

Manufacturing Day is Friday, October 4th

This could be the day that sets someone on the path to a great career in precision machining. What are you doing to promote manufacturing in your area?

At PMPA, we have the privilege of seeing different approaches to training around the country and around the world. We have seen apprenticeship programs at factories in Germany and China, Switzerland and France. In the U.S. we have visited many community colleges and other training providers, and we sponsor the National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS).

PMPA has an educational foundation to help with training costs for those looking to gain or improve their machining skills with training. Since 2004, the PMPA Education Foundation has awarded \$165,000 in grants to companies, schools and individuals in support of industry training programs.

In this country, we do not have a strong model of government-certified apprenticeship standards; nor do we have a culture that is aware of manufacturing as a career path and rewarding way to make a living. High schools continue to push out “college prep” graduates as if the economy will be satisfied by this one-graduate-fits-all approach.



Meanwhile, shops are desperately looking for skilled workers. As the baby boomers that we rely on approach retirement, even more openings for skilled workers will need to be filled.

We cannot eliminate the skilled worker shortage overnight. But we can start the journey of developing a local pipeline of talent. The first step just might be hosting an open house for the families and friends of current employees, and maybe some community officials, teachers and school counselors. The high-technology, high-skill world

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PMPA Annual Meeting: Connect with the Industry's Best!

October 18th-22nd – Hotel Del Coronado, Coronado, (San Diego) CA

PMPA has 80 years of history as the industry's sole trade association. The association has conducted an Annual Meeting dating back to its humble beginnings in 1933. A lot has changed over 80 years; the one thing that hasn't is the importance of connecting with industry peers.

In a few weeks, the association will come together in San Diego at the historic Hotel Del Coronado for a weekend of networking and learning. By making the commitment to be in San Diego for this annual event, you'll have access to



the leading companies in this industry and numerous opportunities each day to interact with owners and senior managers who are ready and willing to share their expertise.

It's time to pull yourself away from the nonstop flood of electronic communication and benefit from actual face time with fellow manufacturers! The personal business connections you'll build at PMPA's national conferences far exceed the value of your next contact on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, etc. Take a step out of the virtual business world and into a place where you'll have more than just a picture and a bio, at the PMPA 2013 Annual Meeting.

Make your plans to attend by visiting the conference website: pmpa.org/annual-meeting or contact Rob Kiener, PMPA Director of Government Affairs & Communications at 440-526-0300, ext. 229/
rkiener@pmpa.org for more information.

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that is our day-to-day workplace is unknown to our friends and neighbors. They think that manufacturing is dirty, dark and boring jobs, not holding tolerances that are a fifth of the thickness of a sheet of paper, or that what we make truly looks like jewelry, as well as performs some critical function for human safety.

As an industry, we need to change the perception of manufacturing in our culture. As business owners and managers, we need to change the perception in our towns and take steps to get a manufacturing career back into the thinking of our friends, neighbors and school officials. We know that we have great career openings available right now, and will for the foreseeable future.

Holding an open house on Manufacturing Day so people can see the “gee whiz!” magic that your talented craftsmen (their dads, grandfathers, uncles and neighbors) perform daily will help us change the perception of manu-

facturing. It just might be the start of an inspired career for one of your next employees.

Let’s show our neighbors what good neighbors our companies are. Let’s show them how well-lit and tidy real manufacturing plants can be. And let’s show them the pride of our craft, of making things that make a difference in the quality of life for all of us.

Manufacturing Day is Friday, October 4, 2013. I hope that you have an open house or virtual tour and invite reporters, elected officials, members of the school board and school counselors to come see what your shop offers your community. We’re the people who make things. And careers are one of the unspoken but more important things that we make. Who knew?

For more information on Manufacturing Day 2013, visit: mfgday.com/resources/getting-started-event-host

PMPA CALENDAR

Below is the calendar of upcoming conferences and events scheduled for the 2013 program year. For the latest district/chapter meeting information, please view the Calendar of Events at pmpa.org/calendar/. If you have questions about PMPA conferences or regional meetings, please contact: Rob Kiener, Director of Government Affairs & Communications: 440-526-0300 or rkiener@pmpa.org.

Annual Meeting

October 18-22, 2013
Hotel Del Coronado
Coronado (San Diego), Calif.

2014 Management Update Conference

February 21-23, 2014
The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas
Las Vegas

2014 National Technical Conference

April 5-8, 2014
The Westin
Indianapolis

Why Join PMPA? Grow!

To grow and profit today, you have to work smarter. You have to relentlessly eliminate waste. PMPA is the way to expand your knowledge and increase your capabilities in order to grow your business. Through daily interaction with PMPA staff members, you have access to our expertise on important industry issues. You’re also able to tap the collective knowledge of your peers; those who have “been there” and “done that.”

Through the meetings, resources and online connections, reports and more, we give you the tools to grow. We look at emerging markets and let you know what’s hot and what’s not. PMPA programs help you understand your markets so you can make sense of the issues. And, we provide relevant information to help you make informed decisions.

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