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NEWS



AME and The MPI Group Collaborate on Research to Measure North American Manufacturers' Ability to Remain Competitive

Coming in May - AME Members are encouraged to participate in the 2013 Next Generation Manufacturing Study that assesses strategies, talent, and tools in place for competitive advantage. The Biennial Next Generation Manufacturing Study found in 2011 that most North American manufacturers were falling behind in key strategies required to compete into the next decade, while only a few firms managed to maintain a world-class pace.

North American manufacturers — and AME Members in particular — will get another chance in May to gauge their ability to compete, as the **2013 Next Generation Manufacturing (NGM) Study** examines how much progress these firms have made in implementing Next Generation strategies. Have North American manufacturers improved their competitiveness and achieved world-class status — or fallen further behind?

Participation in the Study is free, confidential or anonymous, and takes just 20 minutes to complete. AME will announce AME member results from the survey at the 2013 Toronto AME Conference with a report comparing the results of AME members vs. other manufacturers. As an added bonus, AME member firms that participate confidentially receive a comprehensive NGM Performance Report showing how their organization compares to other manufacturers (participants and groups of manufacturers similar to their organization, such as other AME Members).

The NGM Study explores six key strategies:

- Customer-focused innovation
- Superior processes/improvement focus
- Human-capital management
- Supply-chain management and collaboration
- Sustainability
- Global engagement.

“In previous NGM studies in 2009 and 2011, we found that companies focused on Next Generation Manufacturing strategies outperformed other manufacturers,” said John Brandt, CEO of the Manufacturing Performance Institute (MPI), the global research firm conducting the Study. ***“Two years later, we want to find out what’s changed for NA Mfrs in a post-recession economy — and what’s left to do.”***

The national sponsor of the Study is the American Small Manufacturers Coalition (ASMC), an organization composed of Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Centers in America. MPI Group, an internationally recognized research firm that specializes in manufacturing issues, is conducting the Study and compiling the Reports.

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