

116TH ANNUAL CONVENTION — JUNE 21–24, 2022

Opening Address

by Michael Bley

Finally, we are able to have our convention in person!

I want to welcome everyone to the 116th Annual Convention. Joe Hoefer was able to assemble a wide range of papers, you will hear during the next two days. I hope you enjoy the program as much as I expect everyone will. Take advantage of the social interactions & activities scheduled for the next few days.

Now, let me introduce Eric Webb from Stahl, the sponsor of the John Arthur Wilson Memorial Lecture.

Introduction to the 61st John Arthur Wilson Lecture

by Eric Webb

Good morning Ladies and Gentlemen! My name is Eric Webb and it is my honor to introduce this year's John Arthur Wilson Lecture. After the two year pause due to Covid it is a pleasure to be back to this year's conference. We all have been through some very difficult times and being able to attend the ALCA conference and see all your smiling faces is a welcome relief to these troubling two years we have endured. This is the 61st John Arthur Wilson lecture. Looking back at the former recipients of this award you will see strong leaders of our industry in various ways and this year's recipient is another strong leader.

The John Arthur Wilson lecture was initiated in 1959 in memory of the late John Arthur Wilson, who was regarded as a world leader in the leather chemical industry as well as an esteemed member of our association.

I am here as a representative of Stahl, who are proud sponsors of the John Arthur Wilson lecture since 2004. I know our association thanks Stahl for their ongoing support and commitment as the main sponsor for this lecture.

This year's recipient of the John Arthur Wilson award is a visionary who embraces lean and innovative manufacturing techniques while ensuring product sustainability. His passion and commitment to leather is evident in his leadership. He is the current CEO of Pangea, a global leader of artisan leather for the automotive leather industry. In his 25 plus year career in automotive he has held two key Leadership roles within the leather industry. Besides his current role of CEO at Pangea he held the role of Vice President of Operations at Eagle Ottawa, where he led the global standardization of the company's operation, material management, global engineering and human resources and it's ten manufacturing facilities worldwide.

He earned a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from South Dakota School of Mines and an International Business MBA from Wayne State University. He currently serves as an advisor to Endeavor Detroit, which promotes mentoring to high-impact entrepreneurs in Michigan and is a member of the Private Directors Association of Detroit.

Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome this year's winner of the John Arthur Wilson lecture recipient Randy Johnson.