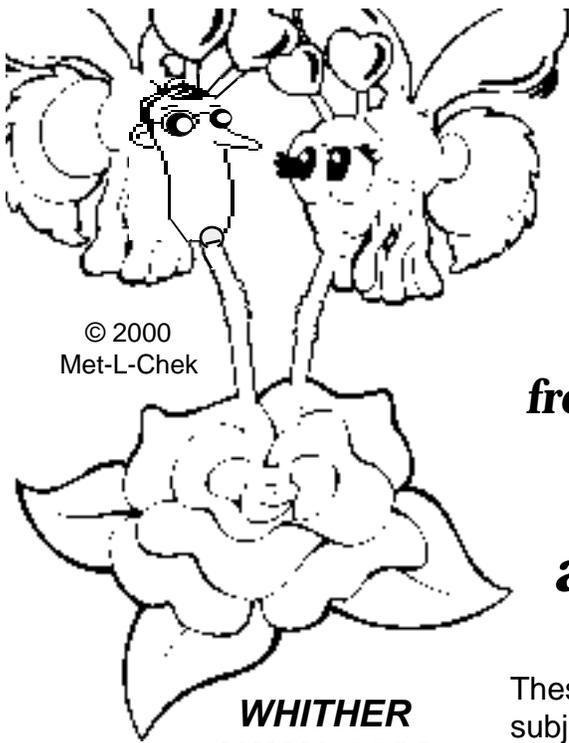


# Happy February



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## **WHITHER AWAY ????**

Some months ago, THE PENETRANT PROFESSOR reported on the history of AMS 2644, and how a group of dedicated professionals worked for some 12 years to bring it into existence. Under the provisions of AMS-2644, Air Force approved laboratories are allowed to qualify new penetrant products for every characteristic except for sensitivity. This is a continuation of the methods used in MIL-I-25135E. The qualification testing for sensitivity is still to remain the responsibility of the U. S. Air Force Materials Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Publication and maintenance of the Qualified Products List (QPL) was also to remain in the hands of the Air Force, which provides copies of the QPL to users at no cost.

Times are changing, however, and there is the prospect of change in the wind for the way that AMS-2644 is maintained and published.

**from Met-L-Chek**



## **and the Penetrant Professor**

These changes have been the subject of discussion at the most recent meetings of the SAE/AMSC Committee K, which has jurisdiction over AMS-2644. The motivation for the changes is the continuation of the effort by the U. S. Government to get out of the specification business and turn it over to civilian control. It was this motivation which led to the creation of AMS-2644 as a replacement for MIL-I-25135.

What is now proposed is the maintenance and publication of the Qualified Product List by a civilian agency. This proposal has raised several issues, and PRI, which is associated with SAE, has proposed that they could do some of the work involved. PRI personnel made a presentation at a recent meeting of Committee K. What was proposed was an organization which could conduct periodic reviews of the approved testing laboratories, be in control of the qualification testing, make revisions to the

QPL as necessary, and publish the QPL. This would be a bureaucracy larger than what is presently involved in these tasks, and which was not met with enthusiasm by the members. The costs of this organization would be supported by the penetrant manufacturers, and would have to be passed on to their customers in the form of higher prices. The PRI proposal went far beyond simply transferring the updating and publication of the QPL from the Air Force to a civilian agency.

As an alternate, several members of the Committee suggested that none of the present procedures required any changes, and that only the publication of the QPL might be contracted to PRI. This would effectively leave the qualification tests in the hands of laboratories which have already been audited and approved by the Air Force, with the exception of the sensitivity testing, which apparently will always be done by the Air Force. This would retain the present system, which has been successfully in force since 1985, and keep costs low because the only additional cost to the users of the system would be the cost of new issues of the QPL.



The situation is under study by an ad hoc group at the present time, with most of the original members of Committee K involved in what should be done. According to John Brausch at Wright Patterson AFB, there is not intense pressure to make this transfer at the present time, but it is definitely in the future. Met-L-Chek personnel will certainly be a part of this process.

### ***NEW and FREE***

They say that the two most powerful words in advertising are "new" and "free". If you want to get someone's attention, then it pays to shout "NEW" or "FREE", or better yet, "NEW and FREE".

### ***SO, WHAT'S NEW ?***

Met-L-Chek really has some new items which we feel are worth your careful consideration, and, as usual, these are designed to bring you high quality and to save you money at the same time.

**Met-L-Glo Carrier 2** — This new magnetic particle carrier should interest you, if you use magnetic particle inspection. It features low background fluorescence, low odor, good suspension qualities, and at the same time is priced lower than most other carriers.

**Met-L-Chek aqueous alkaline Cleaner 300LF** — Excellent for precleaning parts before penetrant inspection. It is fully approved by all major turbine engine OEM's, and all airlines.

**Met-L-Chek R-503** solvent cleaner/remover — Quick drying, and supplied in an aerosol can with a tube dispenser (like WD-40) so that it can be pin point applied to either a part or to a cloth for solvent removal inspection. An excellent product for "proving up" penetrant indications. Alcohol based, and contains no petroleum solvents.

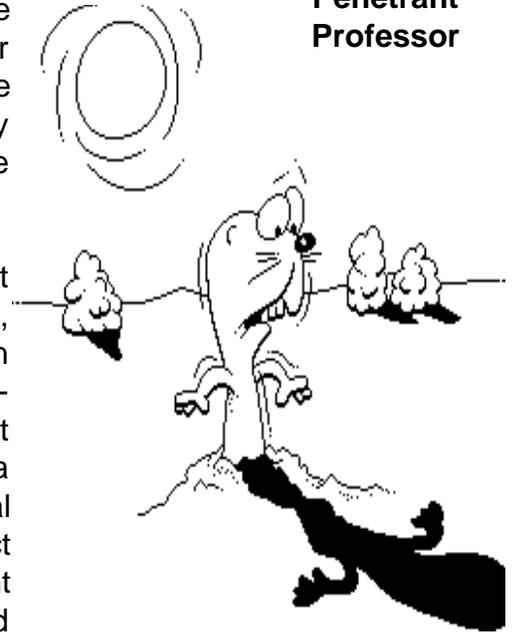
**Met-L-Chek R-504** solvent cleaner/remover — Faster drying than even R-503, R-504 is also supplied in an aerosol can with a tube dispenser (like WD-40) so that it can be pin point applied to either a part or to a cloth for solvent removal inspection. An excellent product for "proving up" penetrant indications. Contains no petroleum solvents.

### ***SO, WHAT'S FREE ?***

There is an old saying that there is no free lunch. But here's what we are willing to do. If you telephone us and describe your inspection operation, we will send you an aerosol can of either R-503 or

R-504 at no charge. Is there a catch? Sure there is. You will have to listen to us explain how you can save money in your inspection operation with no change in the quality of your process. You might even like what you hear.

### **The Penetrant Professor**



**PENETRANT PROFESSOR** is an occasional publication of Met-L-Chek. To receive it, call or FAX Beverly Clarke

