

# Celebrate National Manufacturing— All Week Long

Chicago is trade show central during September. If your manufacturing senses don't overload at the IMTS show, National Manufacturing Week should help fill every last need. Brought to Rosemont, IL by trade show organizer Canon Communications, nine shows are co-located: Design Engineering, Plant Engineering, Industrial Automation, Enterprise IT, Assembly Technology Expo, Electronics Assembly Show, PLASTECH Midwest, Medical Design and Manufacturing Midwest and Green Manufacturing Expo.

Between these shows, 40,000 manufacturing professionals and more than 2,000 suppliers are expected in areas like aerospace/aviation, transportation/motor vehicle, defense, electronics, medical/pharmaceutical, computer/communications, food and beverage, industrial/agriculture and household appliances. Over the course of three days, buyers will have 400,000 square-feet of products and services to browse on the show floor, providing opportunities to accommodate important specifications and requirements.

Some familiar names to catch include Bosch Rexroth, Hitachi America, Stock Gears Inc., Heidenhain Corp., Parker Hannifin, Baldor Electric, Process Equipment Company and the Metal Powder Industries Federation. Last, but not least, you can find *Gear Technology* and sister-publication *Power Transmission Engineering* in booth 5211.

Lean and green manufacturing are two related topics that appear

overwhelmingly as conference session subjects. A show-opening keynote panel discussion entitled "So the Grass Is Greener on the Other Side: How Industry Leaders are Practicing Sustainability and Increasing Tomorrow's Profitability," is being held Tuesday, September 23 at 9 a.m. Four panelists representing Philips Healthcare, Hewlett-Packard, Best Buy and Exelon Corp. will discuss how their respective companies have developed environmentally sound policies. Attendees will hear how design and manufacturing practices can embrace sustainability efforts, how supply chains can be reversed and how energy-efficiency programs can save energy and money. Bottom line cost-savings, end-of-life product design and corporate social responsibility will be covered.

There's more on the global manufacturing subject with several sessions discussing the issues in outsourcing. One of these sessions aims to help small- and mid-sized manufacturers establish wholly owned enterprises in China. The "China option" will be covered in regards to benefits and risks as well as the different steps along the way, such as contracting with a sourcing company and relationships with contract manufacturers. The session will identify five phases of implementation, from concept to operational audits. A separate session on outsourcing is titled "An Often Overlooked Resource for Efficient Outsourcing," in which attendees will learn how to reduce the various risks involved at different levels.

Professionals in the plastics industry can participate in the National Plastics Design Competition organized by the Society of the Plastics Industry's (SPI) Alliance of Plastics Processors (APP). The competition has been held for 36 years, but this is the first time it is co-located with PLASTECH Midwest. "Placing the APP's 2008 competition at PLASTECH Midwest will showcase the plastics industry's innovative designs and emerging technologies to a more diverse array of end-market industries and a much greater number of people than ever before," says William Carteaux, SPI president and CEO.

National Manufacturing Week takes place September 23–25, conference beginning Sept. 22, at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, a few miles outside of Chicago in Rosemont, IL.

**Visit**  
***Gear Technology and***  
***Power Transmission***  
***Engineering at***  
**National Manufacturing**  
**Week, Sept. 23-25**  
**Booth #5211**

**September 23–25—MFN Shot and Flap Peening Workshop**, Houston Marriott North at Greenspoint, Houston. Three different-level classes are held on three separate, subsequent days that cumulatively cover 19 topics. The FAA-approved courses provide hands-on training for flap peening. The courses are intended for operators, supervisors, process and maintenance engineers, buyers and trainers. Some topics include peening intensity, masking solutions, specifications and standards, air and wheel peening, hole peening, residual stress and laser peening. An optional examination at the end of each course provides a certificate of achievement, which includes the FAA identification. Each course is \$790, but group discounts are available. For more information, visit [www.mfn.li/workshop](http://www.mfn.li/workshop).

**October 7–8—AmCon Minneapolis**, Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis. AmCon is a contract manufacturing expo for all job shops and contract manufacturers that provide custom metal, plastic, rubber or electronic parts and related manufacturing services to OEMs. Attendees include top level purchasing, engineering and production managers who are directly involved in buying custom contract manufacturing services. Representatives from companies of all sizes attend from a range of industries, often with blueprints in hand. The AmCon shows occur regionally throughout the year. Other fall shows include Fort Lauderdale, FL September 23–24, Phoenix October 14–15, Houston October 29–30 and Greensboro, NC November 18–19. For more information, visit [www.amconshows.com](http://www.amconshows.com).

**October 21–25 EuroBLECH 2008**, Exhibition Grounds, Hannover, Germany. The international technology exhibition EuroBLECH is for designers, buyers, production, quality managers and all other specialists in sheet metal working technology. Attendees and exhibitors represent every corner of the sheet metal working technology chain including semi-finished and finished products, handling, separation, machine elements, tube/section working, joining/welding, surface technologies, tools, process and quality control systems, CAD/CAM applications and R&D. The 2006 exhibition attracted over 64,000 visitors from 73 countries. The 2008 theme is “Quality, Flexibility, Productivity,” which will highlight innovative solutions to rapidly adapt fabrication processes to global market requirements. For more information, visit [www.euroblech.com](http://www.euroblech.com).



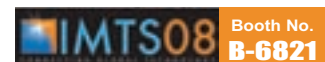
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