

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



“In an ever-changing world with new laws, policies, and regulations, the IMA is the first to get us important updates, as well as lobby on our behalf. Whenever I reach out to the IMA, I receive some of the fastest replies and always trust the information I receive. I suggest every manufacturer in the state of Illinois join this organization – the value far exceeds the price!”

-MEGAN PARSONS

VP OF HUMAN RESOURCES, THE LIBMAN COMPANY

“I was privileged to be Chair of the Illinois Manufacturers’ Association at a time when the pandemic created the greatest health and economic challenges in generations. This network demonstrated how we can share knowledge, strategies, and best practices to understand, adjust, and meet the essential expectations that were needed at that time. Being a part of the IMA is just good business.”

-LINDA BOASMOND

PRESIDENT, CEDAR CONCEPTS CORPORATION

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INTRODUCTION

The Illinois Manufacturers' Association is **BOLDLY MOVING MAKERS FORWARD** and proudly stands shoulder to shoulder with American manufacturers who are leading our state and nation forward.

This 2023 Annual Report highlights a year that showcased amazing innovation and resiliency by our state's manufacturers. Time and treasure are precious commodities, and we value your investment in the Illinois Manufacturers' Association.

The IMA prioritized being your source of timely and accurate information. Whether it is seminars on new labor laws or HR rules, our Workers' Compensation, Environment, or Tax Conferences, or the popular Executive Forum and CFO Roundtables, the IMA provided information allowing manufacturers to operate safely and in full compliance with rules and regulations. Our Women in Manufacturing series and Next Wave offered great networking opportunities for women and emerging leaders.

During 2023, the IMA continued to showcase amazing and innovative manufacturing companies and careers with focused campaigns that included our "Made in Illinois" posters and "Makers Madness – The Coolest Thing Made in Illinois" presented by Comcast Business. We celebrated Manufacturing Month in October with our second annual Makers on the Move statewide bus tour with our partners at the Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center. The IMA Education Foundation continues to serve as the single unifying voice to bring together manufacturers, educators, and economic development officials to address workforce challenges.

I'm very proud that the IMA is evolving and standing by your side every single day and I can't wait for you to see what the future brings!



"Our team worked from the White House to the State House to City Hall to affect public policy decisions with a special focus on education and workforce development. Our work is bearing fruit. There is no doubt that the IMA is leading industry efforts to create a world-class workforce system."

-MARK DENZLER, PRESIDENT & CEO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

For 2022 and 2023, the IMA Board of Directors has been chaired by Greg Webb, Vice President of State Government Relations for Archer Daniels Midland Company, a Chicago-based food processing and commodities trading corporation that also has significant operations in Decatur and across Illinois. Webb joined ADM in 1986, working in the North American oilseeds processing business. He was named the company's North American trade representative for Grain and Oilseeds in July 2002, before taking on his current role in October 2007. Webb holds a bachelor's degree in agriculture economics from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. He also serves on the board of the Public Affairs Council, an international nonpartisan organization dedicated to advancing the field of public affairs and was the 2020 recipient of the Friend of ACES award from the University of Illinois College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES). Webb's term as IMA Board Chairman expires on December 31, 2023.

For 2024 and 2025, the IMA Board of Directors will be chaired by Renee Togher, President of Azteca Foods, Inc. in Chicago, a family-owned business and leading manufacturer of tortilla products. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Togher has been recognized by Today's Chicago Woman magazine as one of "100 Women Making a Difference" and is an active volunteer in school, church, and youth activities in her community. Togher currently serves on the Advisory Board of First Women's Bank and is a past Director of MB Financial, Inc. She has also served on boards for numerous non-profit organizations, including Access Living, the Greater Chicago Food Depository, the National Museum of Mexican Art and Mercy Hospital, and is also a former Trustee of DePaul University. Togher is the first Hispanic to serve as IMA's Board Chair.

2023 IMA BOARD OFFICERS

Chair: Greg Webb, Archer Daniels Midland Company, Chicago

Vice Chair: Renee Togher, Azteca Foods, Inc., Chicago

Treasurer: Kara Demirjian Huss, TCCI Manufacturing LLC, Decatur

Secretary: Sarah Hartwick, IMA VP for Education & Workforce Policy



CSL Behring

CSL Behring is the recipient 2023 of the Barry L. MacLean Manufacturer of the Year Award. A global biotherapeutics company located in Kankakee, CSL Behring develops and delivers high-quality medicines that treat people with rare and serious diseases and life-threatening conditions, helping patients live better and fuller lives. The company has developed many life-saving therapies in the areas of immunology, hematology, cardiovascular, metabolic, respiratory, and transplant therapeutics. As a leader in medical innovation, the company has had a lasting impact on human health around the world, delivering lifesaving therapies to people in more than 100 countries.

