PHILADELPHIA – Confusion over whether to conformally coat assemblies has, with the increase in Pb-free processing, become a major discussion point, especially for producers of high reliability products.

On May 17, the **American Competitiveness Institute** will sponsor a free, five-hour seminar on different coating materials and application methods, and will examine the issue of contamination detection and control. Other topics of discussion will include tin whiskering. This is the first in a series of free workshops covering key manufacturing issues.

Presenting will be Graham Naisbitt, who has over 30 years' experience in coatings, as a user and in application and test equipment. He is co-chairman of the IPC Test Methods subcommittee and SIR task group, and has received multiple IPC Distinguished Committee Service awards for efforts on IPC-CC-830 IPC-HDBK-830 (conformal coating), J-STD-004 (fluxes) IPC-TM-650 2.6.3.7 (SIR), IPC-9201A (SIR Test Handbook) and 2.6.25 (CAF Testing). He also works on IEC TC91 Standards Committee.

The presentations will include explanations of conformal coatings; how to apply , inspect and assess them; new coating technologies; contamination detection and control The event is suited to engineers, design, quality and inspection staff, production and test operators and any member of staff tasked with quality control.

To attend, contact Ken Friedman at 610-362-1200 x 279 or kfriedman@aciusa.org by May 12.

ACI is a scientific research corporation dedicated to the advancement of electronics manufacturing processes and materials for the Department of Defense and industry. The company operates the US Navy's Center of Excellence in Electronics Manufacturing and is located directly next to the Philadelphia Airport.