

R3 Technical Committee

Third Steering Committee Meeting

Date	August 25, 2026	Format	Virtual Meeting
Chair	Ian Wiese, Director of Technical Services	Duration	60 minutes

Meeting Purpose

Move R3 from intake-form development into a focused technical discussion of recurring Nickel Aluminum Bronze (NAB) and Copper-Nickel (CuNi) casting defects, where those defects are discovered, and what industry has already tried to reduce them.

Meeting Objectives

- Briefly review the updated R3 intake form and confirm that the revised approach is practical for continued industry use.
- Share anonymized themes from recent R3 industry engagement and reinforce that recurring NAB and CuNi casting challenges are not isolated to a single producer.
- Identify the defect types most commonly encountered in NAB and CuNi castings and where those defects are typically discovered.
- Capture corrective actions, process changes, and troubleshooting approaches already attempted - including what has and has not worked.
- Identify priority defect families or technical cases for confidential follow-up and deeper R3 investigation.

Agenda

Time	Agenda Item	Purpose / Intended Outcome
0:00-0:05	Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Review	Welcome participants, review the meeting objective, and briefly frame the transition from data-intake design into technical defect discussion.
0:05-0:12	Updated R3 Intake Form	Review the revised intake approach following prior committee feedback and identify any final practical concerns before continued use in industry conversations.
0:12-0:18	Recent Industry Engagement and Common Themes	Share high-level, anonymized observations from recent R3 engagement. Reinforce that recurring NAB and CuNi quality challenges are being reported across multiple producers.
0:18-0:40	Technical Discussion: Recurring Defect Types in NAB and CuNi	Identify the defect categories seen most often, where they are found in the process, and whether similar issues are being described differently across organizations.
0:40-0:55	Discussion: What Has Industry Tried?	Discuss process changes, corrective actions, inspection changes, and troubleshooting approaches already attempted. Identify what improved results, what did not, and what remains unresolved.
0:55-1:00	Action Items, Follow-Up, and Adjournment	Identify priority defect families for deeper R3 work, confirm confidential follow-up opportunities, assign near-term actions, and close the meeting.

Committee Discussion Questions

The committee is not being asked to disclose proprietary, customer-controlled, export-controlled, or otherwise restricted information. High-level descriptions are sufficient, and specific reject-rate numbers, customer names, or part identifiers are not required during the meeting.

- 1 Without sharing sensitive information, what defect types do you encounter most frequently in Nickel Aluminum Bronze and/or Copper-Nickel castings?
- 2 At what point are these defects usually discovered - during molding/pouring, shakeout, heat treatment, NDT, machining, assembly, customer inspection, or another stage?
- 3 Are the recurring issues primarily found internally or reported downstream? Are different organizations using different terminology for what may be similar defects?
- 4 What corrective actions or process changes have you already tried? Which approaches produced repeatable improvement, which had little effect, and which created new problems?
- 5 Which recurring defect or process challenge would benefit most from a focused R3 technical review, confidential case study, or future committee deep dive?

Participant Discussion Prompt

Please come prepared to discuss, at the level you are comfortable, one recurring NAB or CuNi defect your organization has encountered, where it is usually discovered, and one corrective action or process change you have tried. Specific reject rates, customer names, part numbers, and other sensitive details are not required. All information shared will be captured in a fully anonymized fashion.

Post-Meeting Follow-Up

- Incorporate committee input into the R3 defect-classification structure and updated intake/data framework.
- Identify one or two priority defect families for focused literature review, technical analysis, and future committee discussion.
- Schedule confidential follow-up conversations for members willing to discuss candidate cases in greater detail.
- Document anonymized lessons on corrective actions and process changes that have or have not produced improvement.
- Use the discussion to refine R3 targeted-assistance priorities and future technical committee topics.

Expected Meeting Output

PRIMARY OUTPUT	Initial committee-informed map of alloy, defect type, point of discovery, corrective actions attempted, and observed results for R3 prioritization.
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