HOTEL BLOCK ALMOST FULL - BOOK YOUR ROOM FOR WIC 2018 BEFORE ITS TOO LATE

It is very likely that we will reach capacity before the hotel cut-off date in April. Please confirm your reservation today to receive the WIC discounted group rate of $275/night (plus $15/night resort fee). The special rate is available three days prior to the start of WIC and three days after WIC ends (April 28-May 8, 2018). To reserve, call the Hyatt Regency Maui Resort toll-free at (888) 421-1442, or reserve online.

Silent Auction: Due to local restrictions with auction-related activities in Maui, we will not be having a silent auction this year to benefit the Woodwork Career Alliance of North America (WCA). We will, however, be welcoming financial contributions throughout the conference, to help the WCA continue its efforts to support workforce development for the woodworking industry, which includes certification and training of new and existing woodworking professionals as well as students at both the high school and post-secondary levels. For more information on WCA, visit www.woodworkcareer.org.

Speakers @ WIC:
Technical Session featuring Alex Genov, Head of Customer Research for Zappos.com. Alex is an experienced customer research professional who applies his Experimental Social Psychology background and his passion for research, design, and innovation to solving important customer and business problems. His professional goal is to help teams create remarkable products and services which make people’s lives easier and more enjoyable. Find out about more about Alex, his technical session and all of the presentations currently scheduled at WIC here.
Public Policy Invitation

Tired of all the noise in Washington? Members of Congress need to hear directly from their constituents to understand what matters to you! Plan on joining industry leaders during the WMMA and National Association of Manufacturers DC Fly-In June 19-20. What more information? Contact Dan Bond at dan@wmma.org.

WMMA 2018 Regional Networking & Education Meeting

October 1-3, 2018
Loews Minneapolis Hotel
601 North 1st Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55403

Building from a successful debut event in Charlotte, WMMA is pleased to announce that its 2nd Annual Regional Networking & Education Meeting will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota! Minneapolis is another key location for industry-related companies. This is a great opportunity to bring together both members and prospective members for: * Plant Tours (Is your company located in the Minneapolis area? Contact Diane Schafer for information about providing a tour!) * Educational Sessions * In-Person Committee Meetings * Networking....Networking....Networking!

Click here to learn more about the Regional Networking & Education Meeting

Do you work with a real standout?

The WMMA is a proud sponsor of Woodworking Network’s Class of 2018 40 Under 40. The WMMA and Woodworking Network are asking for your help in identifying individuals in the next generation of people who are destined to make an impact on the wood products manufacturing industry in North America. We are seeking disruptors, innovators, rebels, those who have broken the rules or worked out of the box to make our industry - or the world - a better place. This could be someone who’s come up with a killer idea, a project, product, and process, perhaps even incubated a business.

Candidates stand out for accomplishments in these categories: Productivity, Profitability, Social Good (locally, or globally), Ingenuity, Innovation, Peer Inspiration, Product Development, Organizational Leadership.

Candidates must be involved in the wood manufacturing industry, and be 39 or under in 2018.

Nominate a team member, colleague or enter yourself by June 22nd.
Next Gen Executives Group

WMMA has launched the Next Gen Executive Group to serve as a peer network for future leaders within the wood machinery industry. The NGEG will feature opportunities for networking, education, and professional development. Through a series of webinars, in-person networking events and mentoring initiatives, NGEG members will have the opportunity to grow their networks among peers and seasoned Association colleagues. If you are interested in participating in the NGEG or nominating someone from a WMMA member company, please contact Samantha@wmma.org.

Education Corner

The MiLL Hosts Its First Stiles University

Stiles Machinery Inc. continues to be a major supporter of the MiLL National Training Center. Stiles has now partnered with the MiLL to hold Stiles University week long trainings to industry employees. It has been part of the MiLL’s vision to be a training facility where companies could send their employees to be trained in one to two week courses. This week, Stiles University is holding its first training at the MiLL with attendees coming in from across the country to learn woodWOP Programming, CNC Tooling and Hands-On Machine Operation.

The Stiles/ MiLL education partnership made it possible to create the Peyton Woods Program three years ago and establish the MiLL National Training Center which opened August, 2017. Now established as an industry training facility, the MiLL will be able to increase the skill level of current or new industry employees on the latest technology, an issue many companies are facing. Industry can send field service reps and sales people for cross training so they will know the language and process of cabinetmaking and finishing. Education and industry have to do better in producing a workforce with deeper skills. The MiLL is doing its part to produce highly qualified employees for the woods manufacturing industry.

For more information on training employees contact Dean Mattson dean@mattsonsinteriors.com or go to the MiLL website: https://themillco.org and request more information.
Join a WMMA Committee Today!

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. If you are interested in joining a WMMA Committee, submit the Committee Commitment form to kristin@wmma.org.

International Woodworking Fair
August 22-25, 2018
Georgia World Congress Center
Atlanta, GA

IWF is the trade show where furniture manufacturing, cabinetry, architectural woodworking, material processing and other related industry professionals from all over the globe will come to find products they didn’t even know existed that will help their company succeed.

For those planning to exhibit and attend IWF 2018, please note the following:

IWF is offering a series of webinars to WMMA member exhibitors to help prepare you for the opportunities at IWF 2018. We encourage you to participate or to forward this information to the appropriate staff member who would benefit.

