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FIRST COAST MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

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FIRST COAST MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

NORTHEAST FLORIDA
SOUTHEAST GEORGIA

VOICE

JANUARY 2008 1/24/2008

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Celebration of 'Excellence in Manufacturing'



February 28, 2008, marks the 16th year that FCMA has recognized outstanding companies and individuals with its annual awards presentation. This year we are elevating this event to the highest level that it deserves.

We are announcing our winners in a very public fashion through the Jacksonville Business Journal (JBJ) as well as internal communications to our membership. The event is appropriately entitled "*Excellence in Manufacturing.*"

We have 37 nominees from 25 companies in competition for six awards, which represent the key objectives of FCMA: environmental protection, workforce education, and economic improvement. The awards luncheon will be at the UNF University Center. Part of the program will be to recognize past winners. In addition, award winners will automatically entered into the Manufacturers Association of Florida awards competition. And, each nominee will be highlighted in a special JBJ supplement.

Manufacturers continue to make outstanding contributions to our community. We are leading protectors of our environment, we actively promote education and training opportunities for our workforce, and our capital investment and high wages promote growth and stability in our region.

Your Board of Directors believes that we should do more to promote your achievements to the broader community. The 2007 awards luncheon is a major step in accomplishing that goal. Our partnership with the JBJ offers a forum to publicly acknowledge your contributions to the business community as well as other key segments of the economy.

The 25 companies that have been nominated represent a 'Who's Who' among manufacturers on the First Coast. While these 25 companies are the nominees for 2007, they represent the work that all of you do each and every day.

I encourage each of you to attend this very special awards luncheon on February 28. It offers an opportunity for you to

applaud the efforts of fellow members as well as understand how significant your contributions are to the well being of the First Coast. I look forward to seeing you on February 28.

NEW MEMBERS

Buffers USA

Contact: **Kenneth T. Petsch**, VP Sales and Marketing
(904) 696-0010, 10180 New Berlin Road, Jacksonville, FL 32226

Ship lashing, container and chassis parts, desiccants and packaging supplies

Sponsor: FCMA

Commercial Alloys

Contact: **John Puline**, Director
(904) 524-2829, 610 E 10th Street, Jacksonville, FL 32206

Buying and selling scrap metal; also manufactures Aluminum Ingots and Sows.

Sponsor: Martha Ira, Golder Associates

Jacksonville Lean Consortium

Contact: **Joe Rizzo**, Executive Director
(904) 281-9028, 4110 Southpoint Blvd, Suite 216

The Jacksonville Lean Consortium is a group of companies and government agencies, working together to become more efficient, more profitable, and therefore, more competitive in the global market place, through shared learning and networking in Continuous Improvement efforts based on Lean and 6Sigma principles.

Sponsor: FCMA

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

January 28 at W.W. Gay Mechanical

We are looking forward to a great 2008! Join us for our next General Membership meeting. Details:

Where: **W. W. Gay Mechanical Contractors, Inc.**
528 Stockton Street, FL 32204
Directions: click [here](#) - From I-10 west, exit Stockton; north to Edison; west on Edison to Acosta St. entrance--follow FCMA signs to parking (please do not park in fenced lot at Stockton)

When: Monday, January 28 / 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Guest: Kirby Green, Executive Director
St. Johns River Water Management District

RSVP: By email to information@fcmaweb.com
or call the FCMA reservation line at 904-343-9372



UPCOMING EVENTS

Reservations for "Excellence in Manufacturing" Awards

First Coast Manufacturers Association has been recognizing member companies for excellence since 1992. We are pleased to announce that on February 28, 2008, we are partnering with the Jacksonville Business Journal to honor companies making a commitment to the goals and objectives of FCMA. Winners will be highlighted in the following areas:

- **Manufacturer of The Year**
- **Associate of The Year**
- **Founders Service Award**
- **Education**
- **Environmental Protection**
- **Economic Impact**

The 2007 awards luncheon will be a highlight of the FCMA year. It will provide an opportunity to recognize truly outstanding companies in our area. And, it will provide sponsors and award winners the unique opportunity to present your message of support of manufacturing throughout Northeast Florida. Come celebrate with us!