The award is presented each year in recognition of a company's leadership in advocating for the manufacturing industry at the local and national level; excellence in creating a lasting impact on stakeholders, companies, and markets; commitment to innovation, research and development or technological advancement; workforce development and diversity; long-term commitment to charitable and philanthropic efforts; and support for sustainable methods of production in their operations.

CSL Behring Kankakee has invested more than \$1 billion into the Kankakee community. In the last three years alone, CSL Kankakee has undertaken more than \$200 million in capital improvements and projects. CSL also supports local community organizations with volunteers and monetary donations. In fiscal year 2023, CSL Behring donated more than \$140,000 to local non-profit organizations.



"I'm excited to honor CSL Behring as the 2023 Manufacturer of the Year in Illinois for their remarkable achievements in the field of biosciences. Their innovation and leadership in developing advanced treatments have saved the lives of countless people across the world. Their unrelenting drive and commitment to producing groundbreaking treatments for patients makes them an important part of the global healthcare community, and we are proud to recognize them as the very best of Illinois' manufacturing sector."

-MARK DENZLER, PRESIDENT & CEO

CSL Behring team accepts Barry L. MacLean Manufacturer of the Year Award at the 2023 Annual Luncheon.

"Thank you for the tremendous honor of being named 2023 Manufacturer of the Year. We are proud of the work we do to save lives and this recognition reinforces the impact we have locally and for our patients around the world."

-ABNER GARCIA-DELGADO,
VP OF MANUFACTURING
& KANKAKEE SITE HEAD



Spencer Christiansen accepts the inaugural Janice M. Christiansen Leadership Award on behalf of his late mother.



JANICE M. CHRISTIANSEN LEADERSHIP AWARD



In the spring of 2023, Illinois lost a true trailblazer and passionate manufacturing advocate with the passing of Janice M. Christiansen following a lengthy and courageous battle with cancer. Widowed at an early age, Janice persevered as the president & CEO of J.C. Schultz/The FlagSource, a small, family-owned manufacturer of American flags and custom banners in Batavia. She successfully continued growing the company, reaching new heights. Nobody could miss Janice with her bright red hair, tenacity, and spunk, always adorned with American flag jewelry.

In 2012, Janice broke through a glass ceiling when elected as the first female chair of the IMA Board of Directors in the IMA's then 117-year history. In addition to her role on the IMA Board, Janice served as a friend, mentor, and icon to many women in the manufacturing sector including future female board chairs of the IMA.

In honor of Janice, the IMA has created the Janice M. Christiansen Leadership Award that will be awarded every year to a female leader exemplifying Janice's passion and dedication to women in manufacturing. The first award was presented posthumously to her son, Spencer Christiansen, at the 2023 IMA Annual Luncheon. Two scholarships bearing her name will also be awarded annually to women interested in manufacturing careers.

The Janice M. Christiansen Leadership Award honors her memory & service to Illinois manufacturers. **We are forever grateful.**

ADVOCACY





THE IMA GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS TEAM IS THE STATE'S LEADING BUSINESS ADVOCATE, SPEAKING WITH A UNIFIED VOICE TO ENSURE MANUFACTURERS' INTERESTS ARE HEARD BY STATE POLICYMAKERS.

