

Six-Shows-In-One

MAXIMIZE DESIGN, MANUFACTURING OPPORTUNITIES



There's something for everyone with 40,000 manufacturers convening outside Chicago September 22-24 (courtesy Canon Communications).

What was formerly held under the banner name of National Manufacturing Week returns to Rosemont, IL, as the largest design and manufacturing event in the Midwest, now produced by Canon Communications. One show badge grants access to all six co-located trade shows: Design and Manufacturing Midwest, Assembly Technology Expo,

Electronics Midwest, Medical Design and Manufacturing Midwest, Quality Expo and Green Manufacturing Expo. The usual sales, networking, new technology and equipment opportunities make this an important event for the anticipated 2,000 exhibitors and 40,000 attending manufacturers.

Some special events open for all attendees include the Lean Factory, providing free educational sessions, and the Innovation Briefs Theater, presenting 30-40 minute free sessions with industry experts. There are four Innovation Briefs Theater presentations each day, organized under Design and Manufacturing, Medical Design and Manufacturing and Quality Expo tracks.

Here's a breakdown of what the individual shows cover:

Design and Manufacturing Midwest. From design to distribution, visitors will find new technology in computer-aided design and manufacturing, rapid prototyping, engineering, components, automation and assembly, lasers, motors and drives, packaging, materials handling, electronics, plant engineering, quality systems, networking, enterprise

technologies/IT, and a range of contract services.

Assembly Technology Expo. Assembly tends to be covered piece by piece, but this is one instance where solutions for the entire process from start to finish are on display from gauging equipment to calibration and measurement tools and software. Check out booths for Renishaw, American Stress Technologies, Balluff, Bosch Rexroth, Euro-Tech Corp., Misumi, QC Industries, RBC Bearing, Suhner Manufacturing and Techno-Sommer.

Electronics Midwest. This show is considered part of the Assembly Technology Expo, but it is separate to basically group all the electronics assembly suppliers together for visitor convenience.

Quality Expo displays the latest in gages, quality software, calibration, CMMs, data collection, electronics test, non-contact inspection and other products designed to ensure the highest level of value. The corresponding conference includes sessions on quality management, reliability, statistics and problem solving, using technical risk assessment and other techniques for effective product development, strategies for software technology in green manufacturing and supply chain management.

Green Manufacturing Expo is designed for OEMs looking to improve process efficiency and reduce costs while conserving energy and other resources. Products to see include solar and wind energy systems, CAD/design for sustainability, energy management software, recyclable and bio-compostable packaging, energy-saving machinery and components and sustainability consulting.

Medical Design and Manufacturing Midwest, known as MD&M Midwest, features new technologies in materials, components, electronics, machinery, systems and services for designing medical products of all types. Day-long conference sessions include managing issues in supply chain, developing and streamlining design control,



process validation for medical devices, using quality systems to avoid 483s, streamlining product development and risk management and applying ISO standards.

All six shows will fill the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center outside Chicago, in Rosemont, IL, Tuesday through Thursday September 22–24. Conferences run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and expo halls open at 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, visit www.manufacturingweek.com to find links to the individual shows, or visit www.canontradeshows.com.

Have Gearing Questions? Gear Expo 2009 is the Place to Be.

Chances are you do use plenty of gears in your automation processes or plant maintenance. Plenty of business and educational opportunities exist for non-gear makers at Gear Expo, the only event of its scope and niche market focus in North America, and it only comes around once every two years. If you're not exhibiting, there are many benefits to reap from walking the show floor, at least for a day. You may find you need more than a day to take in everything Gear Expo has to offer.

"It is a place people can come and evaluate tooling or equipment or suppliers who are working in the industry, and they can come and evaluate gear manufacturing," says Joe Franklin, president of the American Gear Manufacturers Association (AGMA).

To maximize convenience for attendees, AGMA returns to Indianapolis as the Gear Expo host city for the first time since 1995. That show served as one of the best in attendance and



Photo courtesy of Indiana Convention and Visitors Association.

experiences. Indy has great amenities to offer visitors and is easily accessible by car for much of the North American gear industry.

All the hotels downtown are connected, so convenience is maximized for visitors going from place to place in any weather. "(Indianapolis) is convenient for being together and networking in that everything is connected and close," says Franklin.

The show floor at the Indianapolis Convention Center will be divided into five new pavilions this year including aerospace, breakdown, energy, powder metal/plastics and tooling.

Also, brand new this year at Gear Expo is its co-location with the ASM International Heat Treating Society Conference and Exhibition, which will add 3,000 people and 180 exhibitors to the mix, allowing visitors to take advantage of an additional technical program. The genesis for this partnership goes back to 2006 when Thom Passek, executive director of the ASM, began discussing the idea with Kurt Medert and Franklin of AGMA. "We approached the AGMA about bringing our two shows together since the connection between gear manufacturing and heat treating is

so strong," Passek says. "We both agreed that this was an opportunity to achieve a great deal of synergy, where someone attending one show could simply cross the aisle to learn about the other industry as well."

