calendar

September 8-11—SAMPE Fall Technical Conference and Exhibition. Memphis Marriott Downtown, Cook Convention Center, Memphis. Representing many facets of the material and process engineering industries, approximately 800 engineers, R&D engineers and educators attend the Society for the Advancement of Material and Process Engineering's (SAMPE) annual technical conference. Related topics include chemical engineering, design, operation and maintenance of chemical and material manufacturing processes. Technical sessions and panels discuss advanced materials and applications while the twoday exhibition consists of distributors and manufacturers of advanced materials showcasing new products and services. This year's SAMPE conference is co-located with the American Society for Composites and ASTM International, a voluntary standards developing organization. Significant contributions were made by the U.S. Air Force Office of Scientific Research. Some of the panels and featured talks include industrial applications of multifunctional materials, ionic polymer-metal composite-soft actuator and sensor—and polymer nanocomposites research in Canada.

September 8–13—IMTS 2008. McCormick Place, Chicago. The International Manufacturing Technology Show takes place once every two years, and it is the largest exhibit of manufacturing technology in North America with 15,000 machine tools, controls, computers, software, components, systems and processes. This year's show is focusing on connecting global technology. Displays from 1,500 companies cover 1.2 million net square feet of space, and 90,000 buyers and sellers are attracted from 119 countries. For more information, visit www.imts.com.

October 1–2—Making Lean Work for the Job Shop and Small Manufacturer. Doubletree Hotel Chicago-Oakbrook, Oakbrook, IL. This event sponsored by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers reveals how companies can begin to run a lean enterprise using tours, videos and testimonials. Attendees have the opportunity to network and share experiences they have been challenged by, as well as effective practices. Industry professionals will be in attendance to discuss available options and impart success stories. The event aims to provide information that people can put straight to use for improving processes and products. For more information, visit www.sme.org/leanjobshop.

October 15–17—SMMA 2008 Fall Technical Conference. Sheraton Westport Plaza Hotel, St. Louis, MO. The Motor and Motion Association (SMMA) is focusing on energy efficiency and inflation as a motor design challenge at the Fall Technical Conference. The manufacturing trade association is made up of companies and individuals in the electric motor and motion control industries. The event schedule includes presentations, breakout sessions and networking opportunities. With a separate registration there are pre-conference options—SMMA Motor and Motion College courses and Electric Motor Education and Research Foundation (EMERF) Workshop. The SMMA college courses will concentrate on how to improve electric motor efficiency, fundamentals of brushless motor control and advanced motor design. The EMERF Workshop will discuss the combination of the EMERF lamination steels database with motor simulation programs. Current and prospective members are invited to attend, and discounted registration is offered for several attendees from the same company. For more information, visit www.smma.org.

October 29-30—Aero Engine Expo. Espace Grand Arche, Paris. The 2008 Aero Engine Expo features the International Aero Engine Conference in its 17th annual installment. The expo is a leading event for the international aero engine industry with over 100 companies exhibiting and holding networking lunches and receptions. "Meet the Buyers" sessions provide roundtable networking opportunities and one-on-one meetings. This year's expo brings in a "Meet the Experts" session for visitors, exhibitors and delegates to participate in free seminars conducted by leading experts. For more information, visit www.aeroengineexpo.com and/or email colinh@aviation-industry.com.

October 21–23—PrecisionFab Metal and Plastics

Expo. Expo Guadalajara, Guadalajara, Mexico. The 21st annual PrecisionFab Expo is an exhibition of tools, equipment, materials, supplies and services used by manufacturing industries in Mexico, which produced over \$220 billion of manufactured goods in 2007. The three-day show attracts 6,000 manufacturing professionals, engineers and directors from hundreds of companies. This year's event is the first to feature plastics to provide a more comprehensive mélange of materials fabrication products and technologies. It is also co-located with three other events comprising International Design and Manufacturing Technology Week, which has taken place in Guadalajara for 14 years. Attending buyers manufacture auto parts, home appliances, electronics, telecom equipment, medical devices and metal and plastic enclosures. Conference sessions are free and will discuss productivity strategies, methods for minimizing lead times, manufacturing design and quality assurance. For more information, visit www.expoprecisionfab.com.