



The Illinois Manufacturer

Writing Topics

Human Resources — This column takes a look at the human-resources issues affecting manufacturers. Written from a management perspective, legal trends, retention issues and policy matters are highlighted.

Tax & Accounting Issues — Illinois manufacturers face a dizzying array of complex sales and use taxes. This column offers real-world advice on how to pay what's due — and not a penny more.

Management Techniques — From lean manufacturing to the adoption of new technologies and techniques, this column examines practical solutions to help manufacturers make their operations more efficient — and to improve bottom lines.

Energy & Environmental Issues — Trying to stay “green” can mean navigating a lot of regulations for manufacturers. This column offers advice on environmental and energy management issues.

Manufacturers and Technology — Long gone are the days when “manufacturer” meant “unskilled.” Today more than ever, cutting-edge technology is at the heart of modern manufacturing. From harnessing the power of the Web to integrating the latest supply-chain management systems, this column covers the latest trends and developments.

Writing Guidelines & Editorial Calendar

Word Count — Articles of 500 to 1,500 words (more or less) are desirable for the regular columns (i.e., Legal Issues, Human Resources, Environmental Issues, etc.).

Artwork — Send any photos, charts or other artwork to the editor along with the article. If you don't have any graphic elements, we'll find artwork to accompany your article.

Content — Editorial material must be educational rather than promotional. We do not accept “advertorials.” The more a piece applies to manufacturers — and Illinois manufacturers specifically — the better. Our readers are always interested in ways to make their business perform better. The majority of our members are small- to medium-sized manufacturers, so please keep these facts in mind when compiling the piece. Articles must not have been previously published.

ISSUE DATE	SCHEDULED FEATURE FOCUS	AD/COPY DEADLINES	MAIL DATE
First Quarter, 2026	Innovation, Technology & Security	November 26th, 2025	January 21st, 2026
Second Quarter, 2026	HR & Workforce Development	February 25th, 2026	April 22nd, 2026
Third Quarter, 2026	Government Regulation & Legislation	May 27th, 2026	July 22nd, 2026
Fourth Quarter, 2026	Energy & Environment	August 26th, 2026	October 21st, 2026

Send editorial submissions or questions by email to
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We reserve the right to edit and/or refuse all submissions.