



**Virginia Industry Forum  
November 2-3, 2017  
Marriot City Center  
Newport News**

*The Virginia Industry Forum is the premiere event for Virginia manufacturers to tackle major issues. The Forum's program is centered on world-class automation, productivity, value-chain, and technology solutions for industry. It is also an opportunity for members to network with peers, participate in professional development and celebrate Virginia manufacturing.*

**Thursday, November 2, 2017**

- 8AM-10AM VMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (PRIVATE)**
- 8AM-10AM WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING (MEMBERS ONLY)**
- 10AM-11AM VMA 95<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (MEMBERS ONLY)**
- 10AM-7:30PM TRADE SHOW**
- 11:15AM-12PM NETWORKING LUNCH**
- 12PM-4:15PM 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MSI WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS SYMPOSIUM**

**Welcome & Introduction: Dr. Victor Gray, MSI Executive Director**

**12:00-1:15pm – MSI Innovation and Success**

*Panelists will discuss Virginia workforce solutions that are targeting high-demand occupations with industry-recognized credential training to quickly close skills gap. Panelists will also discuss Virginia's community college Advanced Manufacturing Career Coaches and their role in closing the industry interest gap. Finally, the panelists will discuss the new Dream It. Do It. Virginia 5.0 and an Employability Workshop Series that will ensure a steady pipeline of talent is ready for industry credential training.*

Moderator: Dr. Victor Gray, MSI Executive Director

Panelists:

- Wes Smith, Community College Workforce Alliance
- Debby Hopkins, Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board
- Caroline Lane, Virginia Community College System
- Rick Sizemore, Wilson Workforce Rehabilitation Center
- Anne Hudlow, WWRC Foundation

- Vanessa Rastberger, MSI Workforce Solutions Director

**1:15-1:30pm – Presentation of the 2017 VMA Workforce Partner of the Year Award - Dr. Victor Gray, MSI Executive Director**

**1:30-2:30pm – Beyond Root Cause Analysis (RCA)**

This session will provide an overview of the Thinking Dimensions Root Cause Analysis methodology. The speakers will discuss how to successfully apply and reap the benefits of the KEPNER and FOURIE RCA process in a manufacturing training program.

Moderator: Dr. Victor Gray, MSI Executive Director

Speakers:

- Bill Dunn, President, Thinking Dimensions USA
- Eric Jolly, Continuous Improvement Manager, PMUSA

**2:30-3:30pm – Shared Responsibility: Engaging Industry and Education**

This session will review how employers can attract, develop, retain, and grow a sustainable local talent pipeline by leveraging existing resources. The speaker will explore “The Value of People in the Language of Business” and address the following topics:

- The impacts of changing the diversity narrative from “numbers” to “quality”
- Understanding the root causes for poor participation by industry
- The business case to employers

Moderator: Vanessa Rastberger, MSI Workforce Solutions Director

Speakers:

- Deon Clark, President, TCI Solutions

**3:30-3:45pm – BREAK**

**3:45-4:15pm – Leading Operational Excellence: Creating a Culture of Continuous Improvement**

This session will review why every manufacturer must pursue Operational Excellence, and the specific actions and behaviors that leaders must exhibit to create a culture of continuous improvement and employee engagement in order to win the competition for talent.

Moderator: Dr. Victor Gray, MSI Executive Director

Speakers:

- Michael Leigh, President, OPX Solutions

4:15PM-5PM

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER - Ken Eisner, Senior Manager, Worldwide Education Programs and Global Lead, AWS Educate at Amazon Web Services (AWS)**



