President's Message

Back in November 2017, ten wood industry associations met at the Architectural Woodworkers Institute in Potomac Falls, VA to brainstorm common issues they face in the wood industry. Today this group is called the Wood Industry Resource Collaborative (WIRC) with membership of eleven trade associations all related to the woodworking or the wood products manufacturing industry. They meet frequently to discuss common issues in the industry. How great is this that a consortium of trade associations in our industry are now talking and acting as group to support and strengthen the woodworking industry.

I can remember when WMMA, WMIA and AWFS got together once a year under the name the Wood CTE Group to discuss common issues and then waited until the next year to chat again. The leaders of these associations realized it was time to work together for the future of the wood industry. The Wood CTE Group enlisted other associations and formed WIRC.

WIRC’s main focus is the technical labor shortage now and in the future. WIRC is an advocate for the entire wood industry and seeks to drive awareness, interest and consideration of the industry for those seeking careers and employment opportunities. WIRC considers its primary target audiences to be high school students considering career options, military veterans and mid-career workers. Part of WIRC’s mission is to make these individuals aware of training opportunities that would prepare them for jobs in the wood industry.

I am proud of WMMA’s major role in WIRC. I am proud that WMMA’s Board of Directors is supporting the goals and objectives of WIRC. Our association is playing a major role in supporting and strengthening the woodworking industry. Our participation in WIRC is taking NETWORKING to a new level. I see WIRC expanding and playing a vital role in the future of the woodworking industry. And finally, I look at WMMA as playing a vital role in the future of WIRC. It is a “win, win” situation when we all work together for the future of our industry.

Your President,
Steve Carter

Accepting Comments: Proposed Tele-service Machine Operation Language


In the proposed language, there is a section to add tele-service capability for machines and the safety requirements recommended so far. The chair of the ASD01 Committee has already submitted comments requesting more measurements be taken, but we wanted to allow our membership to submit feedback as well. Please email our standards consultant, Warren Weber with any additional comments you might have by Thursday, November 21.

Click here to read the proposed language
Have you made your benefit selections for next year? If not, consider NAM Health Care — one of our most exciting member benefits! Recent changes to federal health insurance regulations now allow small and medium-sized businesses to leverage the buying power of an Association Health Plan, or AHP. This is great news for WMMA members! You now have access to medical, dental, vision and life insurance plans that offer potentially lower premiums and reduced administrative costs.

More information will be available in the coming months about the program and how to obtain enrollment details for coverage effective as early as January 1st, 2020. You can visit wmma.namhealthcare.com in early December for more information.

Register Now for WIC 2020

For over 30 years, the Woodworking Machinery Industry Association (WMIA) and the Wood Machinery Manufacturers of America (WMMA) have jointly sponsored the Woodworking Industry Conference (WIC), the “One Industry Conference” bringing together different segments of the industry.

WIC is the “One Conference” you can’t afford to miss—where else can you find valuable opportunities for business development, professional and personal networking, and a wealth of practical knowledge and information, all in one fantastic setting? You can’t, so why let WIC 2020 pass you by?

Register Now

New Complimentary Registration Offer to 1st Time WIC Attendees

The WMMA Board is offering complimentary registrations for up to four first time WIC attendees. If you are a New Member Company or have never attended WIC before, email samantha@wmma.org to claim your complimentary WIC registration today!

WMMA Committees at Work for YOU

International Business Development Committee:
The IBDC conducted a recent market study and the following markets were researched in relation to woodworking activity, machinery imports, etc: Canada, Mexico, UK, South Africa, UAE, Chile, Columbia, Vietnam, Australia and New Zealand. The results of that study can now be accessed on the WMMA Member-Landing page, once logged in.

Additionally, in January WMMA will have a pavilion in Mexico City at MEM 2020. Any questions about participation in the WMMA pavilion can be found here.
**Membership Development Committee:**
The MDC met at the Regional meeting in Boston and discussed a variety of topics including: Creating an award to recognize outstanding members, hosting a Member Networking Reception during IWF, creating a WIC promotion for 1st time attendees, and continuing to update our Newsletter/Website content.

In addition to those topics, the committee agreed to renew our membership with CueCareer and revise our subscription with the ITR reports.

