP!**  
**MIKE BLOHM**  
**Palmdale Airparks**

We start with photos from Blackbird Air Park. Bottom, L – R: An A-12, U-2D, and SR-71A.





Above, L – R: SR-71A, A-12. The U-2D is visible in the background.

Below: Note the D-21 to the left of the Blackbirds.





The A-12.





The D-21 Drone.





Above: The D-21 drone, with the A-12 in background. Below: The D-21 and the A-12.





Above: The SR-71A.



Left: Model display case in the museum/gift shop.



Two shots of the U-2D.

The following photos are from the Joe Davies Heritage Airpark.

Top: The sign at the entrance. Below: The 1/8-scale model of the B-2.







Above: A-7B

Below: C-140





The mighty BUF! B-52D with AGM-28 Hound Dog missile.

[Editor's note: We SAC alumni know it's spelled BUF, with one "F," and we know *exactly* what it stands for.]





Here's the Curtiss C-46 Commando.





F-4D





Two variants of the same basic airframe. Above: F-5E. Below: T-38A Talon, a.k.a. the White Rocket.





Above: F-14D. Below: F-16, apparently a work in progress.





F-86F.







Thunderbirds are go! The F-100D in its distinctive livery.





Above: F-101F Voodoo. Below: F-104C Starfighter.





F-105G.





Above: Space Shuttle Escape System Test Vehicle. Below: T-33.





Above: Triumph business jet.

Below: [From the editor] It's sometimes interesting, informative, and even amusing to check out online satellite views of outdoor museums like this one. The upper image is from Google Maps and shows the facility basically as Mike experienced it. At bottom is the same view from Apple Maps (which did locate it in the right place, yes, thank you). There are some differences, implying that Apple's is a significantly older photo. The C-46 is absent in the older photo, though you can clearly see parts of its wings in the parking lot to the north as it awaits restoration. The shuttle test vehicle is present (upper left parking lot), but doesn't yet have its parking barriers in place. And the missile next to the B-52 in the top photo is in the place where the C-46 will later go (and the B-52 is parked closer to the other planes in the older photo). Also, it looks like some of the structures between the two displays have changed a bit, the buildings at the bottom having been heavily renovated. But most interesting of all is the difference in the Blackbirds Air Park at the right: In the Apple photo, the D-21 is absent, but there's an F-117 stealth fighter sitting where the drone will later go! Wonder where that ended up?



# BONUS PAGES!

## STAR TREK LAS VEGAS 2014

### JOE WALTERS

The annual Creation Star Trek convention in Las Vegas, which Creation Entertainment claims is the largest annual Trek convention in the world, took place the weekend of July 31 – August 3 at the Rio Suites Hotel. Thousands showed up for the show, and a great time was there to be had. My wife and I certainly had one!

There are no modeling events at this particular convention, so I'll try to keep this brief.

The promoters had spent a little money this time around to ramp up the decor and general atmosphere of the con. Gone were the big banners of spaceships and head shots that had festooned the walls and stages of conventions past, but new things were there to see, some of them interactive. There was a full-sized "transporter" facility, fully lit and with recordings of proper sound effects playing continuously; there was also a mockup of the famous "Guardian of Forever," with properly flickering lights and sound effects. Both of these displays were meant for attendees to use to pose for photos. And they were both busy all weekend long!

Over 100 guests were present, many on stage (individually or as part of a panel) and several at tables in the Dealer Room. Most of these folks were quite accessible and easy to talk to. Sadly, since the advent of eBay, free autographs are no longer given, but you can usually get a nice hello and a handshake at no charge!



