

SPEAKER BIOS
2011 MINNESOTA'S MANUFACTURERS SUMMIT

Ryan Bruers

Field Sales Engineer, Xcel Energy

Ryan Bruers is a Field Sales Engineer with Xcel Energy. In his current position, he works with some of Xcel Energy's' largest industrial and commercial customers helping them with energy conservation projects and plans. He has worked in the industrial sector for 15 years with various Minnesota companies. Ryan holds a BS in Physics with an Engineering option from Bemidji State University.

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Kathy Burnham

Senior Vice President, Padilla Speer Beardsley

Kathy's deep knowledge of public relations comes across as clearly as the notes she plays on her trumpet as a member of two brass ensembles. For more than two decades, Kathy has executed successful thought-leadership communications programs for Padilla Speer Beardsley business-to-business clients.

As the leader of Padilla's manufacturing practice, Kathy directs strategic planning, conducts research and manages integrated marketing communications programs that help companies build their brands and reputations. She's expert at developing saleschannel and end-user programs to help companies gain industry visibility. She also has broad experience in message development, media relations and trade-show marketing.

A prolific writer, Kathy has penned an array of bylined technical and feature articles throughout her career, including several cover stories. She has created speeches, brochures, corporate annual reports and other collateral as well.

Kathy's passion for manufacturing fostered her leadership role as a founding member of the Minnesota Manufacturers' Coalition, where she remains active. She also serves on the boards for the Minnesota Council for Quality, the Society of Manufacturing Engineers Education Foundation based in Detroit, and Top Tool Company, a precision micro-component manufacturer based in Blaine, Minnesota.

Kathy holds a bachelor's degree in communications from Metropolitan State University in St. Paul. She serves on the university Alumni Association's board of directors and as a community faculty member in the university's communications college. She also is an accredited member of the Public Relations Society of America and belongs to the Business Marketing Association.

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Jill Curran

Program Director, Energy Smart

Jill Curran oversees Energy Smart as the Program Director and has been with the program since 2008. She brings 20 years of new enterprise development, environmental program management and business community organizing experience to the Energy Smart program. Having worked with and for business of all sizes, she understands well the economic realities of running a business.

Prior to joining Energy Smart, Jill delivered a range of client services for businesses and organizations small and large. She ran environmental and community programs for an industry leading company in St. Paul and has been a leader in the socially responsible business community in the Twin Cities.

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Bonnie Elsey

Director, Workforce Development, Department of Employment and Economic Development

Bonnie Elsey is the Director of the Workforce Development Division of the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development. Bonnie has held many management positions in the state office as well as the field and has worked in the area of employment and training for thirty plus years. Bonnie always puts the customer first in all policy level decisions.

Bonnie is a graduate the University of Minnesota, with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology. She obtained a Masters of Science Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from Cloud State University. She holds a Mini-MBA from the University of St. Thomas.

She has also completed the Executive Development Program on the Microeconomics of Competitiveness: Firms, Clusters and Economic Development from the Carlson School of Business.

Bonnie is also the President of the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) representing 50 states and 3 territories. Bonnie has been very active in NASWA for many years having held the positions of Secretary, Treasure, member of the Board of Directors and past chair of the Employment & Training committee as well as the Administrative Finance Committee. Bonnie has also served on many Advisory committees to United States Department of Labor in Washington.

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Dr. Eric Kaler

President, University of Minnesota

Eric W. Kaler became the 16th president of the University of Minnesota on July 1.

Dr. Kaler is only the second 'U' alumnus to rise to its presidency. He received his Ph.D. from the University's Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science in 1982.

He was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2010. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Chemical Society. He holds 10 U.S. patents.

Before taking office as 'U' president last July, Kaler served for four years as provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, N.Y. He also was Stony Brook's vice president for Brookhaven National Laboratory affairs.

Kaler, 55, received his undergraduate degree from the California Institute of Technology. From 1989 to 2007, Kaler was a professor, then chair of the Chemical Engineering Department at the University of Delaware, and ultimately, the dean of Delaware's College of Engineering. He previously taught at the University of Washington in Seattle.

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Karen Kurek

National Manufacturing Practice Leader, McGladrey

Karen Kurek is a partner and managing director with McGladrey and head of the Firm's National Manufacturing & Distribution Practice. She is considered the "Voice of Manufacturing" for McGladrey and its manufacturing professionals across the nation. Karen delivers financial assurance services to her clients along with consultation in the areas of tax planning and strategy formation (acquisitions, divestures, and international/cross border matters). Throughout her career, she has consulted with, and/or delivered, financial assurance services to scores of manufacturing companies, and other enterprises across a broad spectrum of industries.