**Public Policy Committee:**
WMMA’s Public Policy Committee met in Boston on September 30. Committee members were provided an update of the latest developments in Washington on the industry’s two key public policy priorities—trade and initiatives to promote career and technical education. On the U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement (USMCA), prospects for passing legislation to implement the agreement were looking positive until the official Presidential impeachment inquiry was announced. The fate of the agreement now appears uncertain, although the deal enjoys bipartisan support in the House and Senate. Lawmakers were on a two week recess and return to Washington this week. If USMCA implementing legislation is going to pass Congress, the period beginning this week until Thanksgiving is the window of opportunity. On CTE, WMMA members were made aware of a briefing being planned by the Congressional Career and Technical Education Caucus for November 20 to discuss access and equity issues associated with local CTE programs. Staff for the Caucus are interested in WMMA providing a panelist for this briefing and the committee discussed options for pursuing this opportunity.

In terms of planning, the committee discussed opportunities for increased engagement in Washington next year by combining forces with allied trade associations for a more robust Capitol Hill “fly-in” day. The two organizations mentioned were AWFS and WMIA. In subsequent outreach, there appears to be interest in organizing a joint fly-in late first quarter 2020.

**Technical Standards Committee:**
Here is a short list of what is being worked on by ANSI and ISO:

- ANSI O1.1 Standards - The ASC O1 committee is now the ASD O1 committee. The change in name was suggested by ANSI to better represent the committee work.
- ANSI O1.1 Woodworking Safety Requirements is currently being revised and should be finished by the end of the year.
- ANSI O1.1-3 CNC Router Standard is in the process of reaffirmation.
- ANSI O1.1-6 Edge Banders is being worked on.
- ISO 19085 Standards:
  - 19085-1 Common Requirements is currently being revised.
  - 19085-3 CNC Router is currently being revised.
  - 19085-16 Table band saws and band re-saws is being worked on.

If you have any questions about the ANSI O1 or ISO 19085 standards please don't hesitate to contact [Brad Graves](mailto:).  

**Technology Committee:**
The Joint Technology Committee (JTC) hosted a webinar on Digital Marketing and that pre-recorded webinar can be accessed via this link to view. The Committee will be hosting more webinars in the future and upcoming topics you can expect include: building/redesigning company websites, data privacy/security, and more.

Additionally, the JTC is working with the IWF Management team on ways the tech committee can provide more value to the WMMA/WMIA members exhibiting through lead-retrieval and analytic improvements. Contact [Jeff Onsrud](mailto:) with any questions about the WMMA Technology Committee.
Register Now for WINS 2020!

WMIA + WMMA are going to Salt Lake City, UT, February 6-9, 2020, for the Wood Industry Networking Snow Sport event. This event has grown over the years and this year we are expecting our biggest crowd yet!

Registration and sponsorship reservations are now open - click here for more information!

WMMA 2019 Upcoming Events

**January 22-24, 2020**
MEM Industrial 2020
Mexico City, Mexico
Find out how to participate in WMMA's U.S. Pavilion here

**February 5-9, 2020**
WINS 2020
Salt Lake City, UT
Registration Open Now!

**May 5-8, 2020**
Woodworking Industry Conference (WIC20)
Wild Dunes Resort
Isle of Palms (Charleston), SC
Click here to register now!

**August 25-28, 2020**
IWF 2020 - Click here to apply for exhibit space
Atlanta, GA

View Full Calendar of Events

2020 Membership Renewal Season is Here

Renewal Deadline: January 2020

You will be receiving your 2020 WMMA Membership renewals within the next couple of weeks. Please utilize this time to confirm your roster of representatives and add any new employees to receive our event notices, industry updates, involvement opportunities and more!

Interested in becoming more involved or having one of your employees more engaged within WMMA? Check out one of our committees here. Email Kristin@wmma.org with any questions.

Monday Economic Report:
November 18, 2019

Manufacturing production declined 0.6% in October, extending the 0.5% loss in September and falling for the seventh time year to date. The latest decrease was led by a sharp decline in motor vehicles and parts production, down 7.1% and negatively impacted by the strike at General Motors. Excluding motor vehicles and parts, manufacturing production fell 0.2% for the second straight month. With that said, the
November manufacturing production data will likely reflect a rebound in both motor vehicle and parts production and in the headline indices, with the GM strike now settled.

Click here for the full report from November 18, 2019.