

# Take the Time: Invest in Knowledge

**If your manufacturing operation is like most, you're pretty busy these days.** And it's not just you. Everybody is making parts as fast as they can.

According to the Institute for Supply Management, the manufacturing sector continues its growth trajectory. The institute's Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) registered 58.1% in July, representing 23 consecutive months of growth.

Similarly, the AMT and U.S. Cutting Tool Institute report that January through May cutting tool consumption was up more than 10% compared to last year. So despite supply chain issues, tariff concerns and global trade wars, the majority of you are still making gears, transmissions and machinery.

More importantly, it appears that many of you are anticipating that growth will continue. You're investing in technology—namely machine tools—to enable your production to continue to increase. According to AMT, January through May machine tool consumption was up more than 26% compared to last year.

It's reassuring that you're continuing to invest this way. And while you're at it, you should be investing in more than just iron. You should also be investing in knowledge.

One of the best ways you can do so is by attending IMTS. The show takes place September 10-15 at Chicago's McCormick Place. This unique opportunity only comes once every two years. You get the chance to see all of the latest manufacturing technology available—not just for gears, but for nearly every aspect of your manufacturing operation.

More than 2,400 exhibitors will display more than 15,000 machine tools and occupy more than 1.3 million square feet of show floor space.

That's a lot of ground to cover, so not only do I urge you to come, but I also urge you to bring as many people from your company as you possibly can. IMTS isn't just for executives. It's for engineers, machinists and everybody else at your company who needs to understand manufacturing technology.

A show like this gives you the chance to talk to the salesmen and executives at your supplier companies, but it also lets you make connections with the engineers and technicians who install and maintain equipment like yours all over the world. If you make the effort, you can gain powerful insights from the people who have already solved manufacturing problems like the ones you face every day in your shop.



**Publisher & Editor-in-Chief**  
Michael Goldstein

In just a few days at IMTS, you can accomplish more than you would almost anywhere else. By investing a little time and energy, you can better understand how to invest your money. You can identify the machine tools and other technology that will help you the most in the coming years.

I know you're busy. I also know you have serious concerns about the future. But ensuring your future success is what IMTS is all about. Don't skip the opportunity.

**Michael Goldstein**, *Publisher & Editor-in-Chief*

P.S. Don't forget to stop by the *Gear Technology* booth (#237314 in the North Hall) when you come to IMTS. See our editors in action as they interview experts from around the world, learn more about the GT LIBRARY at [geartechnology.com](http://geartechnology.com) and renew your subscription. Most of all, just stop by and say hi. We'd love to learn how you're dealing with growth in this era of uncertainty.