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Karen joined McGladrey in 2003, after 20 years with Arthur Andersen LLP where she was a lead partner in its Enterprise Group, a practice focused on privately held companies. At Andersen, she also held managing partner responsibility for the firm's Employee Benefit Assurance practice and its national Growth and Retention of Women (GROW) initiative.

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Darlene Miller

President and CEO, Permac Industries

Darlene Miller is the owner and CEO of Permac Industries, a precision machining company located in Burnsville, Minnesota that manufactures custom precision parts for customers worldwide, in virtually all industries.

Starting as a Sales Representative at Permac in 1992, she became a part owner in 1993, and took full ownership the following year in 1994. Darlene finds that owning Permac Industries has been incredibly exciting, often challenging, and enormously rewarding both personally and professionally.

Under Darlene's leadership, Permac Industries was named the *U.S. Chamber Small Business of the Year* for the entire USA in 2008.

Darlene was recently appointed to the *President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness* sharing responsibilities with CEOs of high-profile companies such as: GE, DuPont, American Express, and America Online. Meeting with President Obama every quarter, this advisory council recommends ideas on job creation, job retention and promulgation of U.S. jobs.

Currently a member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors and Advisory Council, Darlene has also actively served on numerous industry and community boards such as: PMPA and MPMA (Manufacturing Trade Associations), and the Minnesota Valley Medical Manufacturers Network (MEDNET), which she co-founded in 2006.

As a two-time member of Minnesota Governor Pawlenty's trade missions to both South America and India, Darlene has garnered a keen insight to global markets, understanding how they pertain to business in Minnesota, and its applicability nationwide.

Hope for Tomorrow has been one of Darlene's personal passions since 2002. Its mentoring program pairs business leaders with students to help create self confidence and tomorrow's leaders. She's proud to have co-founded several chapters along with the first Boys Chapter.

Born the sixth of eight children, Darlene grew up on a family farm in New Prague, MN. She is the proud mother of two sons and has five grandchildren.

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Larry Raddatz

Customized Training Director, Dakota County Technical College

Larry Raddatz is a Customized Training Director for Dakota County Technical College in Rosemount, MN. He has over 25 years of workforce training and business experience. Mr. Raddatz served on committees for National Skill Standards and Business/Education Partnerships. He has a B.S. in Education from North Dakota State University. In his role at DCTC, he works with the manufacturing and railroad industries.

In 2010, Mr. Raddatz received the Mark McAfee Friend of Workforce Development Award at the Dakota-Scott Workforce Investment Board's annual legislative and awards event. The award recognizes individuals who have championed workforce issues and initiatives at the local, state or federal level.

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Raddatz's professional duties center on improving employee skill levels by connecting employer training needs to the most appropriate and innovative classes that are frequently customized to meet specific company demands. He was instrumental in developing a leading-edge soldering program in conjunction with Dakota-Scott Workforce Services. The program has produced a superb track record for getting individuals retrained and back to work. Raddatz also provides career-related counseling at area schools and churches.

Raddatz's ability to connect with business and industry leaders, finding and coordinating training opportunities that not only make sense for the employer, but also enhance the professional development of individual employees. He has started several customized programs that went on to become full academic programs at the college.

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Michael Santori
Branch Manager, Labor Ready, Inc

Michael Santori is the Branch Manager at Labor Ready Midwest, Inc. which specializing in recruiting on-demand labor and staffing for the labor industry. Michael has been a Labor Ready manager for the past 6 years in the Twin Cities market, with responsibility for all aspects of his office including, sales, operations, recruiting, and contract compliance. A graduate of Viterbo University in management, he then went on to Winona State University to further his business education. Prior to Labor Ready, Michael worked in other management roles for retail businesses, specifically in sales and operations.

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Roy Smith
Director of Regional Workforce Development, Iron Range Resources Rehabilitation Board and Northeast Higher Education District

Roy Smith is a graduate of Hibbing Community College, has a Bachelors degree from Bemidji State University, a Masters degree from St. Cloud State University, and an Educational Specialist degree in education leadership from the Fischler School of Graduate Studies at Southeastern University. Roy brings with him over 20 years in education as a teacher and school administrator. In 2006, Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board and the Northeast Minnesota Higher Education District appointed Roy as the Director of Workforce Development. Roy is responsible for coordinating and developing educational programs that meet the needs of existing and emerging industries in Northeast Minnesota to enhance economic growth. Roy is also the Director of the Applied Learning Institute, a partnership of 17 Northeast Minnesota school districts and five Northeast Higher Education District colleges which provides hands-on training and technology curriculum to more than 1,200 students annually in 25 schools. Roy believes that "Education is paramount in developing a workforce that increases competitiveness, economic growth, and trade."

