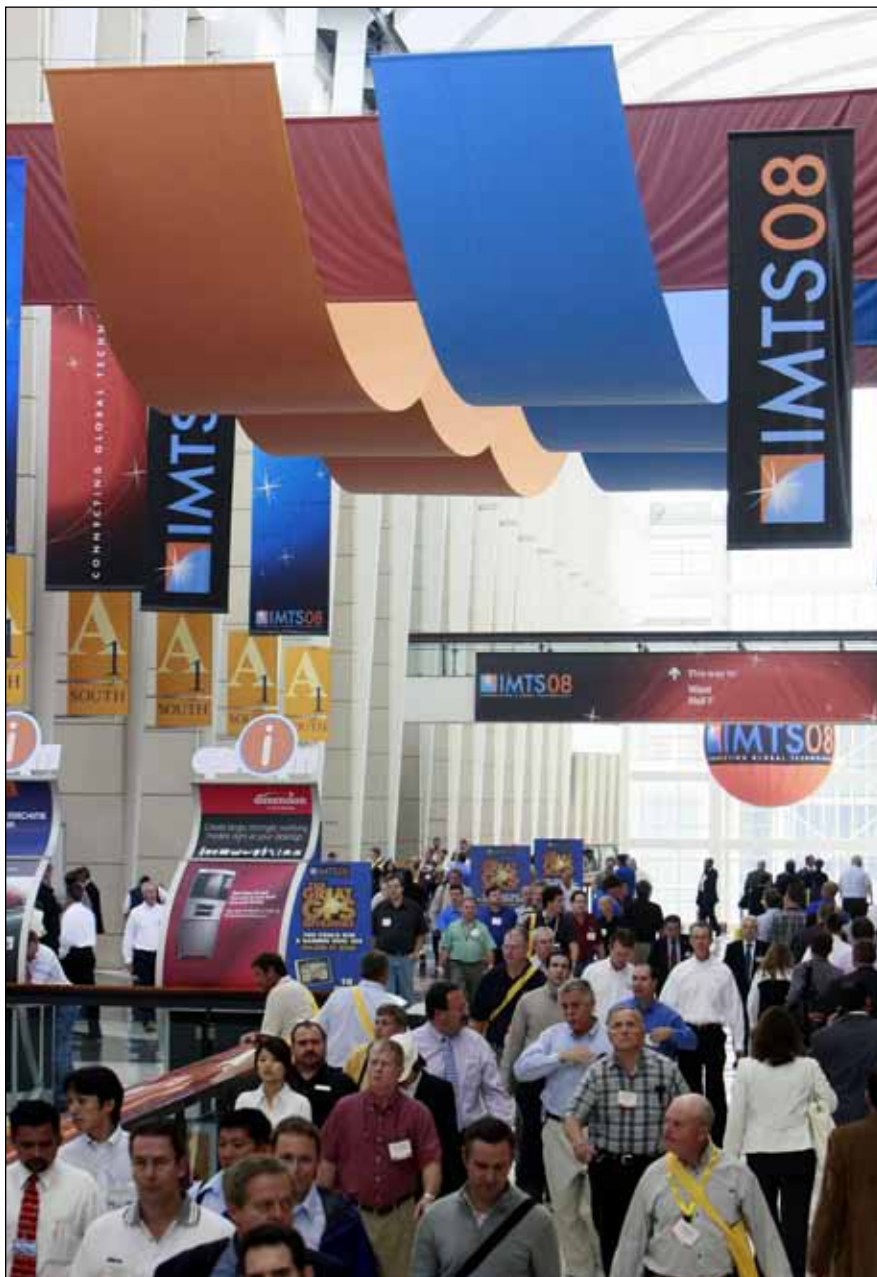


IMTS 2010: Pumping Blood into the International Manufacturing Community

Lindsey Snyder, Assistant Editor



If the free iPad giveaway from FANUC doesn't draw you in, the wall-to-wall new machine tool technology displays should have you stopped dead in your tracks. To be exact, there will be 1.2 million square feet of exhibit space that may have your jaw dropping. IMTS may be the last show you want to forget to bring walking shoes to.

Almost 50 exhibitors will keep you busy in the Gear Pavilion, but there will be no shortage of technology and potential business opportunities luring you into the other eight pavilions. The Industry and Technology Conference brings a wealth of technical information to the table. It serves as a great learning tool to bring employees to even for non-exhibitors. Fred Young of Forest City Gear buses his employees to McCormick Place simply for these learning opportunities.

It may take months of preparation to get the most out of the IMTS experience, and both exhibitors and the show management have abundant internet resources available in advance. One such resource is through social networks online. IMTS insider news can be found on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn, as well as the IMTS technology e-newsletter.

The IMTS group on YouTube features 60-second exhibitor submissions about why visitors should come to their booths. Visitors can vote to rate the videos, and the highest rated one will have theirs posted prominently on *imts.com* (submit at *www.imts.com*).



com/60seconds). Watch Mahr Federal measure a pin bore on a piston ring groove of a high performance automotive piston; Chicago sightseeing tips from Sandvik Coromant; and gage-line inspection by Euro-Tech Corporation.

In recognition of the importance a manufacturing resurgence holds for the U.S. economy and the place IMTS has in establishing the technology for future success, the Association for Manufacturing Technology (AMT) and the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) have joined together in a partnership to promote American manufacturing.

“AMT and NAM are two of the most important voices in the world of manufacturing today,” says Douglas K. Woods, president of AMT. “Collectively, our members represent every stage of the production process—from the mind of the design engineer to the shop and factory floor to the global marketplace. Together we want to underscore the importance of a strong manufacturing sector to long-term economic growth and national security. IMTS 2010—the most important manufacturing event in America—is an ideal launching pad for our industry partnership.”

John Engler, NAM president and CEO, will give a keynote address in the Emerging Technology Center on the second day of the show, September 14. He will discuss how investing in innovation, technology and technical skills are crucial to a robust manufacturing sector. He will also speak about

how to create an economic climate that encourages innovation.

“We are pleased to partner with AMT on IMTS 2010, where companies will see the latest breakthroughs in manufacturing technology,” Engler says. “Innovation along with research and development has long helped manufacturing in the United States maintain its global leadership. But while we continue to stand strong as the number one manufacturing economy in the world, we face strong competition from other countries.”

NAM recently released “A Manufacturing Strategy for Jobs and a More Competitive America,” which provides a plan for what policies lawmakers can promote to help boost manufacturing and the United States’ competitiveness in the global market. This makes an especially loud statement for action supporting manufacturing when considered along with AMT’s Manufacturing Mandate, calling for the national policy of collaboration between government, industry and academia for incentives on innovation and R&D in new products and manufacturing technologies; assuring the availability of capital; minimizing structural cost burdens; and enhancing and building a more educated and trained workforce.

Over 92,000 industrial decision makers are expected to flood Chicago seeking ideas and answers to manufacturing challenges and problems. IMTS is all about educating manufacturers through the accompanying conference,

student summit and over 1,100 exhibits.

What follows is a detailed description of what many gear industry suppliers will display in their booths, as well as related technology available for view in other parts of McCormick Place September 13–18. Most of the products listed are new to market or being unveiled at the show. Use these summaries to pinpoint where to focus attention at the show for maximizing time and energy. Make sure to pick up the September/October issue of *Gear Technology* at the show, and say hello to the GT editors in booth N-7572.

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