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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FABTECH Mexico to Co-Locate with AWS Weldmex and METALFORM Mexico Shows

Miami, Fla., September 17, 2008: A new trade show named FABTECH Mexico will co-locate with the established AWS Weldmex and METALFORM Mexico shows beginning in 2009. A letter of intent to co-locate the shows was recently signed by the American Welding Society and Weldmex LLC (organizers of AWS Weldmex) and the Fabricators and Manufacturers Association and the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (joint organizers of FABTECH Mexico). The first combined exhibition will be held June 2-4, 2009, at the Cintermex exhibition center in Monterrey, Mexico. Location for the annual AWS Weldmex and FABTECH Mexico show alternates between Monterrey and Mexico City.

Exhibitors at FABTECH Mexico will feature a variety of bending and fabrication products, including laser and plasma cutting, coil processing, roll forming, plate and structural fabricating, saws and cut-off machines, tooling, press brakes, shears, punching, and tube and pipe equipment. AWS Weldmex exhibitors focus primarily on welding and cutting products, including thermal spray, metal finishing and safety equipment. METALFORM Mexico exhibitors will feature metalforming products, including tool and die, metal stamping, forming and assembly equipment.

AWS, SME, FMA, and PMA already cooperate on trade shows in the United States, where they jointly host the annual FABTECH International & AWS Welding Show, including METALFORM. This year's show, set for October 6-8 at the Las Vegas Convention Center, will include more than 900 exhibitors showing welding, cutting and metalworking products from all over the world. The combined event is North America's largest metal forming, fabricating and welding exhibition.

"The organizers of AWS Weldmex are extremely pleased to co-locate with FABTECH Mexico," said Ray Shook, AWS executive director. "The AWS alliance with FMA and SME in producing The FABTECH International & AWS Welding Show has proven valuable to both show attendees and exhibitors. We expect the same success with our new alliance in the Latin American market."

"FMA is thrilled once again to partner with AWS, PMA and SME on an all-encompassing trade show for the forming, fabricating, tube and pipe, and welding industries," stated Jerry Shankel, FMA president. "We fully anticipate this event will grow into Mexico's largest manufacturing exposition, with year-one projections of 300 exhibiting, 60,000 net sq ft, and 8,000 professional attendees."

"The addition of FABTECH Mexico to AWS Weldmex and METALFORM Mexico takes us one step closer to our overall strategic goal of offering a complete North American plan to FABTECH exhibitors," said Mark Tomlinson, executive director of SME."

"Co-location of the new FABTECH Mexico exhibition with the well-established AWS Weldmex and PMA METALFORM Mexico events is an exciting development," said Bill Gaskin, PMA president. "PMA looks forward to collaborating with our partner associations to serve the rapidly growing metalforming, fabricating and welding industries in Mexico and Latin America."

ABOUT AWS:

The American Welding Society is the largest organization in the world dedicated to advancing the science, technology, and application of welding and allied processes including joining, brazing, soldering, cutting, and thermal spray. AWS provides a variety of industry services, including welding certifications, educational programs, scholarships and workforce development through its foundation and publications. Visit the society's Web site at www.aws.org.

ABOUT FMA:

The Fabricators and Manufacturers Association Int'l is a non-profit educational association dedicated exclusively to metal forming and fabricating professionals. FMA brings the metal forming and fabricating community together through networking sessions, educational programs, volunteer opportunities, and award programs and provides the tools and resources needed by companies to improve operations. Visit www.fmanet.org for more information.

ABOUT SME:

The Society of Manufacturing Engineers (www.sme.org) 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 practitioners and executives annually. The Society has members in more than 70 countries and is supported by a network of hundreds of technical communities and chapters worldwide.

ABOUT PMA:

The Precision Metalforming Association (www.pma.org) is the full-service trade association representing the \$91-billion metalforming industry of North America-the industry that creates precision metal products using stamping, fabricating and other value-added processes. Its nearly 1200 member companies include metal stampers, fabricators, spinners, slide formers and roll formers as well as suppliers of equipment, materials and services to the industry. Members are located in 30 countries, with the majority found in North America - in 41 states of the United States as well as Canada and Mexico.

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