

SCRATCHPAD

Newsletter of Minnesota Precision Manufacturing Association

October | 2011

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www.m p m a . c o m

MPMA ANNUAL MEETING

An Opportunity for Growth

Thursday, October 27, 2011

5:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Doubletree Hotel Minneapolis Park Place

Join us on Thursday, October 27 as Mr. Toby Madden, provides insights on our local economy and what small business owners and manufacturers can expect in the year to come. Mr. Madden is a regional economist in the public affairs department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. In this position, he writes articles for bank publications and frequently speaks on the district economy. In addition, he is actively involved with the bank's economic education program.

Schedule of Events:

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.: Registration, Social Hour, Silent Auction

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.: Dinner and Awards Ceremony

8:00 – 9:00 p.m.: Keynote Speaker

To register for this event please visit www.mpma.com.

WINNERS ANNOUNCED!

2011 Minnesota Manufacturing Awards



Minnesota Business is proud to announce the winners of the 2011 Minnesota Manufacturing Awards!

Strong business models and ethics have kept manufacturers alive and well; developing new products, new markets, new technologies and other tools to fuel economic growth. Come applaud our industry through an awards ceremony not to be missed.

The following winners will be honored at MPMA's Annual Meeting on Thursday, October 27. They will also be featured in the December issue of *Minnesota Business*:

- Manufacturing Company of the Year: **Mold-Tech Inc.**
- Manufacturing Executive of the Year: **Mike Schuffenhauer, MultiSource Manufacturing LLC**
- Manufacturing Innovation of the Year: **Top Tool Company**
- Emerging Manufacturer of the Year: **Aggressive Hydraulics, Inc.**
- Top Woman-Owned Manufacturing Company of the Year: **Permac Industries**

Minnesota Business partnered with the MPMA to host the awards in conjunction with Minnesota's Manufacturers Week, October 23 – 29, 2011.

Join us on:



TOP TOOL COMPANY

Opening Doors to Stamping

Top Tool has begun offering workshops at their facility in Blaine, Minn., to help broaden the industry's knowledge of stamping.

On Wednesday, August 24 the team at Top Tool, including Marty Cavegn, sales engineer; Duane Kari, technical sales support lead; and Elizabeth Abraham, CEO, gave an engaging presentation on the method behind stamping, the quality standards set by Top Tool and the potential cost savings associated with the practice.

The workshops allow Top Tool to share successful case studies where they have found stamping to be the best solution for their customers. Some products the company produces are so small, even Abraham can't believe they are stamping them.

Metal stamping has progressed by leaps and bounds in recent years. It is no longer limited to non-complicated manufacturing applications. Although the tradition still reigns true, stamping is the best fit for blanking out high volume parts; today, through micro stamping, Top Tool is able to produce complex components.

Stamping can help reduce the cost of production, especially on high volume parts needing to be produced out of expensive precious metals like gold and platinum. The cost reductions come because of high-precision, in-die forming operations like bending, coining, skiving and drawing, according to Top Tool. Of

added importance, materials like gold and platinum, often used in medical and electronic applications, are easier to manipulate through the stamping process.

Top Tool has plans to continue these workshops in the future. Watch for details soon on upcoming workshops. For questions or additional information please email Duane Kari at dakari@toptool.com.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Aerotek

Dylan Ballantine, skilled trades account manager
651.528.5354
dballant@aerotek.com

Network Medics, Inc.

Kevin Calgren, principal
612.643.3539 X202
kevin@networkmedics.com

Praxair Distribution, Inc. (Region 9)

Troy Braun, territory manager
507.387.7995
troy_braun@praxair.com

MPMA MANAGEMENT EDUCATION WORKSHOP

Management Education Workshops are interactive sessions meant to enhance the way you think about your business. Come ready to participate, share your knowledge and experience with the group, and discuss how your company will use the information from the workshop in the future.

Three Degrees of Innovation

DATE: Thursday, November 3

TIME: 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

LOCATION: MPMA Conference Room

PRESENTED BY:

Jack Mateffy, Mateffy & Company

DESCRIPTION:

The innovators in our midst see targets and solutions the rest of us don't, and know the steps to making their ideas reality. But what about the rest of us? Is this an all or nothing proposition—you either are an innovator or you aren't? Can we learn how to incorporate the skills of innovation into the work we do each day?

This workshop offers a fresh perspective on innovation and how it can direct the efforts of organizations, departments, and individuals. It also equips leadership of all levels and all functions to foster innovation not only in the work they do, but also in the work of those they direct.

This presentation introduces a proven formula and criteria for any innovative process. It helps any person and organization

quickly determine if their ideas will have traction in the marketplace, production floor, or on the drawing board. Participants get to test their innovations and inventions using the Three Degrees of Innovation formula and criteria.

TOPIC COVERED:

- Innovation: The Path to Invention
- Innovation defined
- Why we need to innovate
- Innovation tilts your world, it doesn't turn it upside down.
- Ten innovative organizations
- An innovation process
- Converting your ideas into our innovations
- Five ways to feed innovation
- Three Degrees of Innovation formula

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Leaders who want to learn how to build an innovative work culture.

Registration Deadline: Friday, October 28, 2011

Register online at www.mpma.com.