For more details, click here: [FCMA Company Awards.ReservationForm.pdf](#)

For FCMA Sponsorship details, click here: [2008 Sponsorship Opportunities.pdf](#)

For advertising in the 2007 "Excellence in Manufacturing Awards" publication produced by the Jacksonville Business Journal...see details here: [JBK Insert details.pdf](#) To reserve your advertising space or any questions, contact Kimberly Waterhouse at (904) 265-2210 or kwaterhouse@bizjournals.com.

Hole in One!

As part of its commitment to workforce education, FCMA is a strong supporter of the University of North Florida's Engineering School. We have created a scholarship to benefit engineering students. The proceeds from this year's event will once again help fund our FCMA Engineering Scholarship Program.

Mark your calendars for FCMA's "**Eighteenth Annual GOLF OUTING**" being held on Monday, April 21, 2008 at Marsh Creek County Club. More details to be released soon. *FORE.....*your information, this tournament is sold out every year and.

Workforce Development Workshop

There is still time to sign up for this month's workshop...

Improve your Batting Average with New Hires - Florida's Ready to Work Credential

Workshop is Wednesday, January 30. Click [here](#) for flyer.

Safety Conference and Forklift Rodeo

Saddle 'em up, pardners! *Forklifts, that is!*

Our May 12 conference at the Prime Osborn Convention will feature presentations by experts in the field of safety throughout the day, exhibitors, and a new twist! Members are encouraged to send their forklift drivers to compete for cash prizes in its first annual Forklift Rodeo. Drivers will be graded on written, speed, and safety aspects of their machine operation.



Click [here](#) for complete agenda and registration information.

SHORT TAKES

Vote "No" on Amendment 1

The FCMA Board of Directors' official position is to oppose Amendment 1 on Property Tax. We urge our members and their employees to vote "no" on January 29. The specific reasons for our opposition are as follows:

1. *Lack of Adequate Planning* – There has been a lack of thorough discussion of the ramifications of this major policy shift among all the affected stakeholders
2. *Preempts Tax Reform and Budget Commission* – Each 20 years the state appoints a select group to review tax policy. This commission will make its report by mid-2008. This amendment undermines the efforts of this commission, which is charged with a deliberate review of tax policy.
3. *Promotes Inequity* – The amendment enhances protection of homesteaded property and offers no meaningful protection to business or non-homesteaded property.
4. *Diminishes Local Authority* – The power of local government to establish its own tax policy is severely restricted by imposing a one-size fits all solution.

5. *Reduces Florida's Businesses' Competitiveness* – Florida is not business friendly with its current tax policy. Adoption of this amendment would make us even more uncompetitive.

[Attached](#) is the complete resolution for your review. The Board of Directors is well aware of the law of unintended consequences that results from quick reaction to perceived problems, therefore, it is recommending that our members and their employees vote no on Tuesday, January 29.

Manufacturing Outreach



FCMA is always looking for ways to get the word out on manufacturing.



(1) Magnet Mania: FCMA and members were very visible at this Duval County Schools event.



This month we had two opportunities to educate the public on manufacturing's positive impact on the First Coast...

(2) MAF's Manufacturing Days at the Capitol: While FCMA members walked the halls and visited with legislators, others were able to see what products are made on the First Coast (right).

Water Issues

We have been busy getting the word out on an issue that will affect us all in the near future. Meetings this month included guests from the St. Johns River Water Management District to help members understand the science behind the suggested solutions.



Al Canepa, Assistant Director of Resource Management of the St. Johns River Water Management District presents, 'St. Johns River Decisions – Shall We Use Science or Emotion?' at the EHS Committee meeting



Hal Wilkening presents to the Board of Directors

Hometown Democracy Update

We continue to educate members on the negative aspects of this state ballot initiative. The guest at this month's Government Relations Committee meeting (hosted by Rayonier) was Ryan Houck of Floridians for Smarter Growth.



For further information on Hometown Democracy, visit www.flsmartergrowth.org.

To join in the fight in defeating, [click here](#).

PLATINUM PLUS MEMBERS

2008 Platinum Plus - New Benefits

Platinum Plus is designed to provide added benefits and recognition for your company to fund specific initiatives. Benefits include:

- Promotion of your company at FCMA events and publication of your company in VOICE
- Prepaid fees to select FCMA workshops and seminars
- Special invitation to select FCMA briefings on key manufacturing issues
- Prepaid tickets for selected premier FCMA events

Thank you to this year's early contributors!

- **Maxwell House Coffee / Kraft**
- **Goodrich**
- **Smith Gambrell & Russell**

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