



## Member of the Year



### The Association of Women in the Metal Industries Announces 2014 Member of the Year – Mary Wardle

August 21, 2015 – The Association of Women in the Metal Industries is proud to recognize Mary Wardle, International Membership Chair and member of the California Chapter, as the recipient of our 2014 International Member of the Year Award. The selection was made at the International Board of Directors meeting April 17, 2015 and the award will be officially presented at the opening banquet of the 2015 AWMI Annual Conference in Tucson, AZ, on November 12, 2015.

Mary's career in the Metal Industries began in 1981 when she went to work for her father's company, Supra Sales, Inc. They were purchased by SupraCote in 1989 and eventually BHP Coated Steel out of Australia in 1991. Mary spent the early years of her career focused on Accounting and Inventory Management/Purchasing. As the company grew she was able to pursue her true passion of working directly with their customer base in Customer Service and eventually moving into Outside Sales. After completing a business improvement project for BHP Coated Steel's US assets Mary was promoted to General Manager for BHP Steel America's steel strapping division located in Oakland, Ca. Knowing her true passion was the flat rolled bare and painted market she returned after 3 years to BHP Coated Steel where she remains today. Mary was promoted to Sales Manager – Western Region in 2010.

Mary was first introduced to AWMI in the mid 1980's by one of her suppliers and attended many Industry Meetings in the Northern California area when the Steel Industry was booming. Unfortunately that industry took a major downturn and many service centers left the area. After a break in membership to raise two wonderful boys Mary rejoined AWMI in 2005 and became very involved in the local chapter that was struggling in membership, interest and activity. Mary became heavily involved in AWMI at the Regional level as Secretary and eventually Regional Director for two terms which moved her on to the Executive Committee. She was then appointed as Membership Chair in 2014 by Tamela Olt as she continues to give back to the organization that she truly believes is an asset to women and men across our industry.

Mary lives in Walnut Creek, CA with her wonderful family where she continues to volunteer her time helping the community and local schools. She couldn't be more proud of her two sons as they move through their journey in life. Mary enjoys golfing, camping, coaching softball and spending time with family and friends.

For further information, contact Mary Pollen, AWMI International Marketing Chair, [mpollen@mstube.com](mailto:mpollen@mstube.com), (248) 486-0297.

*The **Association of Women in the Metal Industries (AWMI)** is an organization of professionals, founded in California in 1981, to promote and develop the growth of women in the metal industries. AWMI believes that women in similar industries can benefit themselves and their companies through relationships, education and shared knowledge. The programs and activities of AWMI are intended to enhance members' skills and experience, address challenges confronting the industry, and promote members' career growth with the ultimate goal of increasing the number of women employed in the metal industries. Membership is open to both women and men who are seeking to develop all aspects of their professional development and career advancement. For more information, visit [www.awmi.org](http://www.awmi.org).*