

N.E.W. Manufacturing Alliance
General Membership Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2009
KI Convention Center

Attendees Present: John Davis, Jeff Pallini, Shannon Niccum, Ron Buchinger, Jami Harrington, John West, Joe Guell, John Schwantes, Mark Kaiser, Nanci Plog, Rick Berg, Mike Thomas, Jim Golembeski, Bill Chaudoir, David Lisle, David Townsend, Emily Limberg, Gary Ferron, John Knickerbocker, Lori Suddick, Jessica Beckendorf, John Rogers, Julie Leschke, Mary VanVonderer, Ted Penn, Tom Flis, Mike Klonsinski, Donald McDonald, Cheryl Fritz, Brad Frank, Susan List, Tyler Vorpagel, Jamie Blom, Wayne Staley, Jamie Steinbrinck, Bobbi Miller and Ann Franz

1. **Welcome and introductions:** John Davis welcomed attendees and attendees introduced themselves.
2. **Featured speaker: Mike Klonsinski, Executive Director, Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership presenting: “Next Generation Manufacturing Study 2009: What It Means for Wisconsin Manufacturers”**

In the Summer of 2009, WMEP, along with MEP Centers in 18 other states, lead the landmark NGM Survey. The survey measured Awareness and Recognition, Self-Assessment and Actual Performance across the Six NGM Success Attributes which included:

- Systemic Continuous Improvement
- Sustainable Product and Process Development
- Customer-Focused Innovation
- Global Engagement
- Extended Enterprise Management
- Advanced Talent management

The findings and conclusions of the survey, with a focus on New North Manufacturers, are being used to assess key gaps in awareness of the importance of the attributes, how performance against world-class benchmarks is done and performance gaps against these benchmarks. The results of the NGM Survey are now being used extensively to shape understanding, manufacturing performance improvement and even public policy to raise the global competitiveness of US manufacturers.

Mr. Klonsinski encouraged manufacturers to compare their companies with the “world class” companies in the six categories assessed. He suggested contacting Focus on Energy and the Department of Commerce International Trade division for assistance. The Power Point presentation is included with the minutes.

3. Updates on task forces

The All Stars were recognized in a video compilation of the 11 winners:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPcy38_MuU8.

All Star Winners:

Matt Busch	Fox Valley Metal Tech	Welder
Karl Peters	Walker Forge, Inc.	Automation Technician
Jamie Boylan	CMD Corp	Class A Machinist
Mike Maciejewski	Georgia Pacific	Maintenance Leader
Mark Giebel	Manitowoc Ice	Engineer II
Brad Lamers	CEI	Extruder Operator
Chad Schmertman	Nicolet Plastics, Inc.	Mold Maintenance Technician
Michael Smith	Absolute Supply	Project Manager/Estimator/Scheduling
Brian Vanden Langenberg	Robinson Metal, Inc.	CNC Sheet Metal Programming
Yee Yang	Johnsonville Sausage	Team Leader 2nd shift Auto-line

First Ever All-Star Mentor:
Tim Dyer

Fox Valley Metal Tech

Shop Floor Supervisor

4. **Next quarterly General Membership meeting:** Thursday, March 11 at 2 p.m. at the Fox Valley Workforce Development Board office in Neenah.