

The Precision Manufacturing Conference

ENGAGE

2025



Shifting Precision Manufacturing into High Gear!

DETROIT

M I C H I G A N

OCTOBER 7-10, 2025



D R I V I N G PRECISION


Fueling The Future

Join us at Engage 2025 in Detroit — where innovation, precision, and the future of manufacturing converge. This high-energy conference brings together leaders from across the precision manufacturing and automotive industries for impactful networking, hands-on learning, and forward-thinking insights. With exclusive keynotes, tech demos, and real-world solutions, Engage 2025 is more than a conference — it's your launchpad into the future of manufacturing.

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EVENT SCHEDULE

Tuesday, October 7th

2:00PM-5:00PM

Registration

2:30PM-3:30PM

Trustee's Roundtable*

3:45PM-5:00PM

Board of Trustee's Meeting

6:00PM-8:30PM

Cornhole Tournament

The Yard in Corktown



EVENT SCHEDULE **Wednesday, October 8th**

7:30AM-5:00PM

Registration

12:10PM-2:00PM

Open Lunch

7:30AM-5:00PM

Exhibit Tables

12:10PM-2:00PM

NTMF Meeting & Lunch*

7:30AM-8:00AM

Breakfast

2:00PM-2:45PM

General Session 2:

Sales & Marketing -

The Not-So Easy Button

Presented by: Caleb Townsend, FACTUR
& Mike Watkins, EBITDA Growth Systems

8:00AM-9:30AM

Conference Kick Off & Awards

9:30AM-9:50AM

Networking Break

3:00PM-7:00PM

PT Solutions Tour & Reception

9:50AM-10:50AM

Opening Keynote: How Washington
Drives Manufacturing

Presented by: Omar Nashashibi, Inside The Beltway
& Caitlin Sickles, Bracewell Company

7:00PM

Free Night to Explore Detroit

10:50AM-11:10AM

Networking Break

11:10AM-12:10PM

General Session 1:

Creating Workforce Wins

Presented by: Jenny Drescher, The Bolder Company

EVENT SCHEDULE

Thursday, October 9th

7:30AM-5:00PM

Registration

7:30AM-5:00PM

Exhibit Tables

7:30AM-8:00AM

Breakfast

8:00AM-8:45AM

General Session 3:
Skilled Talent, Real Results:
How NTMA-U Is Powering
Workforce Growth

Moderated by: Jenny Stupica, NTMA

8:45AM-9:00AM

Networking Break

9:00AM-9:45AM

Breakout Sessions:

Session 1 - Passing the Torch -
Building a Legacy Through Succession
Presented by: Mark Dorman, Succession Plus

Session 2 - Strategic Selling -
Tools, Trends, and Techniques
Presented by: Dave Capkovitz, EBITDA Growth Systems
& Caleb Townsend, FACTUR

Session 3 - Tax Credits & Incentives - Latest Updates
Presented by: alliantgroup

9:45AM-10:00AM

Networking Break

10:00AM-12:00PM

Tech Innovation Exchange:
The Digital Thread

12:00PM-1:30PM

Lunch & General Session 4:
Navigating Headwinds -
Economic Forces Shaping
Manufacturing's Future
Presented by: Andrea Sorensen, US Bank

1:45PM-2:45PM

General Session 5:
Demystifying A.I. - What
Manufacturers Need To Know.
Presented by: Delcie Bean, Paragus Strategic IT

3:00PM-4:00PM

Roundtables

4:30PM-5:30PM

PAC Reception

7:00PM-10:00PM

Casino Night
Offsite at Ford Piquette Museum

EVENT SCHEDULE **Friday, October 10th**

8:00AM-8:30AM

Breakfast

8:30AM-9:30AM

Closing Kenote: Navigating
Cybersecurity Expectations

Presented by: Jacob Horne, Summit 7

9:30AM-9:45AM

Closing Remarks

10:00AM

Add-On Detroit Experience Tours

Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation &
The Motown Museum



Opening Keynote | Wednesday October 8, 2025

How Washington Drives Manufacturing

9:50AM - 10:50AM | Omar Nashashibi - Inside The Beltway | Caitlin Sickles - Bracewell

4 Key Takeaways:

1. How key legislative and regulatory developments are likely to impact manufacturers in the near and long term.
2. What to expect from the remainder of the 118th Congress and the potential policy shifts in a post-election environment.
3. How manufacturers and business leaders can engage effectively with policymakers to advocate for industry priorities.
4. Strategic insights into navigating uncertainty and preparing your company for possible changes in tax, labor, and environmental policies.





Omar Nashashibi

- Founder of Inside the Beltway
- Advises clients on trade, taxes, regulations, supply chains and federal funding opportunities
- Represents defense firms and nonprofits



Caitlin Sickles

- Senior principal at Bracewell LLP
- Leads strategic communications for manufacturing, energy, healthcare and national security
- Specializes in message development, advocacy strategy and digital brand management
- Co-host of The Lobby Shop podcast



General Session 1 | Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Creating Workforce Wins

11:10AM - 12:10PM | Jenny Drescher, The Bolder Company

3 Key Takeaways:

1. **Build Confidence** with clear, assertive communication tools you can use every day.
2. **Strengthen Connections** by learning how to engage effectively across workplace situations.
3. **Leave Empowered** with practical strategies to face challenges and find your voice.
4. **Communicate with Impact** with practical strategies to face challenges and find your voice.
5. **Turning Challenges into Wins** with practical strategies to face challenges and find your voice.