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Jay Timmons
President and CEO, National Association of Manufacturers

Jay Timmons is president and CEO of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing small and large manufacturers in every industrial sector. He became NAM president in January 2011.

Mr. Timmons is a leading advocate for the nearly 12 million Americans employed directly in manufacturing, educating the public and policymakers on issues that affect this critical sector of the U.S. economy. He promotes a broad-based "Manufacturing Means Jobs!" agenda for maintaining U.S.

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competitiveness by lifting unnecessary burdens on manufacturing, including excessive taxation and regulation, the high cost of health care, expensive litigation and soaring energy costs.

He is driven by the principles instilled in him by his roots in the manufacturing town of Chillicothe, Ohio, where his grandfather worked at a Mead plant for nearly four decades and where he witnessed manufacturing's ability to raise the quality of life for families and communities. Mr. Timmons' knowledge and expertise is valued and respected by influential policymakers on both sides of the aisle in Congress and the Administration. He knows how to navigate the complexities of the policymaking process in the nation's capital and brings with him an exceptional understanding of manufacturing issues.

Prior to his appointment as NAM president, Mr. Timmons was executive vice president beginning in 2008. In 2005, he joined the NAM as senior vice president of policy and government relations.

His previous experience includes serving as chief of staff to Congressman, Governor and Senator George Allen (R-VA) from 1991 to 2002, and a term as executive director of the National Republican Senatorial Committee during the 2004 election cycle. When he first came to Washington in the 1980s, he served as press secretary to Congressman Jim Martin (R-NC) and later Alex McMillan (R-NC).

A passionate advocate for the adoption of companion animals, Mr. Timmons is a member of the Washington Humane Society Board of Directors and served as its chairman from 2006 to 2010. He is also a member of the Business Industry Political Action Committee (BIPAC) Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of Local Finance Solutions, Inc. He attended The Ohio State University and resides in McLean, Va.

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Ryan Verhulst

Energy Efficiency Advisor, Energy Smart

Ryan Verhulst has worked with Energy Smart as an Energy Efficiency Advisor since April 2011. He is responsible for conducting on-site energy consultations and follow-on technical assistance to Minnesota businesses. Ryan recommends conservation improvement opportunities, both asset and behavioral, and directs businesses toward applicable Conservation Improvement Programs available through their local energy utilities.

Ryan brings with him over three year's experience in Energy Auditing and Electrical Engineering. He has worked with a variety of clients throughout Minnesota.

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Mathew Woodlee

Senior International Trade Specialist, U.S. Commercial Service

Mathew D. Woodlee currently serves as a Senior International Trade Specialist for the U.S. Commercial Service (USCS)/International Trade Administration (ITA) in Minneapolis, Minnesota, having returned to federal service in October 2010.

Mathew first became affiliated with the USCS as an undergraduate in 1995 when he received the Ron Brown Fellowship administered by the Woodrow Wilson Foundation. After graduate school, Woodlee served with the USCS in Washington, D.C. and Baltimore, Maryland from 2002 through 2006. During that time, he served within the E-Business Development Unit, part of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Commerce/Director General of the U.S. Commercial Service. In Baltimore, Woodlee served as an International Trade Specialist, focusing on the aerospace, defense, security, IT and telecom industries. In 2005, he was the Aerospace & Defense Global Team Leader for the USCS/ITA

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In May 2006, Mr. Woodlee was appointed by Governor Bill Richardson as the Director of International Trade for the State of New Mexico. In that position, he led the efforts of the New Mexico Economic Development Department's services that enhance New Mexico's international economic competitiveness. In addition to his international responsibilities, Mathew led the Department's efforts on Legislative Affairs and served as an advisor to the New Mexico Office of Recovery and Reinvestment.

Mr. Woodlee has held other positions in his career, including Fiscal Analyst for the New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee (1998-2002) and as a Managing Director for WG Scorpion LLC, a private consulting firm (2009-10).

Mathew received the Ronald H. Brown Commercial Service Fellowship in 1995, through which he completed a Summer Institute for Public and International Affairs at Princeton University in 1996. Mathew earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (Economics Minor) and an MBA in International Management from the University of New Mexico.

Mr. Woodlee has been active in the community in a variety of ways, including serving on the Board of Directors for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central New Mexico, a contributor and volunteer with the United Way and a member of Social Lodge No. 1, F.&A.M., PHA, District of Columbia. He is currently a member of Minneapolis Rotary Club #9. He is settling in the Twin Cities area with his wife and son.

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