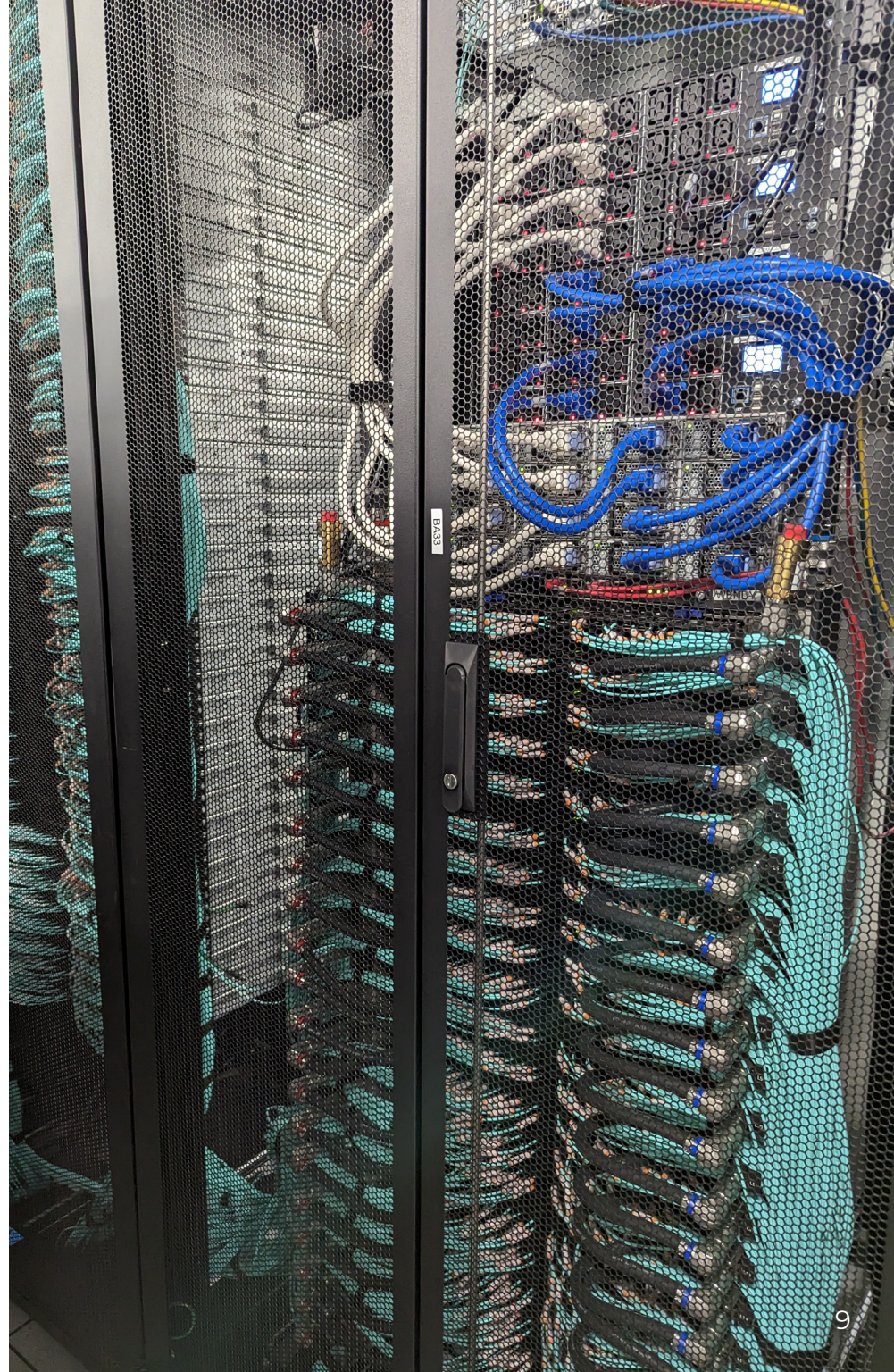
FY 2024 BUDGET

After several years of budgets that were reliant on funds from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the State of Illinois passed a budget totaling \$50.7 billion against \$50.5 billion in spending. With funds available, the IMA successfully advocated for a \$7 million reappropriation for the manufacturing jobs campaign – an initiative of the IMA that provides a statewide marketing campaign for manufacturing jobs. The IMA also played a crucial role in getting \$10 million in the budget for the establishment of advanced manufacturing and electric vehicle tech programs, another IMA initiative. The budget also includes over \$47 million for Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs across Illinois that focus on strengthening students' technical skills.

In addition to the \$47 million appropriation, \$10 million is appropriated to the Office of Business Development under DCEO for the Clean Energy and EV Career and Technical Education Pilot Program. The IMA also successfully advocated for an increase in funding for the Employer Training Investment Program (ETIP) of approximately 400%. This reflects the first and largest expansion in funding of the program.

BIOMETRIC INFORMATION PRIVACY ACT REFORM

Once again, the IMA led the charge in advancing conversations to enact needed reforms to the state's Biometric Illinois Privacy Act (BIPA). BIPA took effect fifteen years ago, in the infancy of "biometric identifiers" in the business, industry, and security screening sectors. Today, BIPA is being constantly misused by trial lawyers to extort businesses for financial gain. With countless frivolous BIPA lawsuits filed each year, the IMA introduced legislation and worked with a small coalition of business groups to bring real BIPA reform to the state. BIPA reform continues to be a top priority for the IMA.





PACKAGING AND PAPER EPR

The IMA was at the forefront of opposition to legislation that would have created a statewide extended producer responsibility (EPR) program in the state where manufacturers would be financially and managerially responsible for the end life of paper products and product packaging. The proposed EPR program would have collectively cost paper and packaging manufacturers, as well as any manufacturer using packaging, at least a half billion dollars a year. Through the IMA's advocacy, the bill did not advance. After stopping the EPR legislation, the IMA was the lead negotiator to turn that proposal into a needs assessment that will provide a summary of the state's infrastructure, markets, and more on packaging and paper products.

THE IMA'S MARK DENZLER AND
DONOVAN GRIFFITH TOUR AN
ILLINOIS MANUFACTURER

DAY AND TEMPORARY WORKERS

In the Spring, the General Assembly passed sweeping changes to Illinois' Day and Temporary Labor Services Act that regulates staffing and temporary worker agencies. The IMA opposed the changes, but other business groups and staffing groups signed off on the legislation and helped the legislation become law. With the damaging law going into effect, the IMA spearheaded legislation in Veto Session that delayed implementation of the "equal pay for equal work" section of the law until April 2024 so necessary changes could be made to the law. Without this delay, any manufacturer using day and temporary laborers would have to pay those laborers the same salary and benefits as their full-time employees after 90 days of employment.





ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

The IMA led a coalition of business groups in two successful efforts on the topic of environmental justice. First, the IMA worked countless hours in lobbying legislators to stop oppressive environmental justice legislation that would have placed onerous and burdensome regulations on Illinois manufacturers seeking certain air permits in environmental justice areas of the state. Through the IMA's efforts, this troublesome legislation was defeated twice on the House floor.

While defeating bad legislation is important, the IMA also recognizes that environmental justice is important to both manufacturers and the communities they call home. The IMA led efforts in introducing business-backed environmental justice legislation that protects community members while providing clarity and consistency to manufacturers who are seeking permits from the Illinois EPA. This legislation has helped to shape the environmental justice discussion in Illinois and has brought the benefits that manufacturers provide to the forefront of those discussions.

CARBON CAPTURE AND SEQUESTRATION

The IMA was at the forefront of discussions on carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) and has put the issue on the radar of state legislators and regulators as Illinois manufacturers in various sectors are exploring ways to reduce their carbon footprint. After numerous discussions and negotiations, CCS regulations continue to be discussed in earnest and could open the door for Illinois to take advantage of CCS and see real economic growth.

HYDROGEN TAX CREDIT REFORM

The IMA supported legislation that passed and was signed into law that created a hydrogen tax credit. The law, which creates an income tax credit for eligible taxpayers of \$1 per kilogram of eligible zero-carbon hydrogen used by the eligible taxpayer, helped to pave the way for Illinois to be included in a federally selected and funded Hydrogen Hub. The IMA also continues to serve on the Hydrogen Economy Task Force to help the state become more hydrogen-friendly.



SMALL MODULAR NUCLEAR REACTORS

The IMA was a strong supporter of legislation that lifted the moratorium on the construction of small new nuclear reactors in the state, paving the way for the development of small modular reactors and a more diverse energy portfolio. On four separate occasions, the IMA testified in committees on the issue and helped get the bill passed and signed by the Governor.

PAY SCALE POSTINGS

When legislation was introduced that would have put onerous regulations on job postings that could have led to numerous expensive fines on Illinois employers seeking to fill open positions, the IMA jumped on the issue, opposing the underlying bill and strongly encouraging other solutions. Eventually, the bill was amended and when it passed the General Assembly, it made only minor changes to the state's job posting laws and requires employers to post information on their websites.

MARK DENZLER, IMA PRESIDENT
& CEO, TESTIFYING AT THE
ILLINOIS STATE CAPITOL



TIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE COURT OF S





TRADE MISSIONS

The IMA joined Governor JB Pritzker and Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton on trade missions to the United Kingdom and Japan to encourage manufacturing investment in Illinois. These nations are two of the state's largest trading partners and the top two sources of foreign direct investment in Illinois.

In London, the IMA joined the Governor, Speaker of the House, University of Illinois president, and nearly two dozen business and education leaders to focus on manufacturing and energy.

In the Fall, the IMA participated in a trade mission led by the Lt. Governor to attend the annual Japan-U.S. Midwest Conference in Tokyo featuring six American states and several Japanese prefectures. Chicago hosted the conference in 2022.

Illinois is the nation's 5th largest exporting state and largest in the Midwest. Last year, Illinois exported \$78.7 billion of goods. These trade missions are important to promote Illinois and help attract foreign direct investment.

BUSINESS DAY 2023

Nearly four hundred business leaders convened in Springfield on Wednesday, April 26, for the IMA's Annual Business Day at the Capitol, in partnership with the Illinois Retail Merchants Association. Job creators gathered in the state's Capitol to demonstrate the importance of business and industry. This is the largest annual gathering of job creators for the purposes of Illinois state advocacy. Keynote speaker for the luncheon was Governor JB Pritzker with enlightening panels featuring conversations with House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch, House GOP Leader Tony McCombie, State Senator Robert Martwick, and State Senator Sue Rezin. Attendees also participated in discussions about the Biometric Information Privacy Act (BIPA) and the impact of artificial intelligence on business.

In the evening, the IMA's gala reception featured a "who's who" of elected officials including State Treasurer Mike Frerichs, dozens of state legislators, and many key staff members from across the state.



Left to Right:
House GOP Leader Tony McCombie
Rick Pearson, Chicago Tribune as Moderator
House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch



DC FLY IN

On September 19 and 20, IMA members, directors, and staff visited Washington DC to discuss federal policies that impact our local and state economies, like inflation, job creation, tax reform, regulatory relief, energy, health care, infrastructure investment, trade, and immigration. The IMA delegation had a White House briefing on trade and national manufacturing policies and discussed energy policy with the National Association of Manufacturers. The IMA group also met with Illinois elected officials including U.S. Senators Richard Durbin and Tammy Duckworth, and Representatives Eric Sorenson, Nikki Budzinski, Mike Bost, Brad Schneider, Darin LaHood, Bill Foster, and Mary Miller before enjoying an afternoon reception on the Speaker's Ceremonial Balcony and hosting an evening dinner at Honeywell.

