

DECO '26

Monday April 13 - Wednesday April 15
Pittsburgh, PA

Welcome Reception

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

Exclusive Sponsor:



Network with your customers, suppliers, and industry friends at this event sponsored by Fusion Ceramics, Inc.

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, ATiiD

Dan is co-founder of ATiiD, 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.



Tuesday, April 14

Lee Green, Vice President and Executive Director, Innovation Research Interchange

National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)

Lee is a recognized leader in advancing innovation across the manufacturing ecosystem. With over 15 years of experience, she specializes in leveraging artificial intelligence, change management, and cross-functional team leadership to drive transformative strategies and foster collaboration among industry leaders.

Lee's work is dedicated to shaping the future of manufacturing by empowering organizations to anticipate trends, adapt to disruption, and build resilient innovation cultures. She has led initiatives focused on recruiting and retaining technical talent, digitalization, machine learning, and sustainability, and is a frequent speaker and writer on innovation leadership and culture.

Lee holds a Professional Certificate in Foresight from the University of Houston and an Executive Presence and Influence certification from Wharton Executive Education. Her academic background includes an MA in International Studies from the University of Reading (UK) and a BA in Political Science and International Relations from the University of Toledo.

Headquarters Hotel

Sheraton Station Square

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

Book Your Room:

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

Deco '26 rate: \$199 per night Rate good through March 20th or until room block sells out.

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

Society of Glass and Ceramic Decorated Products | www.sgcd.org | 740-588-9882



Tuesday, April 14

7:30 a.m.

Registration Opens

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Dan Simkins, *co-founder, ATiiD*

David "Doogie" Levine, *co-founder, ATiiD*

Harnessing AI for Productivity and Profit Gains

Dan and Doogie 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. – 11:00 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.

11:00 a.m. – Noon

Lee Green, *Vice President and Executive Director, NAM*

Transforming the Workplace in a Rapidly Changing Digital World

Lee's work is dedicated to shaping the future of manufacturing by empowering organizations to anticipate trends, adapt to disruption, and build resilient innovation cultures. She has led initiatives focused on recruiting and retaining technical talent, digitalization, machine learning, and sustainability, and is a frequent speaker and writer on innovation leadership and culture..

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.

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

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

Coating Systems Group, Inc.

Decal Solutions

DeCoSystem

Engineered Printing Solutions

Fusion Ceramics Inc.

Isimat

Koenig & Bauer Kammann

Marabu North America

Maryland China

Miller Process Coating

NBC Meshtec

Noble Metals

RUCO INX

Strutz International

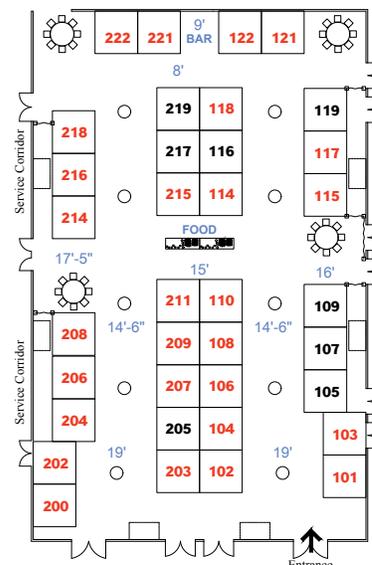
SGCDpro Corporate Members in italics.



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.

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.

Anne Madarasz, 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. – 10:45 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.

Sponsors

Welcome Reception
Fusion Ceramics

Exhibitor Reception
Strutz International

Coffee Breaks
SDI Custom Decal

"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

10:45 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.

Mike Lawn, Gen-in Inspection Systems

Guillaume Bathelet, Konatic

In-line Inspection of Glass

Mike and Guillaume will offer a general overview of in-line inspection in the hollow glass and tableware manufacturing sectors. They 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 and Guillaume 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.

11:30 a.m. – 12:15 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.

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Lunch - Fountain View Room

1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Thomas Ripplinger, Technical Director, Northern Coatings

Designing Spray Coatings for the Real World: How Production Challenges Drive Coating Innovation

Spray-applied coatings used in glass and ceramic decoration must deliver reliable performance while fitting within the constraints of existing production conditions. Thomas will review how real-world manufacturing issues such as varying surface preparation, cure and drying limitations, environmental regulations, and application variability have influenced the development of modern spray coatings. Examples will highlight how formulations evolve in response to these challenges while maintaining or improving performance and process suitability.

2:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Olivier Tessier, DeCoSystem

Surface Inspection Options for the Decorating Industry

DeCoSystem is a leading worldwide producer and installer of print or surface inspection machines for the packaging industry. The company provides solutions for silk-screen or hot-stamping operations on plastic, aluminum, and glass, as well as digital printing solutions, specializing in turnkey systems and software customization.

2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Keith Ladd, Custom Deco

Dishwasher Durability: Testing for Success

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

3:30 p.m.

Closing Remarks