Housing Solicitation Warning
It has come to our attention that IWF exhibitors are being contacted by third party housing vendors soliciting hotel reservations for IWF 2018. These companies may state or infer that they are affiliated with IWF. These companies are in no way associated with IWF and we cannot vouch for their authenticity. While it is possible that other companies may have secured blocks of rooms at various hotels, they are not the official housing provider for IWF and IWF in no way vouches for or endorses their services.

Please be aware that Experient is the ONLY official housing provider for IWF. Your room rates and availability for reservations are only guaranteed when you book your room through Experient. Hotel reservations made outside of the official hotel block may put you at risk. Other vendors cannot provide the same benefits and protection offered by booking through Experient.

In the past we have received reports of individuals who encountered challenges upon checking into the hotel with reservations made through unofficial vendors. Do not risk arriving at your hotel only to discover your reservation did not exist or your deposit has been lost! Protect your identity and information security by booking with Experient.

If you are contacted by a travel company other than Experient, please immediately notify Show Management by calling 404-693-8333 or email IWFEXHIBITOR@experient-inc.com.

Learn more about IWF 2018: http://www.iwfatlanta.com/
Call for Product Images for WMMA Website!

Want free advertising for your products on the WMMA website? Send in images to info@wmma.org. There must be no noticeable branding on any photos.

ANSI Update

Are you interested in contributing to the development and maintenance of these valuable industry safety standards? The ASCO1 is currently looking for members in the following categories:

* General Interest
* Government
* User

If you are interested in joining the ASCO1, contact WMMA Associate Director Jennifer Miller at jennifer@wmma.org.
Call for ASCO1 Student Members

The ASCO1 has one open student membership position and it looks for student recommendations. If you know a student who meets the criteria below and would like to participate or the ASCO1 contact Jennifer@wmma.org.

ASCO1 Student Member Criteria:

• A non-voting member who meets at least one of the following qualifications regarding a curriculum determined by the committee at the time of membership application to be an educational program relevant to the scope of the Committee’s responsibilities:
• Is or credibly plans to be actively enrolled full time for at least two semesters/quarters of the current school year, or
• Has graduated from the program within the last two years.
• Continued student membership shall be contingent upon:
• Meeting the regular membership participation requirements of the ASCO1 procedures, and
• Maintaining the educational program qualifications.
• Student membership shall have a maximum term limit of two years.
* Student membership shall be limited to a maximum of two roster positions at any one time.
* Student membership will not be tallied for committee balance.
* Application by ASCO1 student members for full committee membership shall be given priority consideration, in so far as the Committee determines membership balance permits.

Industry News:

Virginia Tech Housing Report: February 2018

February’s permits and starts data were mundane, which is typical for a winter month. New single-family starts were respectable but still remain below its historical average, and new single-family sales data remain volatile. Most other data series improved on a month-to-month basis. Regionally, data were mixed across all sectors. The April 10th Atlanta Fed GDPNow™ residential investment spending model projects an aggregate -1.0% (decrease) for Quarter One 2018. New private permanent site expenditures were projected for a 4.2% rise; the improvement spending forecast was a 3.2% increase; and the manufactured/mobile housing forecast was a 26.0% improvement (all: quarterly log change and seasonally adjusted annual rate). Click here to read more.

NAM Monday Economic Report - Report - April 16, 2018

Optimism has been at historically high levels over the past five quarters, averaging 92.1 percent. Sentiment is sharply higher than two years ago, with an average of 64.3 percent in 2016. Click here to read more:
WMMA Social Media Ambassadors

Do you tweet, twitter, or consider yourself a social media guru? If so, we want you to join the WMMA Social Media Ambassadors. There are no meetings, simply share, repost and spread the good word of the WMMA and the woodworking industry with your social media network. Simply follow WMMA on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn as well as other social media platforms such as Pinterest or YouTube. Then help us spread the message by reposting, retweeting or sharing your own posts on the WMMA and the industry.

Simply email iscott@airhand.com to confirm your willingness to help.

WMMA Supplier Recruitment Initiative - We need your help!

WMMA member,

Throughout the year, the Membership Development Committee takes on various initiatives to recruit, maintain and develop WMMA’s membership.

We are asking our membership to recruit new associate members, especially suppliers. Consider the various suppliers to your business: motors, drive systems, electronics, PLC/PC, metal products, paint, hardware, software, etc. Each of us has many relationships with companies that are perfect to be an associate member. By recruiting supplier members we not only strengthen our association but also provide our suppliers an opportunity to connect with many other companies.

I encourage you to share WMMA information with your suppliers and have them visit www.wmma.org for more information. Additionally, the on-line membership application can be found here.

Thank you in advance for your help in this effort.
Thank you.
Membership Development Committee

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 Samantha@wmma.org

May 1-4, 2018
WIC 2018 - Save the Date!
Hyatt Regency Maui
Maui, Hawaii

June 19-20, 2018
WMMA and National Association of Manufacturers DC Fly-In
Washington, D.C.

August 22-25, 2018
IWF 2018 - Save the Date!
Georgia World Congress Center
Atlanta, Georgia
Website: Learn more

October 1-3, 2018
WMMA Regional Networking Meeting
Loews Minneapolis Hotel
Minneapolis, MN

April 2-5, 2019
WIC 2019 - Save the Date!
Omni Amelia Island Plantation
Amelia Island, Florida