



# The Illinois Manufacturer

ISSUE DATE	SCHEDULED MAGAZINE TOPIC	AD/COPY DEADLINE	MAIL DATE
First Quarter, 2026	Strategy and Leadership	November 26th, 2025	January 21st, 2026
Second Quarter, 2026	Education and Workforce	February 25th, 2026	April 22nd, 2026
Third Quarter, 2026	Ai & Technology	May 27th, 2026	July 22nd, 2026
Fourth Quarter, 2026	Energy & Environment	August 26th, 2026	October 21st, 2026

## Writing Topics

### Q1 Strategy and Leadership

To equip manufacturing leaders with strategic insights and leadership tools that improve decision-making, resilience, and long-term growth. Articles should focus on forward-looking perspectives and actionable strategies.

### Q2 Education and Workforce

To explore workforce development, talent retention, and training innovations critical to the future of manufacturing in Illinois.

### Q3 Ai and Technology

To showcase and give insight on how manufacturers can adopt to AI, automation, and advanced technologies to improve productivity, safety, competitiveness ect.

### Q4 Energy and Environment

To guide manufacturers on navigating environmental compliance, energy efficiency, and sustainability while maintaining profitability.

## Writing Guidelines & Editorial Calendar

**Word Count** — Articles of 500 to 1,500 words (more or less) are desirable for the regular columns

**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.

Send editorial submissions or questions by email to  
*Audriana Sherwood, Graphic Design Manager & Editor of Publications* at [asherwood@ima-net.org](mailto:asherwood@ima-net.org).

We reserve the right to edit and/or refuse all submissions.