Jenny Drescher

- 15+ years of executive coaching and facilitation experience
- Guides and encourages people to break free of patterns and liberates the powerful leader within
- Uses a bold, funny style to draw out courage and playfulness in audiences



General Session 2 | Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Sales & Marketing - The Not-So Easy Button

2:00PM - 2:45PM | Mike Watkins, EBITDA Growth Systems & Caleb Townsend, FACTUR

5 Key Takeaways:

1. How to align sales and marketing to support sustainable growth and measurable ROI.
2. Key sales process improvements that increase close rates and shorten the sales cycle.
3. How to use modern marketing strategies to generate qualified leads—even in niche B2B sectors.
4. Common pitfalls manufacturers face in sales and marketing—and how to avoid them.
5. How to track the right metrics that tell you what's working (and what's not).





Mike Watkins

- Principal at EBITDA Growth Systems
- Co-host of Making Business Profitable podcast
- Specializes in scaling profitability and increasing enterprise value in founder-led manufacturing companies
- His mission is to transform small and mid-sized manufacturers into thriving, high-value enterprises



Caleb Townsend

- Co-Founder and Chief Referral Officer at Factor
- His goal is to address the unique challenges industrial companies face and building strong sales pipelines
- Focuses on B2B growth through targeted lead generation and relationship-based strategies



General Session 3 | Thursday, October 9, 2025

Skilled Talent, Real Results: How NTMA-U Is Powering Workforce Growth

8:00AM - 8:45AM | Jenny Stupica, NTMA

3 Key Takeaways:

1. **Close the Skills Gap** with scalable NTMA-U training built for today's workforce needs.
2. **Proven Impact** through real success stories of faster onboarding and improved performance.
3. **Training Smarter** with flexible, cost-effective tools that fit modern manufacturing operations.

Description:

Tired of the skills gap slowing you down? Learn how manufacturers are using the new NTMA-U to train faster, smarter, and more affordably—through real stories that show how this evolving platform delivers results where it counts: on the shop floor.



Breakout Sessions | Thursday, October 9, 2025

9:00AM - 9:45AM

Session 1 - Passing the Torch - Building a Legacy Through Succession

Presented by: Mark Dorman, Succession Plus

Session 2 - Strategic Selling - Tools, Trends, and Techniques

Presented by: Dave Capkovitz, EBITDA Growth Systems & Caleb Townsend, FACTUR

Session 3 - Tax Credits & Incentives - Latest

Presented by: alliantgroup



Tech Innovation Exchange | Thursday, October 9, 2025

The Digital Thread

10:00AM - 12:00PM

Step into the future of precision machining at this year's Tech Innovation Exchange, where we explore The Digital Thread—the seamless flow of data that connects every stage of the manufacturing process, from design to delivery. Get answers to improving efficiencies, productivity, and profitability.

What to Expect:

This Exchange will feature interactive discussions from various industry partners, each sharing how they are integrated into the digital thread.

- Integrating CAD/CAM and ERP/MES systems for real-time workflow visibility
- Reducing scrap and rework through data-driven quality control
- Leveraging machine monitoring and IIoT for predictive maintenance
- Using digital twins to simulate setups and reduce lead time
- Improving quoting accuracy with connected job costing tools



General Session 4 | Thursday, October 9, 2025

Navigating Headwinds - Economic Forces Shaping Manufacturing's Future

12:00PM - 1:30PM | Andrea Sorensen, US Bank

5 Key Takeaways:

1. A mid-year update on the U.S. economy, including inflation, interest rates, and employment trends.
2. Forecasts and scenarios to help businesses plan for the second half of 2025.
3. Strategic insights to navigate uncertainty and capitalize on emerging opportunities.
4. Manufacturing-Specific trends that reveal how key sectors are being impacted by economic shifts.
5. Data-Driven decision making to guide investments, hiring, and growth strategies amid volatility.



Andrea Sorensen

- Economist at US Bank
- Andrea Sorensen is an economist at US Bank, based in Minneapolis. She works on the development and forecast of the U.S. Bank economic outlook, and she conducts research on a variety of topics related to the U.S. macroeconomic outlook.
- Prior to joining U.S. Bank in March of 2024, Andrea worked in academia as an Assistant Professor of Economics. She taught a variety of economics courses and published research in academic journals. Andrea holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Indiana University, an M.A. in Economics from Duke University, and a B.A. in mathematics from Barnard College.

General Session 5 | Thursday, October 9, 2025

Demystifying A.I. - What Manufacturers Need To Know

1:45PM - 2:45PM | Delcie Bean, Paragus Strategic IT

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming the manufacturing industry—but what does that really mean for your operations, your workforce, and your bottom line?