IMA DELEGATION IN
WASHINGTON DC AFTER MEETING
WITH EXECUTIVE BRANCH OFFICIALS.



MPAC GOLF OUTING



The IMA's Manufacturers Political Action Committee (MPAC) is an important tool where manufacturers collectively pool their resources to support our allies in the state legislature, impact campaigns for Representatives and Senators across Illinois, and help us fight back against job-killing policies. Whether it's tax policy, workers' compensation, employee rights, environmental regulations, or BIPA reform, we must elect strong, pro-business and pro-growth candidates from both sides of the political aisle who will tackle these issues in years to come. Therefore, it is imperative that we help support pro-manufacturing legislators and candidates that push a pro-business agenda.

With an election looming next year, the IMA continues to raise funds for MPAC and over the summer, we held our annual MPAC Golf Outing which was a huge success including a record number of golfers and sponsors alike. Once again, the sun shined down on our golf outing participants who came together for fun on the course while supporting MPAC.





GROWTH

The image features three large, overlapping cutouts of social media posts from the Illinois Manufacturers' Association (IMA). Each cutout is designed to look like a social media post, complete with a profile picture (IMA logo), name, location, and engagement metrics. The posts are from the 2023 IMA Annual Luncheon in Chicago, celebrating 130 years of the association. The cutouts show different groups of people at the event, all smiling and posing for the camera. The background of the cutouts is a blue sky with a city skyline. The text on the cutouts includes "Celebrating 130 years of #BoldlyMovingMakersForward in Chicago at the 2023 IMA Annual Luncheon! #IMA2023AM". The engagement metrics shown are 1.1K likes, 31K shares, and 2K comments. The hashtags #ILOVEMFG and #IMAROCKS are also visible on the cutouts. The word "GROWTH" is written in large, bold, white letters at the top left of the image.



MEMBERSHIP

The IMA remains committed to our mission of **BOLDLY MOVING MAKERS FORWARD** and continues to repeatedly demonstrate the value of timely, accurate information, and persistent advocacy on behalf of manufacturing and business in Illinois.

Our Association's strength is perhaps best reflected in our fourth straight year of record membership metrics. The IMA's membership continues to grow, adding nearly 100 new member companies in 2023 alone after similar growth in 2020, 2021, and 2022.

And while the industry average for member retention hovers around 88 percent, our retention rate annually and regularly exceeds 95 percent, and is indicative of the comprehensive team effort by IMA staff to offer concierge-level service, incredible programming, leading workforce development initiatives, critical affinity relationships, and world-class advocacy to our members.

Membership is a team effort, and we need your help to continue growing. If you have a relationship with an Illinois manufacturing company that is not an IMA member, please consider introducing them to our team. Adding your network of suppliers, customers, and peers is an opportunity for those companies to utilize our selection of services, and for our Association to continue to grow stronger.

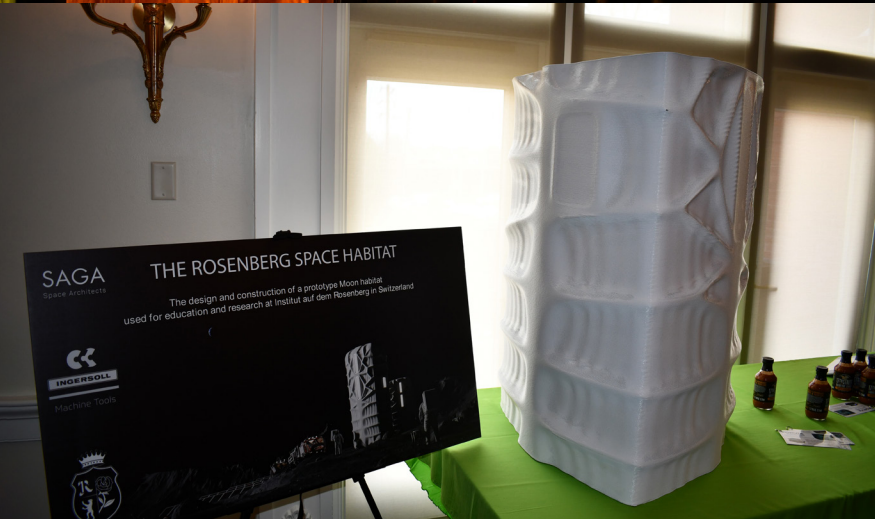




MAKERS MADNESS

In 2023, the IMA conducted our fourth annual Makers Madness contest, presented by Comcast Business, where Illinoisans cast online ballots to determine “The Coolest Thing Made in Illinois.” Nearly 250 unique products were nominated, and more than 300,000 votes were cast to identify these top four products: the Drug Terminator manufactured by Elastec in Carmi, a portable drug incinerator designed to help healthcare officials and law enforcement safely destroy prescription drugs or confiscated narcotics; 17th Street Barbecue Sauces produced by 17th Street Barbecue in Murphysboro, which come in various flavors and are made for use on ribs, chicken pulled pork and much more; and the 77GHz Radar for Driver’s Assistance and Automated Driving made by Hella Electronics Corp in Flora, a compact sensor to assist drivers and improve road safety by giving drivers early warning of dangerous situations.

