

# DECO '26

Monday April 13 - Wednesday April 15  
Pittsburgh, PA

## Your Bridge to the Future of Decorating

Whether you are decorating glass, ceramics, plastic, or stainless, Deco '26 in Pittsburgh is your gateway to the tools and technologies shaping the future of the industry. From AI and autonomous transportation to digital printing and next-generation logistics, innovation is transforming every facet of the decorating business.

Join industry leaders and innovators at Deco '26 to explore cutting-edge advancements through targeted technical sessions, insightful business presentations, and an exposition featuring the latest in products and technology. Don't just keep up, cross the bridge to the future of innovation ahead of the crowd.

### Featured Speakers:



**Tuesday, April 14**

**Dan Simkins, Co-Founder, ATiD**

Dan is co-founder of ATiD, an artificial intelligence (AI) consulting firm that helps businesses seamlessly adopt the latest AI technologies, integrating AI driven solutions to enhance operations, optimize processes, and empower teams. Dan will discuss ways in which AI can and will transform your business to compete in today's rapidly changing environment.

**ATiD**

**Wednesday, April 15**

**Heinz History Center**

The Heinz History Center, named for (Henry) John Heinz III who served as a US Senator from 1977 until his death in 1991, will give a keynote presentation on the history of Pittsburgh, including the area's significance as a major producer of glass products.

### Headquarters Hotel

#### *Sheraton Station Square*

300 W. Station Square Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
(412) 261-2000

#### **Book Your Room:**

Visit: [bit.ly/room4deco26](http://bit.ly/room4deco26) or call (412) 261-2000

Deco '26 rate: \$199 per night Rate good through March 12th or until room block sells out.

### Welcome Reception

Monday, April 13th  
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Deco '26—where leaders in the decorating industry create and innovate!

Society of Glass and Ceramic Decorated Products | [www.sgcd.org](http://www.sgcd.org) | 740-588-9882



# Tuesday, April 14

**7:30 a.m.**

**Registration Opens**

**8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.**

**Continental Breakfast**

**9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

*Dan Simkins, co-founder, ATiD*

**Harnessing AI for Productivity and Profit Gains**

Dan will introduce strategies for harnessing the power of artificial intelligence (AI) throughout the production, sales, and delivery processes. Learn how AI can streamline your business and increase your profit by increasing the productivity of your top performers.

**10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.**

**Coffee Break** *Sponsored by SDI Custom Decal*

**10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.**

*Dale Bobula, Midwest Transatlantic Lines, Inc.*

**Untangling the Web of Transportation and Logistics**

The global logistics landscape is more complicated than ever with constantly changing tariff structures, shipping rules, and rate structures for freight. Dale will help attendees untangle the complex web of variables complicating today's import and freight environments.

**11:15 a.m. – Noon**

**Legislative/Policy Update**

Bring yourself up to speed on the latest regulatory, legislative, and policy issues.

*Speaker(s) to be announced*

**Noon:**

**Lunch in Exhibit Hall**

**Noon – 5:00 p.m.**

**Exhibit Hall Open**

**3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Reception in Exhibit Hall** *Sponsored by Strutz International*

## Sponsorships Available:

Enhance your company's profile at Deco '26 by sponsoring a networking event. Sponsorships are available for coffee breaks, breakfast, lunch, and receptions.

**Sponsors**

**Exhibitor Reception**  
**Strutz International**

**Coffee Breaks**  
**SDI Custom Decal**

## Gift Card Drawing

Visit the exhibit hall and drop your business card in the box at the SGCDpro booth for a chance to win a gift card.

Interested in exhibiting? Spaces still remain.

Contact Myra Warne at 740-588-9882 or [info@sgcd.org](mailto:info@sgcd.org)

**Exhibit hall open: Tuesday 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

Lunch served in exhibit hall at 12:00 p.m.

Reception at 3:30 p.m.

## Deco '26 Exhibitors:

Applied Surface Technology

Decal Solutions

DeCoSystem

Engineered Printing Solutions

ERMA Concept

*Fusion Ceramics Inc.*

Glasstec

Isimat

*Koenig & Bauer Kammann*

*Marabu North America*

*Maryland China*

Miller Process Coating

*NBC Meshtec*

Noble Metals

Preciosa

*RUCO INX*

*Strutz International*

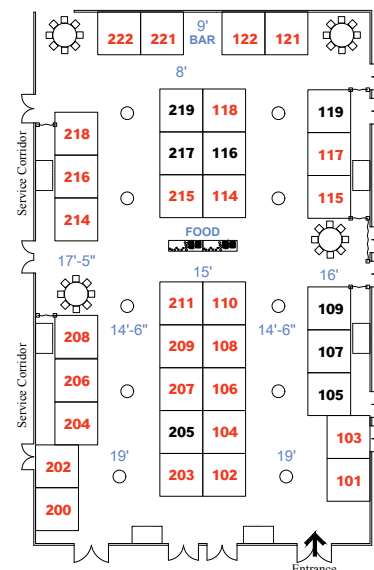


SGCDpro Corporate Members in italics.

## DECO '26 Floorplan

**Sheraton Station Square**

**Pittsburgh, PA**



Booths in red are not available.

