



Now is not the time to pull back from manufacturing career education support!

Support the Tooling & Mfg. Assn. Precision Machining Competition

The TMA's most significant and effective career initiative is the 2004 TMA Precision Machining Competition, now in its thirteenth year. This event honors excellence in machining skills among Illinois high school students.

Yes, the demand for manufacturing personnel is down because of the recession. Yes, globalization and competition from low cost producers worldwide is a serious challenge.

Here's another serious challenge. If you look at demographics you'll notice the pool of entry-level workers will be shrinking for years to come. Manufacturers must compete for the talent needed in the increasingly high tech world of manufacturing. You'll need "fewer, but better" people going forward. This recession won't be with us forever. You'll need entry-level people again soon.

We must continue to support the machining and manufacturing technology programs that have survived in our high schools. Only a select few remain, so let's get behind the programs we still have. They are producing the type of young people you'll soon need.

We know that Chinese students learn manufacturing technology skills at an early age. Shouldn't young Americans have that same opportunity?

TMA has 1,400 member companies. We're not asking for much per member. By pledging **\$10 per employee** you and the TMA can reward the excellent work these students perform as they machine their industry projects.

If 125 members averaging 20 employees each send \$10 per employee we have our \$25,000 to purchase prize bonds, set up the career exhibits, pay the hotel, and buy the food for the awards banquet.

We hope that you will support this investment in the "workforce of the future".

Please pledge a tax-deductible \$10 per employee sponsorship (or whatever amount you would like to pledge) to ensure that there will be qualified, skilled people for your business in the years to come -- or fax back this form to 847-825-0041.

Please make check payable to "Education Foundation, TMA".
With sincerest appreciation,

Bruce Braker, TMA President and The TMA Staff

Company: _____ **Name:** _____

Phone: _____ **Pledge Amount:** \$ _____