



**Christian A. Widener**

Dr. Christian A. Widener is the Chief Technology Officer of VRC Metal Systems. He has been actively investigating cold spray processes for repair and refurbishment since 2011 and has been working with solid-state metals processing and joining technologies, since 2003. He has over 75 publications and international conference proceedings on friction stir welding, cold spray, and advanced manufacturing and materials. Dr. Widener was previously a tenured associate professor and research lab director at the South Dakota

School of Mines and Technology, where he served from 2010-2018. Prior to that appointment, he was a research scientist at the National Institute for Aviation Research, conducting applied research on friction stir welding for the aerospace industry, and before that spent 6 years in industry working on gas turbine power generation for Siemens Power Generation and Westinghouse Electric Corporation.