

# BUILDING 21st CENTURY MANUFACTURING TALENT

## State Manufacturers Associations Collaboration Initiative: Tennessee Joins LIFT Partnership for Talent Development, Small and Medium Enterprise Outreach, Membership Services and Development

An Education & Workforce Development Initiative for LIFT... Lightweight Innovations for Tomorrow



### THE PROBLEM: Solving Big Issues Requires a Broader Team of Experts Across the Region

As both demand and employment in lightweighting-related advanced manufacturing jobs grow across the five-state LIFT region, including Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee, LIFT is continuing to develop initiatives to better address gaps between workforce supply and employer demand.

While LIFT's membership and state-based education and workforce development teams have provided insight into each state's business environment, available talent, and skills gaps, a broader team of experts, with deep roots in each state and covering a wide spectrum of manufacturing industries and capabilities, is needed to fully address the growing workforce needs in our region.

### PARTNERS

- The Ohio Manufacturers Association (OMA)
- The Kentucky Association of Manufacturers (KAM)
- The Indiana Manufacturers Association (IMA)
- The Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry

### EXPECTED ROLES OF THE STATE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION PARTNERS

Tennessee will join the existing LIFT partnerships with SMAs in Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana to expand our understanding of the needs of the manufacturing industry beyond those three states and into the Volunteer State. The growing partnerships will showcase the benefits manufacturers find in LIFT and the other Manufacturing USA Institutes.

State Manufacturing Association partners and LIFT will work together in the following ways:



Share information from LIFT and other Manufacturing USA institutes with manufacturers



Serve as a forum for manufacturers to provide LIFT leadership the perspective of manufacturing employers



Partner on targeted and effective Education and Workforce initiatives



Increase engagement of small and medium enterprises



Continually identify potential new LIFT partners in respective states

## THE SOLUTION: Teaming Up With Additional State Manufacturers Associations

The role of state manufacturers associations (SMAs) in talent development is expanding, and LIFT has now partnered with its fourth SMA -- the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry -- to help them grow in that space and deepen LIFT's relationships with Tennessee's manufacturers and educators.

LIFT's partnerships with SMAs now include the Ohio Manufacturers Association, the Kentucky Association of Manufacturers, the Indiana Manufacturers Association and the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry, bringing a combined 430 year legacy of manufacturing success. These groups reach thousands of manufacturers in their states and have served as the single, most representative voice of manufacturers to create manufacturing-friendly state policies in their state capitals and workforce programming in their communities.

SMAs are an important voice in the current LIFT state teams and will help serve as a connector between the institute and each state's key policymakers. With a strong legacy of helping manufacturers across the region, these four organizations have worked to strengthen the industry by supporting public policies, promoting awareness and providing education about the industry.

By adding the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry to the existing partnerships, members of both LIFT and the SMAs will be able to leverage the assets and expertise of all partners -- from manufacturing innovation projects, to education and workforce development programs, to support of pro-manufacturing policies in the state capitals.

### ABOUT THE PARTNERS

Founded in 1912, the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry also serves as the Tennessee Manufacturing Association. With statewide partnerships with business and local chambers, the Chamber works in the halls of the Legislature on behalf of business and also with companies and educators throughout the Volunteer State to build a world-class workforce.

The Ohio Manufacturers Association's (OMA) membership of 1,400 companies reflects the type, size and distribution of manufacturing across Ohio in all manufacturing verticals, including transportation equipment, plastics, fabricated metal, machinery, and chemical. OMA facilitates Ohio manufacturers working together—and learning from one another—in key management disciplines of energy, environment, government affairs, human resources, safety & workers' compensation, tax & finance, workforce, and matters of manufacturing leadership.

Established in 1911, the Kentucky Association of Manufacturers is Kentucky's most effective advocate for manufacturers. KAM's mission is to protect and create a manufacturing-friendly environment in Kentucky. In addition to advocating, KAM connects, educates and provides cost-saving programs and products to members. For more information, go to: [www.KAM.us.com](http://www.KAM.us.com).

Formed in 1901, the Indiana Manufacturers Association (IMA) is the second oldest manufacturers association in the country and the only trade association in Indiana that exclusively focuses on manufacturing. The IMA is dedicated to advocating for a business climate that creates, protects and promotes quality manufacturing jobs in Indiana. Indiana is one of the top manufacturing states in America in wealth and jobs created, sustained and supported. More than 50 percent of all employment in Indiana has some connection to manufacturing.

430 years of experience



3,750 member companies  
collaborating across four states



### ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS



Address the gaps in workforce competencies needed by manufacturers



Expand work and learn opportunities for students



Offer on-the-job training solutions for industry partners



Link and leverage resources on the ground today



Expand knowledge about and credibility of both LIFT and the National Network of Manufacturing Institutes broadly