The winner of this year’s contest – the Rosenberg Moon Habitat by Ingersoll Machine Tools in Rockford—was crowned by Gov. JB Pritzker during a special awards ceremony at the Governor’s Mansion in Springfield. Manufactured by Ingersoll Machine Tools in Rockford in collaboration with the Institut auf dem Rosenberg of Switzerland, the habitat is a 3D printed polymer structure designed to house humans on the moon. Built to house a crew of two people, the habitat is the world’s tallest single-piece 3D printed polymer structure, with a height of 23 feet but a thickness of only 5 millimeters.





ETIP

Illinois manufacturers took advantage of the Employee Training Investment Program (ETIP) grant. The IMA administers this program on behalf of the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to help Illinois manufacturers provide their workers with the skills necessary to be safe and productive and to grow their own capabilities. In 2023, more than 150 companies participated, and over 4,000 employees were trained.



GABY GARZA AND GORDY HULTEN
DELIVER ETIP CHECKS TO IMA
MEMBERS

PARTNERSHIP WITH IMEC

In 2022, on the heels of the global pandemic in which American and Illinois manufacturers led our nation forward through an economic and health crisis, the IMA and Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC) announced a historic, formal strategic partnership to strengthen and build upon Illinois' rich manufacturing legacy and position the industry for future growth.

The strategic partnership has created an opportunity for the two organizations to work collaboratively and purposefully in the areas of leadership, productivity, customer engagement, operations, cybersecurity, automation, supply chain, and workforce development. In 2023, IMEC and the IMA partnered on dozens of programs, including the Makers on the Move bus tour to showcase manufacturing career pathways to the next generation of Illinoisans, our annual Made In Illinois poster, and a ground-breaking supply chain portal for Illinois manufacturers, led by IMEC.

More broadly, the partnership has provided opportunities for IMA members to access IMEC expertise, and for IMEC clients to access IMA's array of services. Created in 1997, IMEC is dedicated to helping small and medium sized manufacturers in Illinois to be more globally competitive by consulting with them and providing comprehensive and objective technical assistance, assessment tools, and resources for leadership, strategy, customer engagement, operations, and workforce. IMEC serves as the state's U.S. Department of Commerce National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) center. The MEP National Network is a unique public-private partnership that delivers comprehensive, proven solutions to U.S. manufacturers, fueling growth and advancing U.S. manufacturing. www.imec.org





IMA EDUCATION FOUNDATION



The Illinois Manufacturers' Association Education Foundation (IMA EF) is the premier influencer of education programs to attract and develop Illinois' future manufacturing workforce. We do so by providing both financial support to school districts, community colleges, vocational schools, and Illinois' four-year institutions as well as encouraging IMA member companies to provide career development experiences for students of all ages at their manufacturing facilities and provide opportunities for educators to observe and discuss the needs of manufacturers in their area.

In 2023, the IMA passed legislation that charged the state with examining the gap of insurance coverage for students who are looking to participate in work-based learning opportunities (job shadows, internships, etc.), provided scholarships for students graduating high school with endorsement in manufacturing, and provided two scholarships to students who are furthering their studies in skilled trades in honor of Lynne Mohr of Brite-O-Matic and Jim Nelson, former VP of Education & Workforce Policy at the IMA.





MAKERS ON THE MOVE

The IMA, in partnership with IMEC, kicked off the 2nd Annual Makers on the Move Bus Tour on Friday, October 6th traveling the state to bring awareness to Illinois' manufacturing industry and highlight manufacturing careers. The kickoff, hosted by Boeing at their new facility in the metro-east, featured a not-yet-open to the public facility that was made available for the tour kickoff showcasing the MQ-25, the prototype of the first unmanned aerial refueler. The tour continued over the next eight days, traveling almost 2,000 miles to over 26 communities across the State of Illinois.

We concluded on Friday, October 13th with Governor JB Pritzker at National Safety Apparel's brand-new facility in Chicago. The tour was made possible by our partners at IMEC and sponsors Termax, Novelis, Comcast Business, Walmart, Argonne National Laboratories, Hive Better, American Community Bank & Trust, Cook County Bureau of Economic Development, CSL Behring, Alpha Form Technologies, Transfr, Cushman & Wakefield, Herron, M3 Chicago, and National Safety Apparel. Thank you for helping to make this tour a success!







WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS SUMMIT

The 2nd Annual Education & Workforce Summit took place in early June at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn. Over 100 in-person attendees participated in a half-day summit that featured panelists focusing on the role of communities in building and supporting talent pipelines. It was an exciting and high-energy day that featured presentations by municipal leaders, panels of community engagement experts, manufacturers invested in DE&I, and representatives of groups working with displaced and/or unemployed workers, as well as a keynote featuring Dave Boulay, President of IMEC.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

In 2023, efforts continued to focus on building consistent, active engagement by providing valuable timely content across our email communications and social media platforms. IMA communications also executed a growing number of special projects that provided additional opportunities to increase engagement and brand awareness by showcasing Illinois' incredible manufacturing sector, companies, and workforce.



IMA EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS

More than 930 unique email communications
More than 2.7 million total individual emails delivered
Open rates and click-through rates more than double the industry average



FACEBOOK

Grew to 2,700+ followers with 13.6 percent increase in reach
Almost 900 total unique posts



TWITTER

Grew to 2,000+ followers
More than 1,700 unique posts and 220,000 impressions



LINKEDIN

Grew to almost 8,000 followers (more than 25 percent increase)
Almost 900 total unique posts and 500,000 impressions

MAJOR COMMUNICATIONS PROJECTS:

- Response to Gov. JB Pritzker's Annual Budget
- Welcoming New Lawmakers
- Biometric Information Privacy Act
- Mark Denzler Feature Profiles by Lee Enterprises and NPR Illinois
- Regular WLS-AM Appearances by Mark Denzler
- Workforce Development (IMA Ed Foundation Legislative Agenda, Workforce Solutions Summit)
- Makers Madness 2023
- 2023 Business Day
- Big Sky Ride Home Fundraising Event
- Lynne Mohr Scholarships
- Energy (expand nuclear production, support carbon capture, clean air rules)
- Manufacturing Month: Makers on the Move Bus Tour 2023
- New Board Chair and New Board Member Announcements
- Illinois Paid Leave Law
- Chicago Paid Leave Ordinance
- Electric Vehicle Production Incentives
- International Trade Missions with Gov. JB Pritzker and Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton
- Immigrant Work Authorization
- Opposition to Punitive Damages
- Manufacturer of the Year
- IMA Annual Meeting
- DC Fly-In
- Webinars, Events, and other Programming



INNOVATION





ANNUAL LUNCHEON

The IMA's Annual Luncheon celebrated the IMA's 130th Anniversary at the Sheraton Grand in Chicago on December 8 with more than 700 business leaders from across Illinois. Attendees participated in virtual breakout sessions leading up to the event, covering energy markets, economic conditions, and workforce challenges and solutions. Our Luncheon guests learned about the incredible work being done by Illinois manufacturers in 2023 from President and CEO, Mark Denzler, and heard from renowned geopolitical strategist and author, Peter Zeihan, and the impact of world-spanning issues on manufacturing domestically and abroad, in addition to an inspiring message from IMA Board of Directors Chair, Greg Webb, of Archer Daniels Midland Company.

The 2023 Barry L. MacLean Manufacturer of the Year was awarded to CSL Behring of Kankakee. The inaugural Janice M. Christensen Award was given posthumously to the IMA's first female Board Chair, Janice Christensen of J.C. Schultz Enterprises, Inc. / The FlagSource. Legacy awards were given to companies celebrating milestone anniversaries of service to our Association, and both company and individual champions were recognized in this year's Manufacturing Miles competition.





PROGRAMMING

Programming at the IMA continues to grow and engage members, offering education and peer networking both virtually and in-person. Topics are carefully selected to be relevant to many different job titles & employees at our member companies. As new laws are announced, the IMA is prepared to quickly offer timely information and guidance to assist members during urgent transition times.

61 Total Programs offered in 2023
Almost 500 in-person attendees
More than 5,000 virtual attendees

SAFETY SERIES

The OSHA Safety curriculum greatly expanded in 2023, with programs on establishing a safety committee, accountability, new OSHA regulations, and more. We celebrated Safety Month the entire month of June with weekly webinars on timely topics. Watch for exciting new developments in our safety programming next year as we continue to grow this focus!

ENERGY MANAGERS' GROUP

In partnership with Constellation Energy, the IMA's exclusive energy partner, the Energy Managers Group was created in 2023 to facilitate access to expertise on sustainability and energy commodity issues. Meeting quarterly, this small group reviewed dedicated topics, built a peer network at other Illinois manufacturers, and shared ideas for better preparation in a time of uncertainty and transition. Participants discussed pricing, contract transparency, and buying strategies, and learned best practices directly from peers and the experts at Constellation. The group will continue meeting and growing into 2024 and beyond.

HR FORUM

The HR Forum offers a safe discussion format for HR professionals to ask their specific questions, share their best practices, and develop a strong support network. Additional trainings are held throughout the year on topics such as One Day in Rest, (ORDISA), Compensation Trends, Updating Your Employee Handbooks, New Laws and Conducting an Internal Investigation. The IMA added HRCI credit in addition to SHRM and held 10 programs offering Continuing Ed Credit – adding more value for our HR professionals.

