AOCS respects the privacy of its members and other visitors to its Web site. Whenever we change our privacy policy, we will give reasonable notice by posting a notice on our home page. Since these policy change notices last only for a limited time, however, you should check this Privacy Policy regularly to see if there have been any changes. To protect online privacy, AOCS has implemented the following policy.

What Information Does AOCS Collect?

Most data AOCS collects is used only to help us better serve our members and visitors and improve their web site experience. It is our general policy to collect and store only personal information that our members and visitors knowingly provide.

From All Users. AOCS does not collect any personal information from users browsing its Web site. Only aggregate data -- such as the number of hits per page -- are collected. AOCS uses the ClickTale web analytics service. ClickTale may record mouse clicks, mouse movements, scrolling activity as well as text you type in this website. AOCS does not use ClickTale to collect any personally identifiable information entered in its website. ClickTale does not track your browsing habits across web sites which do not use ClickTale services. For more information see Privacy Policy for Information Collected by the ClickTale Web Analytics Service. You can choose to disable the Service at http://www.clicktale.net/disable.html. Aggregate data and data collected from the ClickTale service is only used by AOCS for internal and usability purposes and do not provide any personally identifying information.

From AOCS’s Members, Conference Registrants, and Other Customers. To gain access to members-only resources and other limited access resources on aocs.org, members and other users are asked to register and provide some limited information. This information is submitted voluntarily. AOCS asks users to provide their name, member number (for members), organization name, business address, business phone, business fax, and e-mail. Similar information may be submitted to AOCS through membership applications, conference registration, publication orders, subscriptions, and contest registrations. Additionally, for some emails sent in HTML format by AOCS to its members and customers through its electronic newsletters, we will collect specific information regarding what the recipient does with that email. For those emails, AOCS may monitor whether a recipient subsequently clicks through to links provided in the message. Other information collected through this tracking feature includes: email address of a user, the date and time of the user’s "click," a message number, name of the list from which the message was sent, tracking URL number and destination page. AOCS only uses this information to enhance its products and distribution of those products to its members and customers.

How Does AOCS Use Data Collected?

AOCS uses information voluntarily submitted by members and other customers in the following ways:

AOCS Member Services and Products. Generally, AOCS uses data collected to improve its own web content; to respond to visitors’ interests, needs and preferences; and to develop new products and services.

Disclosures to Third Parties. AOCS also makes member contact information available through the AOCS Membership Directory to other members using its Web site. In addition, AOCS incorporates information members provide into hard copies of the Membership Directory that it provides to members upon payment. AOCS also shares limited contact information to those who register for the AOCS meetings and conferences. On occasion, AOCS may also provide limited data to third parties that offer products and services. These limited data include names, job titles, companies and business addresses, but do not include business phone numbers, business fax numbers or email addresses. Users
may request AOCS to refrain from disclosing the data it collects to third parties by contacting AOCS at membership@aocs.org or 217-693-4818 to express their preferences if they determine later that they do not wish to have the information shared.

At all times, however, AOCS reserves the right to disclose information where required by law or to comply with valid legal process to protect AOCS’ rights or property, including without limitation in the event of a transfer of control of AOCS or substantially all of its assets, or during emergencies when safety is at risk.

**Consent to Use Personal Information.** For the purposes of the Data Protection Act(s) 1984 and 1998 (as applicable), AOCS or its agents must store, host and otherwise process the information (including personal data) supplied by the User when registering for this Web site.

**Credit Card Account Information.** AOCS does not disclose credit card account information provided by its members and customers. When members and customers choose to pay using their credit cards, AOCS submits the information needed to obtain payment to the appropriate clearinghouse.

**Children’s Privacy.** AOCS’s website is intended for adults. AOCS does not knowingly collect personal information from children under the age of 13. If AOCS obtains knowledge that it has personally identifiable information about a child fewer than 13 in retrievable form in its files, AOCS will delete that information from our existing files.

**How Does AOCS Use Cookies?**

Cookies, if they are used at all, are small text files created by a web server during the course of visiting a website, and placed on the hard drive of the website visitor (User).

A cookie can remain in existence during a particular browsing session (a "per-session" cookie), and is deleted, or "expires" when the browser is closed, or it can be stored for future use (a "persistent" cookie). Persistent cookies can be configured to last a determined amount of time before expiring.

The AOCS website uses both types of cookies, but only to facilitate automated activity, store and track passwords, determine appropriate solicitations and solutions, and to enhance and ease the User’s experience.

AOCS cookies are not used to disseminate or share or otherwise make available significant information about Users over the Internet, or to analyze information that Users have knowingly or unknowingly provided. Information in AOCS cookies is never shared with any third party outside of AOCS.

AOCS cookies are typically created and used for login procedures, registration and other web forms. They may also be used to keep anonymous track of user movement throughout the AOCS website. This information may be used by AOCS staff to detect and resolve website problems and to assist with EMAILUser support.

AOCS does not use cookies to collect any personally-identifiable information about site Users.

Users may configure their browsers to opt out of accepting cookies completely, or configure their browsers to accept only certain types of cookies, for example, accepting "per-session" cookies but not accepting "persistent" cookies. Users may also configure their browsers so that the User is notified of and can accept or reject any given cookie, or Users can turn off this notification feature completely.
However, restricting acceptance of AOCS cookies will mean the User may not have access to all features and benefits of the AOCS website.

**What Privacy Issues Arise With Links To Other Sites?**

This Web site contains links to other web sites. AOCS has no control over and is not responsible for the privacy policies or content of such sites.

**What Means Of Redress Are Available?**

If any User suspects AOCS has handled its personal information in a manner that does not comply with this privacy statement, please contact us by emailing to gloriac@aocs.org or by mail to AOCS, Operations Director, PO Box 17190, Urbana, IL, 61803-7190, USA.