**Utilization of Cloud Technology for Workforce Education**

*Ken is an education technology leader with over twenty years of experience spearheading initiatives that improve educational outcomes and disrupt traditional education delivery models. In May of 2015, Ken launched [AWS Educate](#), Amazon's global initiative to dramatically accelerate cloud learning inside the traditional and virtual classroom and prepare students for a cloud-enabled workforce. Five hundred institutions joined the program in 2015, including top computer science, technology, and business programs around the globe. In 2016, AWS Educate premiered its breakthrough "Cloud Career Pathways" release, a complete education-to-employment construct complete with learning pathways, micro-credentials, and the AWS Educate Job Board. Ken will share how AWS Educate and Amazon's technology are disrupting workforce education and improving accessibility, affordability and performance around the world.*

5PM-5:30PM

**NEWPORT NEWS SHIPBUILDING MOBILE TRAINING CENTER TOUR**

5:30PM-7PM

**MANUFACTURING MAKES VIRGINIA RECEPTION**

**Friday, November 3, 2017**

7:30AM-8:30AM **NETWORKING BREAKFAST**

7:30AM-12PM **TRADE SHOW**

8:30AM-8:40AM **WELCOME/RECOGNIZE SPONSORS – Scott Tilley, VMA Chairman**

8:40AM-8:45AM **INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER – Cornelia Steinert, Canon Virginia**

8:45AM-9:30AM **KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Out Innovating: How to Beat Your Competition, Dr. Gary Lynn**

*Dr. Lynn is a professor at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, NJ. He was selected by Business 2.0 Magazine as one of the top ten management gurus in the world and named twice as one of the seven most prolific thought leaders in the field of Technology-Innovation Management by the International Association for the Management of Technology (IAMOT). Dr. Lynn explains a major research program funded by the Undersecretary of Defense and over 500 companies (1,500 programs) to uncover how best-in-breed companies innovate better and faster.*

**9:30AM-10:15AM VA MFG COMPETITIVENESS PLAN & INDEX - Brett Vassey, VMA, President & CEO**

*Mr. Vassey will unveil the VMA and Economic Leadership's multifactor VA Manufacturing Competitiveness Index that allows policy-makers to aggregate complex data and inform strategic choices that will improve Virginia's manufacturing competitiveness for new investments in physical capital and human talent. 52 metrics have been divided into five categories: Business Climate, Workforce, Infrastructure, Innovation and Economic Strength and nationally ranked. Come see how Virginia's manufacturing competitiveness ranks against all 50 states.*

**10:15AM-10:30AM BREAK**

**10:30AM-11:30AM RISKS AND REWARDS OF DIGITAL MANUFACTURING: PRODUCT LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT & CLOUD-BASED MFG EXECUTION SYSTEMS**

*Digital Manufacturing has the potential to accelerate businesses in multiple ways including accelerated production, increased quality and reduced costs. However, if organizations don't properly engage new technologies, the result can be additional information that doesn't yield business improvements. If you decide to take on digital manufacturing yourself or bring on expertise, there are fundamentals of success. Companies must address these fundamentals, including clear business objectives, ownership, leadership, performance measures, operational improvements and prioritization. This session will cover how one can leverage these fundamentals while utilizing digital manufacturing technologies to succeed.*

Moderator: Dr. Miletta Tomovich, Professor, College of Engineering and Technology  
Director, Advanced Manufacturing Institute, ODU

Panelists:

- Elie Azzi, Research Associate, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering
- Tim Sweitzer, Director, Digital Shipbuilding, Newport News Shipbuilding
- Saul Yeaton, Chief Operating Officer, Metis Machine

**11:30AM-12:00PM VMAPAC INDUSTRIAL STRENGTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS CEREMONY**

*Guests: Virginia House & Senate Members*

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**OPTION – SEPARATE REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

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**12:00 PM-12:30PM NNS TOUR AND LUNCH**

**Host - Rob Hogan, VP Manufacturing, Newport News Shipbuilding (NNS)**

**12:30 PM-12:50PM SECURITY REVIEW AND BOARD BUS**  
**12:50 PM-1:10PM TRAVEL TO SHIPYARD**  
**1:10 PM-2:10PM TOUR SHIPYARD**  
**2:10 PM-2:30PM RETURN TO MARRIOTT**

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