

## The Manufacturing Institute

**WHO WE ARE:** The Manufacturing Institute (the Institute) is the 501 (c)(3) affiliate of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the voice of the manufacturing economy, representing more than 100,000 companies and 12 million employees. The Institute is a non-partisan organization focused on delivering leading-edge information and services to all of the nation's manufacturers.

The Institute's initiatives are grounded in the belief that manufacturing is the cornerstone of our economic and national security. We develop and deploy solutions targeted at maintaining U.S. manufacturing global competitiveness through access to and utility of innovation and talent. To guide each effort, we produce and apply sound research as the foundation of effective policies, programs and solutions that produce real results.

### Education Reform and Workforce Development

*An educated and skilled, high performance technical workforce is key to manufacturers' ability to compete in the global economy.*

*Every American can and should have the chance to get ahead and succeed in high quality, middle class jobs in the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy.*

Our education reform agenda includes:

- Skillfully integrated academic and technical learning paths;
- A heightened focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math skills;
- More available alternatives for learning, with more "on" and "off" ramps to higher education and lifelong learning systems to learn new skills as technology advances;
- The integration of industry-recognized credentials with educational pathways, leading to postsecondary credentials with real value in the workplace.

### Accelerating Innovation and Applied Research

*Expounding the value of manufacturing will help ensure policies at the federal, state and local level that support the growth and sustainability of manufacturing in America.*

*Innovation is the driver of increased productivity, access to global markets, and competitiveness for manufacturers.*

The Institute's strategies include:

- Advancing research on timely issues related to the sustainability of manufacturing, providing data-based input to public policy makers on the issues of fiscal and tax policy, trade, infrastructure rehabilitation and development, the domestic energy portfolio, and environmental goals and regulations.
- Pursuing applied research in support of advancing innovation in the manufacturing economy. The goals of this applied research aim to expand the innovation capacity of manufacturers by linking them to available government enterprise assistance, creating peer-to-peer learning networks for entrepreneurs, supporting technology diffusion and transfer, increasing marketing support and access to global markets, and providing innovation assessment and measurement tools.

### ***Making Manufacturing Strong Through Education, Innovation, and Research***