

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Fueling the future: the manufacturing industry in Alberta is heating up

*Event features cutting-edge technology and world-class education to give Alberta manufacturers the tools they need*

EDMONTON, Alberta — The **Western Manufacturing Technology Show (WMTS)**, proudly presented by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, is back at Northlands from **June 14 to 16, 2011** at the **Edmonton EXPO Centre** (7515 - 118 Ave). As Alberta's manufacturing sector is heating up, the time is now for industry professionals to address production challenges and learn best practices in order to make their businesses thrive and be more competitive.

"This is *the* event for manufacturers to grow their business and showcase the latest in technology development," says **Janine Saperson**, event manager. "For attendees, WMTS provides opportunities to learn, evaluate and compare technologies and solutions on a one-on-one basis. All under one roof, over three days." More than **2,000 attendees** are expected to attend this highly anticipated biennial event.

Highlights of Alberta's manufacturing sector:

- **170 aerospace and aviation companies in Alberta employ 6,000+ highly skilled Albertans** in areas like robotics and unmanned vehicle systems, defense electronics, space science and geomatics
- **Alberta has \$15 billion per year of existing metal manufacturing**, third only to Ontario and Quebec
- **Alberta will require more than \$200 billion in new construction and maintenance spending** over the next 25 years, much of it in fabricated metal products
- Canadian Energy Research Institute estimates that the **oil sands will require 450,000+ annual work positions**, totaling more than 11.4 million person-years of employment, over the next 25 years

In addition to nearly **100 exhibitors**, WMTS features an industry keynote, an interactive town hall panel and limitless opportunities to network and share ideas with like-minded colleagues. To learn more about WMTS, go to [www.wmts.ca](http://www.wmts.ca) or call 888-322-7333.

The [Society of Manufacturing Engineers \(SME\)](http://www.sme.org) connects manufacturing practitioners to each other, to the latest technology and the most up-to-date processes spanning all manufacturing industries and disciplines, including aerospace and defense, medical devices, motor vehicles, motorsports, and oil and gas. A 501(c)3 organization, SME has members in more than 70 countries and is supported by a network of technical communities and chapters worldwide.

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