Two costumed attendees pose with the Guardian of Forever



Peter Weller on stage

Guests included three from the latest Star Trek movie (Simon Pegg, who plays Mr. Scott; Karl Urban, who plays Dr. McCoy; and Peter Weller, who played Admiral Marcus in the most recent film, *Star Trek: Into Darkness*). Weller is also well-known from the original *Robocop* films as well as *Buckaroo Banzai*, and was an excellent and engaging guest speaker. Creation has posted short videos from the stage appearances of [Karl Urban](#) (click to view) and [Simon Pegg](#) if you're interested. Pegg even discusses the infamous Neutron Cream Incident in detail. Urban's video shows clearly the "holodeck door" that was used for guests to enter the stage.



William Shatner arrived bearing a crutch; he had been in a wheelchair a few weeks before at Comic Con as a result of injuries sustained after being thrown from a horse. Clearly he is recovering!



Walter Koenig (L) with author Harlan Ellison, who was attending his first Star Trek convention in over twenty years

There were far too many guests to list here in detail, from every incarnation of Star Trek, and some from elsewhere. We attended a panel of JPL scientists who discussed the exploration of Mars and beyond; the famous “Mohawk Guy” from the Curiosity landing was among them.

A few guests showed up in character, notably Robert O’Reilly and J.G. Hertzler, who reprised their roles as the Klingons Gowron and Martok respectively. Inexplicably, they came onstage wearing bathrobes over their Klingon garb, but proceeded to have a fun time with the audience, even inviting everyone dressed in Klingon garb to join them on stage for some singing.

A costume competition is one of the major draws there, and there were costumed fans to be seen all over the convention.



Gowron (L) sports a lovely magenta sarong, while Martok checks out the provided couch.



But what about models?

Well, there are at present no modeling-related events at the show beyond a “centerpiece contest,” which sometimes features models in their designs. The main presence of models is in the Dealer Room, where several dealers sell kits, both the ubiquitous AMT/ERTL kits and some not so well-known. Some of these are getting harder to find, even from sources like eBay.

One (pardon the expression) enterprising vendor was selling mini-posters and pre-built models. Yes, it’s possible to earn some money from this hobby! You see some of his examples in the bottom photo on this page.







This dealer was selling mostly display models and figures (how many can you identify?), but there are a few kit builds in there, such as the Enterprise bridge and the My Favorite Martian spaceship in the top photo, and the Glencoe space station below. Obviously, he wasn't limiting himself to Trek-only subjects.

Also of interest to modelers would have been a couple of panels involving some of the special effect technicians who actually built models for the various shows before CGI took everything over.

We always have a good time at this convention, and plan to continue attending them. Tickets (the top level ones) are already available for the 2015 convention, and the following year, the 2016 convention will be celebrating the Star Trek's 50th anniversary (the show premiered in 1966), so we expect it will be quite the blow-out. They already have one guest signed up for it (Shatner, of course!), but expect pretty much every living Trek performer to be there!

Below is a photo of the Starfleet Cheerleading Team posing with Adam Malin, one of the two guys who run the convention. Click on it to go to their web site for this con!



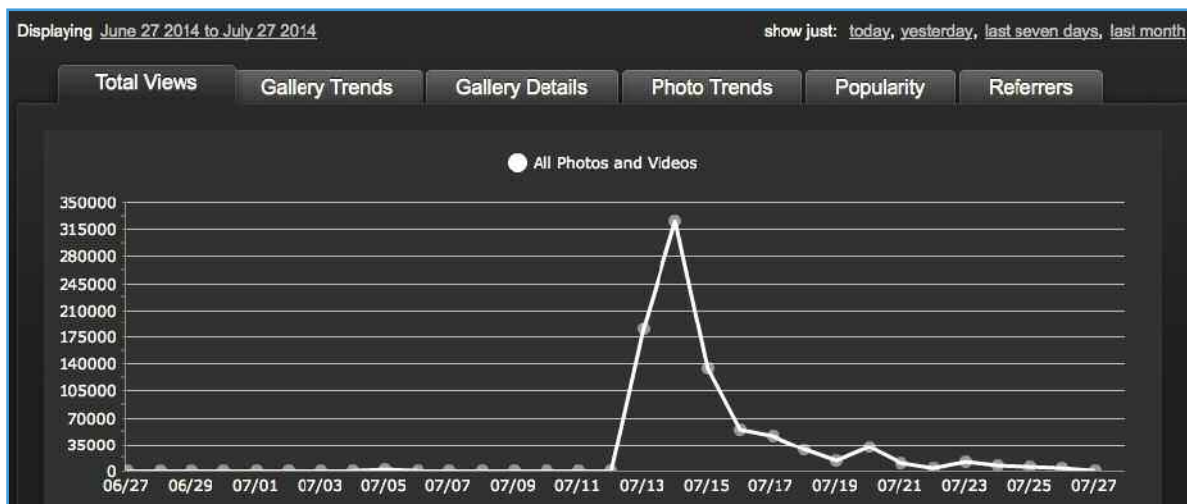
# BONUS PAGES!