All booths are:  
10' deep x 10' wide



# Wednesday, April 15

**7:30 a.m.**

**Registration Opens**

**7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.**

**Continental Breakfast**

**8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.**

**Annual Meeting of Members**

The annual meeting of members will be held to elect new officers and approve proposed bylaw changes. The meeting will be followed by the annual Frank S. Child Award, presented to David Stanton, Past-President (1998-99 and 2016-17).

**9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.**

*Heinz History Center*

**Three Rivers, Many Industries: The History of Pittsburgh**

The Heinz History Center, named for (Henry) John Heinz III who served as a US Senator from 1977 until his death in 1991, will give a keynote presentation on the history of Pittsburgh, including the area's significance as a major producer of glass products.

**9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

**Coffee Break** *Sponsored by SDI Custom Decal*

**10:00 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.**

*Ken Tyler, Engineered Printing Solutions*

**The Shift to On-Demand Decoration: How Direct-to-Object Inkjet is Reshaping Glass Drinkware Production**

Market forces are driving the move to digital printing to accommodate shorter runs, personalization, and retail needs. Ken will discuss realistic capabilities of modern cylindrical inkjet printing and explain the gap between digital and analog technology. A digital roadmap for the next 3-5 years will be presented.

**10:40 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.**

*Emmanuel Vuong, ERMA Concept*

**Purification and Filtration for Automated Glass Decorating Systems**

Emmanuel will discuss cabin purification systems and filtration of atmospheric dust and gas emissions. The following topics will be discussed: sizing, H<sub>2</sub>O/dry cabin booths, reducing electrostatic interference, types of paint and resins, particle size, filter retention capacity and change frequency, and emissions.

*"I thought the quality of vendors was fantastic. I represent the next generation of glass deco houses, so it's good to mix in with the old-school established industry . . . anytime I can interact with a glass-deco industry veteran I am very interested in taking advantage of that rare moment."*

**- Murray Shelton, Buccaneer, Inc.**

First time attendee, Deco '24

**11:20 a.m. – Noon**

*Jake Sommerfeld, Grandstand*

**Maximizing your digital printing operation.**

Jake will share tips and tricks from a decorator's perspective to operate successfully in the digital printing environment.

He will also discuss how to evaluate digital equipment to ensure your purchase best fits your operation and production needs.

**Noon – 1:00 p.m.**

**Lunch - Fountain View Room**

**1:00 p.m. – 1:40 p.m.**

*Carsten Eilers, Glasscoat International*

**Electrostatic Coating of Container Glass**

Carsten will explain electrostatic coating of container glass taking attendees through the process including pre-treatment, application, curing and firing, post coating and treatment, and automation.

**1:40 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.**

*Mike Lawn, Gen-in Inspection Systems*

**In-line Inspection of Glass**

Mike will offer a general overview of in-line inspection in the hollow glass and tableware manufacturing sectors. He will cover the standard layout of a glass manufacturing production line and detail the inspection equipment currently in use, and what it is designed to detect. Mike will also discuss how the inspection process has progressed and how modern advances in AI technology and process monitoring are pushing the performance and capabilities. New developments will also be discussed.

**2:20 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

*Ben Chleblowski, Keyence*

**Laser Marking Applications for Glass**

Ben will discuss the latest developments in laser marking technology for glass. Keyence has developed a new UV laser that specializes in applying text, logos, shapes, and more directly onto the surface of glass. Marks are applied with high contrast and in half the time.

**3:00 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.**

*Keith Ladd, Custom Deco*

**Dishwasher Durability: Testing for Success**

Keith will provide an update on dishwasher testing for decorated glassware.

**3:40 p.m.**

**Closing Remarks**

**plan now to attend:**

**DECO '27**

Tuesday, April 27 - Thursday, April 29

Hyatt Regency Hotel, Downtown Columbus, OH



## Deco '26 Registration Form

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name for Badge \_\_\_\_\_  
Company \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(cell phone optional: for updates during conference)  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Register by phone:**  
740-588-9882

**email:**  
info@sgcd.org

**mail:**  
SGCDpro  
PO Box 2489  
Zanesville, OH 43702-2489

### Conference Registration Fee:

- ☐ Glass or Ceramic Decorator\* \$450  
☐ Non-Exhibiting Vendor: \_\_\_\_\_ SGCDpro Member \$725  
\_\_\_\_\_ Non-Member \$850  
☐ Additional Exhibitor Badges \$150  
(one full conference badge included with booth)

### Questions?

Call 740-588-9882  
or email info@sgcd.org

Complete meeting details  
available at [www.sgcd.org](http://www.sgcd.org)

### Payment:

- ☐ Check (enclosed) \_\_\_\_\_ MC \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Amex

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**3% processing fee added for credit card payments.**

*\*To qualify for decorator rate, the PRIMARY business of your company must be decorating. Non-exhibiting vendors and suppliers (including services) MUST pay vendor rate to attend.*

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** There will be ABSOLUTELY NO selling by non-exhibiting vendors and/or suppliers (including services) at any Deco '26 function (INCLUDING RECEPTIONS AND MEALS). Non-exhibiting vendors are not allowed to display ANY samples or literature at any Deco '26 function. This includes sessions, registration area, exhibit hall and all meal functions. For exhibit information, call Myra Warne 740-588-9882.

### Keep Informed:

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