"I loved how the presenter categorized all of the key areas that should appear in a handbook."

"Always learn from these new legal updates and deep dives into how those regulations will impact our business."

"These Forums ensure that I stay current with the ever changing Illinois State Employment laws."

EXECUTIVE FORUM

A small and exclusive forum of CEOs and executive leadership meet quarterly to discuss top of mind issues and share solutions. The group explored hot topics such as labor shortages, maximizing efficiencies in your business, using Microsoft Power Platform, using Key Performance Indicators, and more.





SYDNEY JARRARD, IMA'S DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS, TAKES A HEADSHOT OF DANETTE SWANK, PRESIDENT, PHILIPPI-HAGENBUCH, INC. AT THE WOMEN MAKERS BUILDING YOUR PERSONAL BRAND EVENT.

FINANCE PROFESSIONALS

Resources included the bi-monthly Happy Hour. While we met virtually, these Happy Hour sessions for our members in the finance space provided a warm close to the business day with camaraderie, education, and a chance to learn from each other. Other meetings included Legal Noncompetes, Section 174, Industrial Real Estate/Relocation, and Cyber Liability Insurance.

"Very good job getting some very talented speakers on board. All top class speakers who are very knowledgeable."

MONTHLY LUNCH BREAK

Webinars covered a wide range of topics, such as training a new employee, supply chain & transportation, cybersecurity, exporting, DE&I fundamentals, ERC, preparing & responding to an emergency, and clean energy.

WOMEN MAKERS

The IMA Women Makers group rebranded in 2023 and is thriving, connecting women makers throughout the state. This year we added an in-person event in the Oakbrook area and will be in other parts of the state next year. This is a high-energy group provides networking, education, mentoring, and warm fellowship to support current women in manufacturing and encourage the next generation.

"It was great to be amongst such an incredible group of women (and men!) who are passionate about manufacturing. I left feeling very inspired and motivated."





ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY CONFERENCE

The IMA's annual Environmental Conference brings together some of the state's top issue experts and legal professionals to discuss the most important environmental issues Illinois manufacturers are facing today or may face in the future. The topics discussed this year included permitting, compliance, and extended producer responsibility, to name a few. This year the conference expanded and was rebranded as the Environment and Energy Conference to include a focus on energy related issues, with expert panels on Energy Reliability, The Future of Illinois' Energy Landscape, and Carbon Capture & Sequestration.

To accommodate our record-breaking participation of IMA members, this year's conference was compelled to move to a new venue. The program surpassed 100 participants for the first time since its inception four years ago, and we received great feedback from attendees.

"The energy outlook was useful to my operations."

"I appreciated the practical tips and relevant information provided for my business."

AFFINITY PROGRAMS/PARTNERSHIPS

The IMA continues to work with close partners to provide unparalleled benefits to our members. Some key affinity partners in 2023 included:

Constellation Energy: The IMA's exclusive energy partner for more than 20 years, Constellation provides IMA members with innovative and practical sustainability solutions and intelligent energy management solutions to stabilize their energy budgets, reduce energy costs, improve facility operations, and advance sustainability goals.

IMA Association Health Plan (AHP): The IMA and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois are proud to be working together to re-imagine how Illinois manufacturers with 75 or fewer employees provide best-in-class health coverage.

Heritage Crystal Clean: Heritage-Crystal Clean is the IMA's preferred provider of parts cleaning and industrial waste services.

Aramark: Aramark Uniform Services is proud to be the preferred supplier partner of IMA and its members.



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THE IMAT TEAM



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President & CEO



Philip McCall
CFO & VP of Finance



Gordy Hulten
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Sarah Hartwick
Vice President Education
& Workforce Policy



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Director of Finance
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Cheyenne Geller
Administrative
Assistant



**Megan Loberg-
Simmering**
Grant Administrator

“It’s hard to explain the full breadth of what the IMA does to support manufacturers. I don’t think there’s any other organization like it in the country. When we moved our facility within Chicago, Mark and the rest of the team were an invaluable resource to help us get questions answered and make connections with the right people to help us move through the process. I couldn’t recommend the IMA more.”

-TOBY BIELENBERG

EXECUTIVE VP OF OPERATIONS, NATIONAL SAFETY APPAREL, INC.

“As the owner of Pioneer Service Inc. and M&M Quality Grinding, I value my memberships with the Illinois Manufacturers’ Association, led by CEO Mark Denzler, an influential advocate in the manufacturing sector. The IMA, recognized from the White House to local governments across Illinois, actively addresses challenges and shapes the future, serving as a powerful, unified voice for the state’s manufacturing industry.”

-ANEESA MUTHANA

CEO/CO-OWNER, PIONEER SERVICE INC. & M&M QUALITY GRINDING

