



Minnesota Manufacturers Summit: Developing a world class workforce for world class Minnesota manufacturers

Thursday, October 28

7:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Sheraton Bloomington Hotel, Minneapolis South
7800 Normandale Boulevard, Bloomington
\$79 per person, \$600 for a table of 8

Join manufacturing, business and education leaders from across Minnesota as focus on how Minnesota continues to produce a highly skilled, world competitive workforce to ensure that Minnesota manufacturers remain world class. The Minnesota Manufacturers Summit, held during Minnesota Manufacturers Week, provides an opportunity to recognize the important contributions our state's manufacturers make to our regional and state economy.

7:30 a.m. Registration

8:00 a.m. Is the economic recovery real for Minnesota manufacturers?

Hear a national, and Minnesota perspective on the business and economic outlook for manufacturers.

While the recovery remains fragile, and for some companies, day to day or month to month, there are positive indicators among the findings of McGladrey's fifth annual Manufacturing and Wholesale Distribution National Survey.

In addition, the Minnesota Chamber has had one on one conversations with more than 900 Minnesota companies this year, many of them manufacturers from all parts of the state.

William A. Blazar, senior vice president, public policy and business development, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
Jamie Woell, manufacturing & distribution assurance leader, McGladrey

9:00 a.m. The role of Minnesota's higher education institutions in producing a skilled workforce

Minnesota is fortunate to have terrific private and public high education institutions. Our two major public institutions, the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system play distinct, but important roles in developing and retraining Minnesota's future and current workers. And both are currently in the process of searching for a new leader. Learn their perspective on their role in Minnesota's economic future, their contribution to manufacturing success in Minnesota and their criteria for new leadership.

Clyde Allen, chair, U of M Board of Regents
Scott Thiss, chair, MnSCU Board of Trustees

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- 9:45 a.m. Is Minnesota's K-12 system in need of reform?**
If Minnesota businesses are going to be competitive in a world economy, we need to improve the outcomes for all Minnesota students - including those currently left behind.
- Cecilia Retelle**, manager, education policy, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
- 10:15 a.m. Meeting manufacturing workforce needs**
A productive workforce is critical to manufacturing success. Companies are innovative in recruiting and retaining workers to meet their company's goals. Learn what companies are doing -- from tapping the skills of immigrant workers, developing relationships with higher education institutions and pairing domestic and foreign labor.
- Mike Gramse**, owner & president, MRG Tool and Die Corporation
Tom Wosepka, chief financial officer, Douglas Machine
- 11:00 a.m. New Workforce Challenges**
Minnesota manufacturers are facing heightened enforcement and regulation from the U.S. Department of Labor and the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) collective action litigation is exploding. In addition, an even more diverse workforce means balancing religious and cultural norms in the workplace with the requirements of fast paced manufacturing practices. Learn how employers are managing these challenges and maintaining productive workplaces.
- Lauren Lonergan**, shareholder, Briggs and Morgan. P.A.
- 11:45 a.m. Adjourn to lunch**
- Noon Lunch served**
- 12:30 p.m. Jim Mulder, Lieutenant Governor Candidate, Horner 2010**
- 12:40 p.m. Luncheon Panel**
A panel of manufacturing leaders will discuss the impact of the recession and how they are positioned for future growth.
- 1:30 Adjourn**

Special thank you to our event sponsors:

