WMMA Networking Breakfast at AWFS Fair

Thursday, July 23, 2015 | 7:30am-9:00am | Las Vegas Convention Center - Rooms N225/N226

WMMA is pleased to invite your company and exhibiting staff to a networking breakfast during the AWFS Fair. We will be showcasing WMMA and member benefits as well as the importance of committee work including Public Policy, Membership Development, International Business Development, Technical Standards, etc. Hear from our committee chairs about each valuable program as well as ways to become more involved in helping your company take advantage of the many programs WMMA has to offer.

The event will be held in Rooms N225/N226, at the Las Vegas Convention Center. Please plan to join other WMMA member exhibitors for this great networking event. Kindly RSVP with the name of your organization and all exhibiting staff who will attend the breakfast. Space is limited!
Coming Soon! WMMA Fall Meetings & DC Fly-In

WMMA will be hosting its Fall Meetings and DC Fly-In on September 14-17th in Washington, DC. Come together with fellow WMMA members on the Hill on September 15th to promote important industry-wide legislative issues including the MRA, Direct Expensing and Combustible Dust. If you are interested in participating contact diane@wmma.org.

Schedule

Monday, Sept 14th - Afternoon Committee Meetings
Tuesday, Sept 15th - Breakfast, Hill Visits, and Dinner
Wednesday, Sept 16th - WMMA Board Strategic Planning, Offsite Tour
Thursday, Sept 17th - WMMA Board Meeting & Strategic Planning

Hotel
Westin Crystal City Hotel
1800 Jefferson Davis Hwy
Arlington, VA 22202
SAVE THE DATE!

April 12-15, 2016
CasaMagna Marriott Cancun Resort
Cancun, Mexico

Calling All Volunteers!

Members drive the WMMA programs and services that have a positive impact on their businesses, the industry and U.S. manufacturing. Committee and Task Force structures, comprised of interested and active leaders, professionals and executives from member companies, help to channel the many ideas, areas, and topics that members use to address the challenges of the global marketplace. WMMA’s dedicated volunteers are an integral part of the Association’s continued success.

WMMA Committees:

- International Business Development
- Membership Development
- Public Policy
- Technical Standards

WMMA Task Forces:

- Education
- Technology

Join a WMMA Committee/Task Force today!

WMMA Public Policy Committee Meeting during WIC 2015
Welcome New WMMA Members

Fletcher Machine Industries, Inc. is owned by Ray Fletcher, the original owner and founder of Fletcher Machine Company, Inc. which was founded in 1962. Mr. Fletcher re-purchased the assets of his former company in November 2014 and is actively involved in the daily operations of the company. With over 50 years in the industry, the Fletcher Machine name has been recognized throughout the US as a leader and innovator in the woodworking industry. We look forward to doing business with our “old and new customers and vendors” and will strive to meet their needs and expectations going forward.

Novaflex has been pioneering innovative ways to make flexible ducting more versatile, dependable and competitively priced for more than 35 years. Our complete line of extruded thermoplastic products offers the widest selection in the industry. From inexpensive PVC and black TPR material for light duty applications to the extremely durable urethanes to the static-dissipating and fire-retardant materials, we are confident we have a product to fit your application. In addition, our patented “mechanical lock” products allow us to produce extremely flexible, specialized products for high temperature air and exhaust, chemical fumes and abrasive materials not available from other sources. Novaflex has stocking warehouses in New Jersey (Philly), North Carolina, Indianapolis, Houston and Northern California to provide exceptional service.
Stevensville, MD - Miltec Corporation, 146 Log Canoe Circle, hosted a facility tour and career presentation on Thursday, May 15, 2015 for a group of women members and potential members of Women in Manufacturing (WiM), a national organization dedicated to the attraction, retention and advancement of women who have chosen or are pursuing a career in the manufacturing industry.

The event kicked off with a presentation from Jane Seagraves, Business Development Director at APPI Energy in Salisbury Maryland, and WiM’s first affinity partner, providing electricity and natural gas consulting services. Highlighted in the presentation was WiM’s mission of supporting, promoting and inspiring women to pursue careers in manufacturing, along with information on several events that facilitate networking with industry peers.

Miltec’s event not only supported WiM’s mission but allowed for the networking among peers who attended to see Miltec’s manufacturing facility and operation and learn more about the UV curing process. The Women of Miltec described their job responsibilities and relayed real life stories of how Miltec provided them with a career path in Manufacturing.

Marilyn Blandford, Miltec’s CEO said, “I am proud of our women and feel honored to be surrounded by such strong women from whom I continue to learn every day”. Marilyn talked about her own career path, which began as an educator, and encouraged the group of women attendees to recognize their strengths, continue their education and understand that women’s skills are critical to the manufacturing field.
The Value of Well-Developed Industry Standards in Products Liability Litigation

By: James Dartlin (Dart) Meadows, Balch & Bingham LLP

James Dartlin “Dart” Meadows is a trial lawyer with 32 years of experience. He has tried dozens of cases in Georgia and in other states. His practice includes business litigation, product liability, healthcare, and real estate litigation. He represents several wood-working machinery manufacturers, distributors, and dealers in product liability litigation throughout the country, including serving as their national counsel.

In 2014 the Woodworking Machinery Industry Association and the Woodworking Machinery Manufacturer’s Association formed a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) that is working on harmonizing the ANSI 01.1 Woodworking Safety Standards with global woodworking standards created by the International Safety Organization (ISO). This project will benefit the entire industry in creating more uniform global standards. One goal is there will be fewer injuries by the woodworkers using the machines. Another result of the project will be to use these well developed standards as a defense where there is an injury. The project will help the defense of future claims and suits.

ANSI 01.1 is a consensus standard that aids manufacturers, employers and employees in the safe construction, installation, operation and maintenance of woodworking machinery and accessory equipment. Since 1944, the ANSI 01.1 Standard has been updated on multiple occasions. The recent work of the 01.1 Committee has included drafting the following standards:

- ANSI 01.1:2013 Woodworking machinery – Safety requirements
- ANSI 01.1-1:2007 Safety Requirements for Fixed Angle Jump saws
- ANSI 01.1-3:2014 Safety Requirements for CNC Machining Center
- ANSI 01.1-2 Safety Requirements for Gang Rip Saws (in progress)
- ANSI 01.1-4 Safety Requirements for CNC Machining Center shapers (in progress)
- ANSI 01.1-5 Safety Requirements for Straight-Line Rip Saws (in progress)

This article will examine how well-developed standards can be successfully used in the defense of product liability cases alleging claims of strict liability, negligence and even punitive damages. Compliance with such well developed standards can help a manufacturer, distributor or dealer present a compelling defense to the product liability claims.

I. Introduction

In products liability cases, defendant manufacturers usually introduce evidence of compliance with industry standards to prove their product designs are reasonable and not defective. Courts in Georgia and elsewhere routinely hold such evidence to be admissible, but not conclusive on the issue of whether a product is defective. Georgia law is consistent with this analysis.

Click here to read more.
Industry News:

**Virginia Tech Housing Report: April 2015**

April housing data was stellar with the exception of existing house sales and remodeling. Let’s hope these positive data points turn into positive trends. For most data reported, we must remind ourselves we remain well below historical averages in most of these categories.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

---

**NAM Monday Economic Report**

Manufacturers and other businesses came into this year with a lot of optimism, particularly given robust growth in the second half of last year. [Read more.](#)

---

**Manufacturers’ Outlook Survey - Second Quarter 2015**

The results indicate the manufacturing economy is growing, but at a much slower pace than the more robust levels experienced just a few months ago. The results also serve as an indicator of continued economic and political headwinds that manufacturers face. Find out more about the numbers and what they mean by visiting the survey’s new [landing page.](#)
Association of Millwork Distributors Announces Name Change to World Millwork Alliance

Association of Millwork Distributors, a leader in the millwork industry - announced it has changed its name to World Millwork Alliance (WMA). The name change reflects the association’s broader millwork commitment to strengthen the millwork community and its expertise in servicing the millwork industry. After years of providing the millwork industry with a solid foundation for networking, education, advocacy and services; the association has a reach and a footprint that’s global.

