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NAM JOINS AS INDUSTRY PARTNER IN FABTECH INTERNATIONAL & AWS WELDING SHOW

NAM President Engler Says Event Will Be Great Opportunity For NAM Members

WASHINGTON, D.C. and MIAMI, FL, July 20, 2007 – The National Association of Manufacturers has joined as Industry Partner with the FABTECH International and American Welding Society (AWS) Welding Show that will be held at McCormick Place in Chicago November 11-14.

The show is North America's largest event dedicated to showcasing a full spectrum of metal forming and fabricating, tube and pipe and welding equipment and technology. It is sponsored by the American Welding Society (AWS), the Fabricators & Manufacturers Association, International (FMA), and the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME)). The show will occupy more than 450,000 square feet. Approximately 900 exhibitors and 25,000 attendees are expected to participate.

“The NAM recognizes the FABTECH International and AWS Welding Show as a growing event that serves a wide spectrum of manufacturing in North America,” said John Engler, NAM President and CEO. “We believe NAM members will greatly benefit from this alliance in 2007 and beyond.” Future shows will be held in Las Vegas in 2008, Chicago in 2009 and Atlanta in 2010.

“The NAM is an excellent organization and a tremendous advocate for U.S. manufacturing,” said Jerry Shankel, FMA President and CEO. “We are thrilled to welcome the NAM as Industry Partner to the FABTECH International and AWS Welding Show, and look forward to a successful long-term partnership with the NAM.”

“We find numerous synergies in our event vision and the NAM's activities,” said Mark Tomlinson, SME Executive Director. “The NAM will also sponsor our Leadership Summit held during the 2007 show, adding tremendous value and credibility to this key event initiative.”

“We are pleased the highly influential NAM has decided to partner with our societies on this important show,” said AWS Executive Director Ray Shook. “As the leading forming, fabricating and welding exhibition in North America, the FABTECH International and AWS Welding Show is a must-see event for anyone directly involved with the manufacturing sector. The NAM partnership illustrates the critical relationship between major manufacturers and the forming, fabricating and welding industries, but also strengthens our position and ability to continuously enhance America's manufacturing foundation.”

For further information visit www.fmafabtech.com or contact Adrienne Zalkind at azalkind@aws.org or (305) 443-9353, or Jackie McBain at (815) 227-8270.

About NAM: *The National Association of Manufacturers is the nation's largest industrial trade association, representing small and large manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the NAM*

has 11 additional offices across the country. Visit the NAM's award-winning web site at www.nam.org for more information about manufacturing and the economy.

About AWS: The American Welding Society (AWS) was founded in 1919 as a multifaceted, nonprofit organization with a mission to advance the science, technology and application of welding and allied joining and cutting processes, including brazing, soldering, and thermal spraying. Headquartered in Miami, Florida, and led by a volunteer organization of officers and directors, AWS serves more than 50,000 members worldwide and is composed of 22 districts with 250 sections and student chapters. For more information, visit the Society's website at <http://www.aws.org> and click on "[pressroom](#)."

About FMA: The Fabricators & Manufacturers Association, International, headquartered in Rockford, Ill., USA, is a non-profit educational association dedicated exclusively to metal forming and fabricating professionals. Founded in 1970, it is considered the world's largest educational association for its industry, with thousands of members worldwide. FMA provides in-depth technical information and educational opportunities through conferences, award-winning magazines, extensive research services, and co-sponsorship of the FABTECH International series. Visit FMA at <http://www.fmanet.org>.

About SME: The Society of Manufacturing Engineers is the world's leading professional society supporting manufacturing education. Through its member programs, publications, expositions and professional development resources, SME promotes an increased awareness of manufacturing engineering and helps keep manufacturing professionals up to date on leading trends and technologies. Headquartered in Michigan, SME influences more than half a million manufacturing engineers and executives annually. The Society has members in 70 countries supported by a network of hundreds of chapters worldwide. Visit SME at <http://www.sme.org>.

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