

## FABTECH – ADVANCING THE METAL FABRICATING INDUSTRY SINCE 1981

FABTECH is the premier event for the metal fabricating industry. Since its debut in 1981, FABTECH has grown from a regional trade show into North America's largest and most authoritative event for metal forming, fabricating, welding and finishing. Only at FABTECH can you see world-class exhibits showcasing high-tech metalworking machinery, network with industry professionals and learn the latest techniques and trends from expert-led education sessions.

FABTECH's origin and continued strength are formed by the partnership of leading industry associations. Event Partners include the Fabricators and Manufacturers Association, International, Elgin, IL, SME, Southfield, MI, the American Welding Society, Miami, FL, The Precision Metalforming Association, Independence, OH and the Chemical Coaters Association, International, Taylor Mill, KY. Together, FMA, SME, AWS, PMA and CCAI wield technical expertise and industry insight unmatched among associations in the manufacturing sector. FABTECH's mission is to bring buyers and sellers together in a convenient venue to conduct business, make connections, share ideas, and learn from one another. The event features technology-focused pavilions, interactive exhibit displays and special events and attractions. FABTECH also offers a unique and highly immersive education experience.

Today, while the audiences have significantly grown, and the technologies displayed on the show floor have evolved, FABTECH continues to be at the forefront of serving the metal fabricating industry. FABTECH exhibitors are leading original equipment manufacturers and importers of key manufacturing technologies including metal forming, fabricating, tube & pipe, welding and finishing processes. Annually, FABTECH exhibitors introduce hundreds of new products on the exposition floor. Among the products and technologies being displayed are: additive manufacturing, arc welding, assembly, automation, bending & forming, brazing & soldering, business services, coil processing, cutting, fastening & joining, finishing/paint & powder coating, finishing/plating, gases & gas equipment, hydroforming, inspection & testing, job shop/contract mfg., lasers, lubrication, maintenance & repair, material handling, metal suppliers, plate & structural fabricating, press brakes, punching, resistance welding, robotics, roll forming, safety & environmental, saws, software, machine controls, stamping, thermal spraying, tool & die, tooling, tube & pipe fabricating or welding and tube & pipe producing, waterjet, welding consumables, and welding machines.

The FABTECH series of events welcomes more than 65,000 total visitors from over 90 countries every year and serves the smallest job to the largest Fortune 500 manufacturer. High-level company executives, manufacturing and engineering professionals and business owners from major industries, including aerospace, agriculture, appliance, automotive OEMs and their suppliers, construction, heavy equipment, military and defense, mining and utilities, recreational equipment, and non-automotive transportation, attend FABTECH to discover new technologies and source products to improve their business. Technical education sessions, dynamic keynotes, expert panel discussions and other special events keep show visitors returning to FABTECH every year.

FABTECH is held annually in the United States, rotating between Las Vegas, Chicago and Atlanta. FABTECH Mexico also occurs annually rotating between Mexico City and Monterrey and FABTECH Canada occurs biennially in Toronto.

## FABTECH MILESTONES

- 1981 Debuts in Cleveland with 161 exhibitors
- 1983 FABTECH moves to Chicago
- 1987 FABTECH gains Tradeshow 200 status
- 1989 Tube & Pipe pavilion introduced
- 1991 Ten successful years of serving the fabricating industry
- 1997 FABTECH moves to McCormick Place. Welding Pavilion introduced
- 1998 First even year and annual FABTECH is held in Cleveland
- 2005 AWS Welding Show joins FABTECH and AWS becomes a co-sponsor
- 2006 FABTECH moves even year show to Atlanta, Georgia for the first time
- 2007 Attendance tops 30,000 for the first time. Honored as one of the Fastest 50 by Tradeshow Week
- 2008 METALFORM joins FABTECH and PMA becomes a co-sponsor. Even-year show held in Las Vegas, Nevada for the first time
- 2009 Finishing Pavilion added and CCAI becomes a co-sponsor. First FABTECH Mexico co-locates with AWS Weldmex and METALFORM Mexico in Monterrey, Mexico
- 2012 FABTECH Canada debuts at the Toronto Congress Centre
- 2015 FABTECH Chicago tops 40,000 in attendance and more than 732,000 square feet. Ranks in the top 20 on the 2015 TSNN Top 250 Trade Shows list
- 2017 3D/Additive Manufacturing pavilion introduced. New FABTECH logo debuts
- 2019 Robotics & Industrial Automation pavilion introduced

## ABOUT THE EVENT PARTNERS

### The Fabricators & Manufacturers Association, Int'l (FMA)

Based in Elgin, Ill., the Fabricators & Manufacturers Association International is a professional organization reaching more than 135,000 industry professionals world-wide focused on improving the metal forming and fabricating industry. Founded in 1970, FMA brings metal fabricators and fabricating equipment manufacturers together through technology councils, educational programs, networking events, award-winning magazines and co-sponsorship of FABTECH. FMA has a technology affiliate, the Tube & Pipe Association, International (TPA), which focuses on the unique needs of companies engaged in tube and pipe producing and fabricating. Nuts, Bolts & Thingamajigs™ is the charitable foundation of FMA. Visit [www.fmanet.org](http://www.fmanet.org) for more information.

## **SME**

SME connects all those who are passionate about making things that improve our world. As a nonprofit organization, SME has served practitioners, companies, educators, government and communities across the manufacturing spectrum for more than 80 years. Through its strategic areas of events, media, membership, training and development, and the SME Education Foundation, SME is uniquely dedicated to the advancement of manufacturing by addressing both knowledge and skill needs for the industry. To learn more, visit [www.sme.org](http://www.sme.org).

## **The American Welding Society (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 Doral, Florida and led by a volunteer organization of officers and directors, AWS serves more than about 70,000 members worldwide and is composed of 22 Districts with 250 sections and student chapters. For more information, visit [www.aws.org](http://www.aws.org).

## **Precision Metalforming Association (PMA)**

The Precision Metalforming Association is the full-service trade association representing the \$113-billion metalforming industry of North America—the industry that creates precision metal products using stamping, fabricating, spinning, slide forming and roll forming technologies, and other value-added processes. Its nearly 1,000 member companies also include suppliers of equipment, materials and services to the industry. PMA leads innovative member companies toward superior competitiveness and profitability through advocacy, networking, statistics, the PMA Educational Foundation, FABTECH and METALFORM tradeshow, and MetalForming magazine. Visit [www.pma.org](http://www.pma.org).

## **Chemical Coaters Association International (CCAI)**

The Chemical Coaters Association International is a technical and professional organization that provides information and training on surface coating technologies. CCAI's foundation is its series of active local chapters across the U.S. that conduct technical meetings on all aspects of organic finishing. Chapters serve as an excellent forum to discuss regional concerns while offering outstanding networking opportunities for finishers and suppliers. CCAI works to raise the standards of finishing operations through educational meetings and seminars, training manuals, certification programs, and outreach programs with colleges and universities. Visit CCAI at [www.ccaiweb.com](http://www.ccaiweb.com).