

## 2009 National Technical Conference: "Rediscover North American Manufacturing"

By Monte Guitar, Director of Technical Programs • mguitar@pmpa.org

PMPA's Technical Program Committee has developed new and exciting programming targeted for your technical, quality and management personnel. Come and listen to people from shops like yours share what it is that makes them stand out in the industry. Then, take those lessons learned and apply them in your own shop. Here's a quick look at what is in store for you:

Price: \$300 per person. Non-members are welcome for an additional \$100 fee.

Keynote Speaker: From average beginnings to all-star performances, Tom Flick reached his goal of playing in the NFL when the Washington Redskins drafted him in 1981. Prior to his 7 years in the NFL, he was an All-American

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quarterback for the University of Washington Huskies.

Since 1988, Mr. Flick has tackled the business world with the same focus and spirit that earned him honors as a collegiate and professional quarterback. He connects with more than 60,000 men and women each year on highperformance strategies for leadership, teamwork, change and personal growth.

The FISH! Philosophy: We spend the majority of our time at work. If our workplace is not everything we want it to be, we could spend a large part of our lives bored, unhappy or apathetic.

The four practices of The FISH! Philosophy are simple, practical tools for bringing more energy, fun, respect, support and trust to work. Two of the 35 sessions at this conference will focus on this unique management philosophy. Come learn why FISH! must be an invitation—not a mandate to be effective.

More Networking: Two PMPA members will share their musical talents in this first-of-its-kind networking event. Brian Adams of R.F. Mau Company will open this session with his acoustic band "JoBreen." Jim Fetcko of Ohio Screw Products Inc. will follow with his band "Maiden America."

This event is about providing another way for you to connect with your North American manufacturing brethren. This session will have four interactive cocktail tables designed to spur unique machining discussions. Food stations will be set up and a drink ticket will be provided.



"I think one of the nicest things about the PMPA is that there are so many opportunities to get involved and to share know-how," Ms. Greulich continues. "The people here at Watkins are active in many different ways, through the Listserve and at the meetings. We also have given technical presentations on cutting with a saw. With PMPA, we have the opportunity to get to know our customers without that sales pressure. We're not just walking into their locations once each quarter to sell.

"Because we are a small company, being a member of PMPA allows



us to network with the people we specifically cater to," Ms. Greulich sums up. "It gives us credibility, especially on a national level, and allows us to have a voice alongside the bigger companies. Being a PMPA member really helps establish ourselves as the authority in our field."



Watkins Manufacturing Inc. is located at 10565 Medallion Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45241. Phone: (513) 563-0440. Toll free: (800) 444-KERF (5373). Fax: (513) 563-0451. Web site: www.saw-lutions.com

### Rediscover North American Manufacturing continued

Track Programming: Sessions are targeted to three groups of personnel: Technical, Quality and Management. Examples of these programs include:

#### **Technical Track**

- Shop Innovations
- Machining Exotics
- Grinding for Success
- Complete to Compete
- Shop Math as a Competitive Advantage
- Setup Reduction: Technology-Enabled Lean

#### **Quality Track**

- Post-Process Preparation
- Best-Practice Round Tables
- PPAP: Tips, Tricks and Pitfalls
- Gaging Complex Parts at the Machine

#### Management Track

- Getting to Your "Go" Side
- Decrease Violations and Increase Profits
- Interactive Lean—A Waste Elimination Workshop
- www.thefutureofyourbusiness.com

(Enter this site in your browser for a sneak peak.)

### See you in Columbus! PMPA Technical Program Committee

Web Site: www.pmpa.org/meetings/techconf/ Questions: Call Monte Guitar at (440) 526-0300.