“The new name - World Millwork Alliance - represents a united millwork presence forming a strong global alliance between members, association and our industry,” said WMA chief executive officer Rosalie Leone. “World Millwork Alliance is an important milestone in the history of our association and reflects a new vision for the organization. The introduction of new, forward-thinking programs and strategies which will fundamentally change the way our members interact with our organization and other WMA Members.”

The World Millwork Alliance tagline “Connections that Matter” is representative of the organization’s business of building relationships between WMA and its members and the relationships amongst distributors, manufacturers and manufacturer representatives. World Millwork Alliance will continue evolving to better serve its members with a focus on the next generation.

About WMA: Established in 1963, World Millwork Alliance is a wholesale distribution organization headquartered in New Port Richey, Florida. World Millwork Alliance is dedicated to the progression and prosperity of the millwork industry; a recognized leader providing networking, education, advocacy, leadership, and certification for the millwork industry. For more information, visit [www.worldmillworkalliance.com](http://www.worldmillworkalliance.com)
Industry Calendar of Events

**Note:** For a complete listing of all meetings, including those held internationally, go to WMMA's website, [www.wmma.org](http://www.wmma.org), and click on "Events."

Have an event to add to the Industry Calendar in this newsletter? Send it to [jennifer@wmma.org](mailto:jennifer@wmma.org)

---

**July 22-25, 2015**

**AWFS Fair**  
Las Vegas, NV  
[http://awfsfair.org](http://awfsfair.org)

---

**July 23, 2015**

**WMMA Networking Breakfast at AWFS**  
Las Vegas, NV  
Members [RSVP](#) by May 31st

---

**September 14-17, 2015**

**WMMA Fall Meetings & DC Fly-In**  
Washington, DC  
Contact [info@wmma.org](mailto:info@wmma.org) for more information.

---

**October 7-8, 2015**

**Wood Pro Expo**  
Baltimore, MD  
[www.woodproexpo.com](http://www.woodproexpo.com)

---

**Nov. 5-7, 2015**

**Woodworking Machinery & Supply Expo (WMS 2015)**  
International Centre, Toronto  
Exhibitor Info: [rwidick@heiexpo.com](mailto:rwidick@heiexpo.com)  
Website: [www.WoodworkingExpo.ca](http://www.WoodworkingExpo.ca)

---

**August 24-27, 2016**

**International Woodworking Fair (IWF)**  
Georgia World Congress Center  
Atlanta, GA  

---

**November 2-4, 2017**

**Woodworking Machinery & Supply Expo (WMS 2017)**  
International Centre, Toronto  
Website: [www.WoodworkingExpo.ca](http://www.WoodworkingExpo.ca)
Industry Calendar of Events

Note: For a complete listing of all meetings, including those held internationally, go to WMMA's website, www.wmma.org, and click on “Events.”

Have an event to add to the Industry Calendar in this newsletter? Send it to maryhelen@wmma.org

May 31, 2015

Deadline to apply for LIGNA pavilion
Information: Contact WMMA Headquarters or Click Here.

April 21-24, 2015

Woodworking Industry Conference (WIC)
Grand Hyatt San Antonio
San Antonio, TX
http://www.wmma.org

May 11-15, 2015

LIGNA
Hannover, Germany
www.ligna.de/home

Interested in participating in WMMA’s pavilion at LIGNA? Contact Fred Stringfellow at fred@wmma.org.

July 22-25, 2015

AWFS Fair
Las Vegas, NV
http://awfsfair.org

Nov. 5-7, 2015

Woodworking Machinery & Supply Expo (WMS 2015)
International Centre, Toronto
Exhibitor Info: rwidick@heiexpo.com
Website: www.WoodworkingExpo.ca

August 24-27, 2016

International Woodworking Fair (IWF)
Georgia World Congress Center
Atlanta, GA
http://www.iwfatlanta.com/