

New Product Area Pavilions, SME Conferences Highlight IMTS 92



By Donna-Marie Weir

IMTS 92 - The International Manufacturing Technology Show - opens in Chicago September 9 and runs through September 17 at Chicago's McCormick Place. IMTS is the Western Hemisphere's largest trade show. Over 800 companies from all over the globe will be showing products in exhibits covering some 931,000 sq. ft. of space.

The show, sponsored by The Association for Manufacturing Technology (AMT), turns McCormick Place into an international marketplace. AMT president Albert W. Moore describes the gathering as an opportunity for potential buyers to investigate, analyze, and compare \$315 million worth of the newest machine tool technology from around the world. IMTS 90 broke an all-time attendance record set in 1980 with over 116,000 registrants.

One new pavilion and two new focus areas will be introduced this year at IMTS 92. The EDM Pavilion will feature CNC wire EDMs, RAM type die sinker EDMs, CNC wire EDM die sinkers, and manual die sinkers. Back by popular demand is the Forming & Fabricating Pavilion, which will offer demonstrations of high-speed presses, bending, drawing, and spinning machines, and press tooling, along with a showcase of other demonstrations.

Two focus areas will also be part of IMTS this year. The Environmental Safety & Plant Engineering Focus Area will feature equipment and products in the fields of safety, coolant purification, air quality controls, and allied interests. The Tools & Tooling Focus Area will feature cutting tools and tool holders, jigs and fixture tooling, and a host of other tools and tooling products.

This organizational system has been developed for added attendee convenience, allowing visitors to save time and energy by seeing all

related equipment in one place. This will also give attendees more time to see the rest of the exhibits at IMTS 92.

IMTS 92 will be complemented by the International Manufacturing Technology Conference (IMTC). Cosponsored and organized by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME), the conference features presentations by experts on future developments and applications in manufacturing technology. This year's conference will feature specialized technology tracks in six areas, including machining, forming and fabricating, automation for flexible manufacturing and CIM systems, robots/vision, environmental/waste management, and quality assurance.

Show hours for the West building will be 9-5 daily including Saturday, and 9-4 Sunday, Sept. 13, and Thursday, Sept. 17. East and North building hours will be 10-6 daily including Saturday, and 10-4 Sunday, Sept. 13, and Thursday, Sept. 17.

McCormick Place has contracted with a food and beverage service for the '92 show. Levy Restaurants, operators and owners of over 20 restaurants in the Chicago area, will be taking over all food operations at the facility. A host of casual restaurants plus one upscale dining facility will also be added.

Located on Chicago's lake front, McCormick Place is easily accessible by both automobile and public transportation. Direct public transportation and major highway access to the exhibition halls are also available from O'Hare International Airport. McCormick Place is also near major hotels, restaurants, shopping, and entertainment centers.

For more tourist information, contact the Chicago Tourist Bureau at 312-567-8500. For more information on IMTS '92 call 1-800-322-IMTS. ■

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