## WIDESPREAD INTEREST IN CHILE CON

### JOE WALTERS

After Chile Con was over, I posted the set of excellent photos taken by Gil De La Plain on [an internet site](#), and sent out a link to the extended club email list and later printed it in this newsletter. Apparently word got around. A week or so later, I thought to check the usage stats on the site where I posted them, to see if anyone had bothered to look at them. I guesstimated that, given there are 300+ photos in the set, then if, say, 30 people looked at them all, that'd result in something on the order of 10,000 hits. I thought that might be optimistic.

I was quite surprised at the results:



Chile Con ended on June 12. The images were posted and announced via email on June 13. On that day alone, there were close to 200,000 hits, 300,000 the next day, and the numbers diminished over the following week—but there were over **800,000** total views of the models entered in our little contest!

One of the folks on that email list is a gentleman—sorry, I mean a *modeler*—named Fred Horkey, a longtime modeling enthusiast and known name to IPMS fans. Fred maintains an informal service whereby he forwards newsletters from various chapters to everyone on his list, and has been making our little club known to the world for some time now. I'm sure Fred's efforts were the source of many of these views. And Gil's photography skills account for why folks did more than just glance at a few and go elsewhere.

Thanks, Fred, for passing the word along!

Thanks, Gil, for your excellent photography!

And Thanks, ASM, for running a great convention/contest!

## Join IPMS/USA!

The International Plastic Modelers' Society is an organization dedicated to the fun of Scale Modeling. Started by Jim Sage of Dallas, Texas, in 1964, there are now IPMS branches all over the world.

As part of your IPMS/USA membership, you will receive the IPMS Journal six times a year. In it you will find stories of interest on subjects such as aircraft, armor, automotive, ships, and figures. You will also find listings of IPMS contests and swap meets, hints and tips, and reviews. Membership also qualifies you to participate in IPMS/USA-sanctioned Regional Contests, as well as our world-famous National Convention, held each summer.

As a member, you'll also be able to access our online Members' Forum, where a wide variety of society and modeling topics are discussed. In addition, many hobby shops around the country offer discounts to IPMS/USA members. To join IPMS/USA, simply use the form below or join online (<http://www.ipmsusa.org>).

For any questions or problems regarding your membership application or renewal, please contact the IPMS/USA Office Manager ([manager@ipmsusa.org](mailto:manager@ipmsusa.org)).



### IPMS/USA NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

IPMS No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(leave blank) FIRST M. LAST

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

VISA/MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ Account # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Adult: \$25  Junior (17 years old or younger): \$12 DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Canada & Mexico: \$30  Other Foreign: \$32  Foreign Air Mail: \$55

Family (Adult dues + \$5, one set magazines, # of membership cards required: \_\_\_\_\_)

If recommended by an IPMS member,  
list his/her name and member number \_\_\_\_\_ (name) \_\_\_\_\_ (IPMS#)

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Check out our web page: [www.ipmsusa.org](http://www.ipmsusa.org)