

# Polk Manufacturing News

June 2011

POLKMFG.ORG

POLK MANUFACTURING  
ASSOCIATION



## **NEXT MEETING:**

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

2:00PM-4:00PM

TOPIC: SUSTAINABILITY with presentations from Shawn Wilkerson of Publix Super Markets and Valerie Gipson of Florida's Natural Growers

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Jane Gschwender, Chair  
Lakeland Electric

Richard 'Dick' Pellegrini – Pilgrim  
Associates/Vistage Florida

Ernest Helms – PSC Advanced  
Manufacturing Institute

Rob Clancy – PSC Corporate College

Butch Riggleman – Saddle Creek Corp.

Steve Wasko – MaxPak

Colleen Brown – Coca Cola

And Welcome New Board Member: Don Gray  
–Publix Super Markets, Inc.

## **WELCOME NEWEST PMA MEMBERS: PUBLIX SUPER MARKETS, INC. AND KEGEL, INC.**

NOW IS THE TIME TO JOIN PMA IF YOU ARE NOT A CURRENT MEMBER! VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT POLKMFG.ORG FOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION OR CONTACT SUSAN BLACK 863/287-7715

The Polk Manufacturing Association is involved in several advisory roles to help serve the manufacturing community of Polk County. These roles include the Manufacturers Association of Florida Board of Directors, the Banner Center for Advanced Manufacturing Advisory Council, and the new Polk County Steering Council on Manufacturing, Engineering and Technology whose mission is to develop a unified steering council to provide stakeholder guidance and support for all levels of Manufacturing, Engineering, Technology career/technical education and training programs in Polk County. PMA is also taking a leadership role in the development and employer support of the newest career academy at Ridge Technical Center for manufacturing careers.

## **First MAF Workforce Forum Sets the Stage**

With grants from the Manufacturing Institute and Workforce Florida Inc., MAF held its first of three discussion forums to develop an action plan for the next five years that will move career education and industry certifications forward in Florida. The first discussion was an exciting forum designed to hear from manufacturers about their future workforce needs. With 52 in attendance from around the state, from Polk, Steve Wasko, Maxpak was there to contribute to the conversation with Ernie Helms, Dr. Roe, and Susan Black. The next MAF Workforce Forum will be June 15 in Sarasota and educators will be encouraged to share their five year plans. If the other forums are as good as the first one, this will be a great plan for workforce education!

## **\$2.91 MILLION AWARDED TO POLK STATE FOR MANUFACTURING TRAINING**

We are proud to announce that Polk State College in partnership with 3 colleges, regional workforce boards and the Employ Florida Banner Center for Manufacturing, has been awarded a 3-year US Dept of Labor grant for the Engineering, Technology, and Advanced Manufacturing Initiative (ETAM). The purpose of this grant is to create cutting-edge curricula for credit and non-credit, and provide training for 782 unemployed, dislocated & incumbent workers. A survey was sent to the PMA contact list to solicit input for the courses that are being developed. They want to hear from you to design training that best meets your needs. Jeff Herman, previously a Manager at Amphenol Corporation in Lake Wales, is now Program Manager at Polk State College for the ETAM project. Please provide your input - contact Jeff on the ETAM initiative – jherman@polk.edu or 863-297-1010 x 4086

*SPECIAL THANKS TO NANCY STEPHENS, Executive Director of the Manufacturers Association of Florida for presenting our 2011 Legislative Briefing. If you would like a copy of the 2011 Legislative Report from the Manufacturers Association of Florida that was distributed at the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, please contact Susan Black at [info@polkmfg.org](mailto:info@polkmfg.org)*

## MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR? PMA MEMBERS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY!

Manufacturer of the Year Awards are presented during the Manufacturers Summit in Orlando and we think our Polk County manufacturers should apply. Applications will be due on August 15<sup>th</sup> and you must be a MAF or PMA member to apply (or other regional manufacturing association). Winners will be in at least 3 size categories: <125, 125-500, 500+. Visit [www.mafmfg.com](http://www.mafmfg.com) under the Awards tab to see the Awards application and selection process. Contact Susan Black to nominate your organization or self-nominate using the forms on the MAF website. Good luck!



## MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION OF FLORIDA 8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MANUFACTURERS SUMMIT & GLOBAL MARKETPLACE ~ November 30 – December 1, 2011

The 2011 summit and expo being held in Orlando is already taking shape.

Additional manufacturers and international buyers are being invited to help stimulate exports and international business. Last year's success spurred the need to double the expo space and now is your opportunity to get your spot. There will be intervals for international buyers to have quality time with exhibitors to make business deals outside of the period when all attendees visit the trade show.

Here's a short list of manufacturers already committed: Crowe Horwath, LLC – accounting firm; ICS Group Inc., Carlisle LAC – green construction materials; Mitsubishi Power Systems – gas and steam turbines; URS Corporation – engineering firm; Collins Manufacturing – CNC machine shop; Hunter Panels – roof insulation panels; Metal Essence – CNC machine shop; WinDoor – Hurricane tested impact resistant windows & doors.

As a manufacturer, this reverse trade show is a great opportunity to be in front of buyers who want to do business with Florida manufacturers. We ask that you get your spot now by downloading registration forms from [www.mafmfg.com](http://www.mafmfg.com). Also, there are a limited number of sponsorships still available. We would appreciate you helping to spread the word to other manufacturers throughout the state, and even international buyers who will want to participate in this event. AND don't forget to register for the Summit – an excellent event just for manufacturers and right in our backyard!

### EXPORT TRIP TO BRAZIL – SPECIAL DISCOUNTED PACKAGE DEAL

Governor Rick Scott will be leading a Team Florida delegation to Sao Paulo, Brazil October 23-27, 2011 to participate in an exposition of Florida products for export and one on one appointments for Florida companies through the US Commercial Service in Sao Paulo. A special offer is being made for manufacturers who are new on infrequent exporters to Brazil and meet the participation criteria below - **\$500 for an all participation package!** The package includes Gold Key one on one appointments, a booth at the Florida expo where over 2000 targeted Brazilian business people are expected to attend, translators, networking events group travel discount, ground transportation and more – a \$2,100 value! Brazil is Florida's largest export market in the world and is forecast to be one of the fastest growing economies this decade. Qualifying criteria is: 1- Product must be manufactured or assembled in Florida; 2 – Small or medium sized company with less than 500 employees; 3 – New to the Brazil market or infrequent exporter. This is a great opportunity and we encourage you to take advantage of this special offer! For more information, call Julie Balzano 305-808-3660, Enterprise Florida Inc. Participation package online [www.eflorida.com](http://www.eflorida.com)

UPCOMING DATES

**September 13** PMA Meeting

**September 15-16** MAF Safety Conference, Crown Plaza Tampa East, Tampa, FL

**November 30-December 1**

MAF Annual Manufacturers Summit & Global Marketplace – Register at [www.mafmfg.com](http://www.mafmfg.com)