In this session, we'll cut through the buzzwords and break down what AI actually is, how it works, and what it can do for manufacturers today. From predictive maintenance and quality control to supply chain optimization and energy efficiency, you'll learn how AI is being applied in real-world manufacturing environments—without needing a data science degree.

Whether you're exploring your first A.I. pilot or looking to scale existing initiatives, this session will help you:

This Exchange will feature interactive discussions from various industry partners, each sharing how they are integrated into the digital thread.

- Understand the core concepts of A.I., machine learning, and automation
- Identify practical, high-impact use cases in manufacturing
- Evaluate the ROI and risks of A.I. implementation
- Build a roadmap for integrating A.I. into your operations





- **Delcie Bean**

- Founder, Paragus IT
- Named to BusinessWest's 40 Under Forty in 2008 and earned the publication's Top Entrepreneur Award (2014) and Alumni Achievement Award (2015) for his leadership and rapid company growth.
- Under Bean's guidance, Paragus earned a coveted spot on Inc. Magazine's list of the 5,000 fastest-growing private companies, and he co-founded Tech Foundry, a nonprofit dedicated to closing the tech skills gap by supporting underrepresented communities.



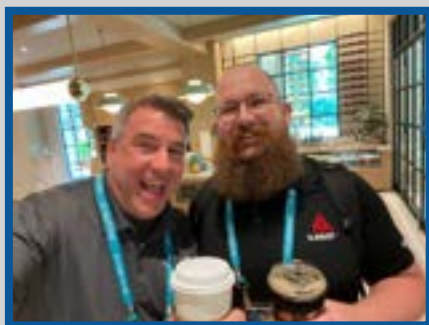
Closing Keynote | Friday, October 10, 2025

Navigating Cybersecurity Expectations

9:00AM - 10:00AM | Jacob Horne, Summit 7

4 Key Takeaways:

1. Understand Key Cyber Standards like CMMC and NIST—and how they apply to your business.
2. Stay Ahead of Evolving Requirements with insights into what's coming next in cybersecurity.
3. Turn Compliance Into Advantage by aligning security efforts with operational goals.
4. Learn from Real-World Scenarios to avoid common pitfalls and costly mistakes.



Jacob Horne

- Chief Security Evangelist at Summit 7
- Specializes in DFARS, NIST and CMMC compliance
- 18+ years experience in offensive and defensive cybersecurity operations
- Former NSA intelligence analyst and U.S. Navy cryptologic technician
- Developed and taught cybersecurity training programs



NTMA Presents The 8th Annual

CORNHOLE

T O U R N A M E N T

TUESDAY
OCTOBER 7

6:00 - 8:30 PM



BRING YOUR A-GAME!

THE
YARD
CORKTOWN

1375 Michigan Ave
Detroit, MI
48226

INSIDE



NTMA's Exclusive Cutting Tool Partner

A Journey Through Precision



Tour & Reception

Wednesday | October 8 | 3:00PM - 7:00PM

40333 W 14 Mile Road | Novi, MI | 48377

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National Tooling & Machining Association
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BETTING ON PRECISION

Roll The Dice on Manufacturing Excellence!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9TH | 7:00PM - 10:00PM

Sponsored by:



BUILT TO INSPIRE

**HENRY FORD &
MOTOWN MUSEUM**

ADD-ON EXPERIENCES



**Motown
Museum**



**Henry Ford Museum
of American Innovation**

TAKE A TOUR!

Friday | October 10 | 10:00am



Westin Book Cadillac Detroit

1114 Washington Blvd | Detroit, MI | 48226

Experience timeless elegance in the heart of America’s manufacturing capital at the historic Westin Book Cadillac Detroit. Just steps from downtown’s revitalized core, this iconic hotel blends classic luxury with modern comfort — the perfect setting to recharge between Engage 2025 sessions. From its grand architecture and rich automotive-era history to its world-class amenities and easy access to Detroit’s top dining, culture, and innovation hubs, the Westin is more than a place to stay — it’s where industry leaders connect, unwind, and gear up for what’s next.

NTMA Group Rate: \$249++ per night *Rate is available 3 days pre and post meeting

To make a reservation:

Call 1.888.236.2427 or Scan the code to book your room, **TODAY!**



*** Hotel Deadline: 9/17/2025 or based on availability**



REGISTRATION

Travel Information

If flying into Detroit, the closest and most convenient airport will be Detroit International Airport.

- Distance to and from hotel: 21 miles
- Estimated Taxi/Uber fare: \$35-\$65 (One Way)
 - 30 Minute ride
- Bus Ride (One Way)
 - 58 minute ride

Pricing

Early Bird Rate

\$995 Early Bird Deadline:
7/31/2025

Standard Rate

\$1,395 Registration
Deadline
9/17/2025

Late Registration Rate

\$1,695 Starting
9/18/2025



For More Information,
Contact Kristen Hrusch
P: 216.264.2845
E: khrusch@ntma.org



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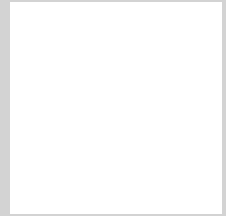


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The Precision **Manufacturing** Conference

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