More international visitors should be drawn to Gear Expo by the U.S. Department of Commerce, which selected the show for its International Buyer's Program. The program attracts more than 125,000 qualified foreign buyers, sales representatives and business partners to U.S. trade shows every year. This allows U.S. commercial service trade specialists to promote Gear Expo abroad. Participating in the program also provides opportunities for exhibitors to find foreign partners, and other perks too for those interested in taking advantage of international trade prospects.

Gear Expo takes place September 15–17 at the Indiana Convention Center, downtown Indianapolis. For more information, visit www.agma.org, or check out *Gear Technology's* Gear Expo Showroom at www.geartechnology.com/gearexpo.

calendar

September 21-22—Bearing Specialists Association Fall Meeting. Hilton Suites, Chicago, IL. Members of the Bearing Specialists Association convene for the annual fall meeting where its committees address the important issues and association projects. Besides the networking opportunities, members are encouraged to attend in order to influence the direction of the industry over the next few years. To enhance the networking opportunities, there is a presentation on the pros and cons of social networking and examples of how it's being used. The guest speaker is Jeff Risley, vice president, public relations and social media analyst for Barkley advertising agency. Both meeting and hotel reservations are due by August 31. For more information, visit www.bsahome.org, or call (630) 858-3838.

September 22-23—Human Error Prevention Seminar. Chattanooga, TN. This seminar provides the most current developments in human error prevention, which significantly contributes to improved productivity, safety and quality. The principles and practices of human error prevention are universally applicable to any industrial, commercial or governmental enterprise regardless of the type of function performed. Instructor B.W. (Ben) Marguglio's taxonomy of human error causal factors and human error-related models demonstrate his leadership in the subject. He uses examples and case studies to reinforce the human error prevention principles and practices. For more information call (845) 265-0123, e-mail ben@hightechnologyseminars.com or visit www.hightechnologyseminars.com.

September 23-25—EPTDA Annual Convention. Marriott Park Hotel, Rome. The 12th annual European Power Transmission Distributors Association brings its 200 distributor and manufacturer member companies together to network around the theme of "excellence in relationships." The goal for this year's convention is to restore confidence and inspire the PT/MC industries to overcome economic challenges and create business opportunities. Experts will address topical issues such as risk and cash flow management, opportunities of the global economic situation and human resource retention. The convention also features a day of private meetings for open discussions on the latest product offerings, innovations and industry developments. A Manufacturer-Distributor Idea Exchange is considered a major highlight. For more information, visit www.eptdaconvention.org.

October 4-8—IEEE Industry Applications Society Annual Meeting. Hyatt Regency Houston. The 44th annual meeting of the Industry Applications Society (IAS) of the IEEE, a global association for technology advancement, is a source of continuing education for practicing engineers who work with and research electrical systems for industrial applications. The tutorial program has been expanded this year, which along with papers presented, covers applications-related topics like power systems, lighting, mining, metals, appliances, drive applications for industrial power systems and IEEE Color Book Standards. For more information,

contact Bruno Lequesne, IAS '09 conference chair, at bruno.lequesne@ieee.org.

October 5-7—Pack Expo. Las Vegas Convention Center. Las Vegas. The Pack Expo trade fair is the North American packaging and processing industries' main event. Manufacturers can assess how the newest technology can function compatibly with their own product lines. The products on display include packaging machinery, converting equipment, processing technology, materials and containers. Visitors will see the latest in security packaging, instrumentation and printing and graphic advances. Pack Expo is co-located with Process Expo, featuring developments in food processing equipment; Converting & Package Printing (CPP) Expo, which caters to the package printing, converting, finishing machinery and supplies industries; and the Reusable Packaging Association's annual meeting. For more information, visit www.packexpo.com.

October 19-22—Canadian Manufacturing Technology Show. Direct Energy Centre, Toronto, Ontario. The CMTS serves as Canada's main showcase for the latest machine tools, automation technologies, production methods, management strategies and more. Over 600 exhibitors present new technologies and ideas to hasten product development times, reduce cost and provide the best quality. An Automation Rendezvous Two-Day Technical Conference looks at improving industrial processes, budding technologies, successful partnering and other topics. Keynote speeches and town hall panels are part of the program designed for Canadian manufacturing professionals. For more information, visit www.cmts.ca.

October 19-22—InfraMotion. Bally's Hotel, Las Vegas. This is the 10th anniversary of the annual InfraMotion show, the international conference for infrared camera applications. Visitors and exhibitors are involved in infrared developments and practical applications for manufacturing and industrial automation, diagnostics, building sciences, predictive maintenance, R&D and other industries. For more information, visit www.inframotion.org.

October 25-29—Materials Science and Technology Conference and Exhibition. David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA. MS&T '09 is the premier professional forum addressing structure, properties, processing and performance throughout the materials science community. The technical program focuses on ceramic and glass materials, electronic and magnetic substances, environmental and energy issues, fundamentals and characterization of the materials industry, iron and steel, nanotechnology as well as processing and product manufacturing. The trade show is the result of a four-way partnership between the American Ceramic Society (ACerS), Association for Iron and Steel Technologies (AIST), ASM International and the Minerals Metals and Materials Society (TMS). For more information, visit www.matscitech.org.