

EDITORIAL SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

The IW editorial team is working on the following stories for the **2nd quarter 2009**. If you have information or a case study that can help shape these articles, contact the IW editor listed at the bottom of the feature/department before the editorial date listed. Please remember to include your contact information. (NOTE: Do not submit finished articles for publication in the magazine. Editors will not be able to use everything received.)

To submit articles for publication on IndustryWeek.com, please send queries first to Adrienne Selko, IW eMedia Editor at aselko@industryweek.com.

April Features

EDITORIAL CLOSE: 1/23/09 AD CLOSE: 2/23/09 AD MATERIALS DUE: 2/25/09 MAIL DATE: 3/19/09

Optimizing Workforce Talent

This article offers a look at how leading manufacturers are meeting the growing skills gap in labor. It will focus on how the use of effective training methods, continuous improvement techniques and strategic workforce scheduling is helping companies increase productivity, while becoming more efficient and innovative. The end goal is to develop a more productive and results-driven workforce. If you have an idea for this article, please contact **Senior Technology Editor John Teresko**, jteresko@industryweek.com.

Strategic Sourcing

To maintain a global supply chain, manufacturers have to balance the needs of carrying lean inventories with the risk of having parts shortages. This article will illustrate how manufacturers are maintaining flexibility and efficiency by optimizing their distribution and logistics networks, while realigning the purchasing function with an eye toward supply chain management. The article will discuss how manufacturers can better control their costs by turning to solutions that will make them more competitive. If you have an idea for this article, please contact **Associate Editor Nick Zubko**, nzubko@industryweek.com.

Energy Efficiency

One way manufacturers can reduce their energy usage is by getting more efficient in their processes, products and procedures. This article will discuss novel methods manufacturers are deploying to reduce their energy consumption—by deploying new technologies, revamping their manufacturing processes and rethinking their energy usage strategies. If you have an idea for this article, please contact **Senior Editor Jill Jusko**, jjusko@industryweek.com.



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PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT:

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May Features

EDITORIAL CLOSE: 2/25/09 AD CLOSE: 3/25/09 AD MATERIALS DUE: 3/27/09 MAIL DATE: 4/20/09

Managing in a Union Environment

Launching a continuous improvement initiative within a union shop involves a number of significant challenges, not the least of which is overcoming the adversarial nature of labor-management relationships. This article will profile several manufacturers who have succeeded in forming full partnerships between the union and management, and will illustrate how it's possible for labor and management to jointly develop strategic business plans. If you have an idea for this article, please contact **Managing Editor Jonathan Katz**, jkatz@industryweek.com.

Future Trends in Automation

This article looks at how emerging plant-floor technologies are changing the entire concept of a modern manufacturing facility. INDUSTRYWEEK will look at the state of the art in machine intelligence, automation and process controls and other advanced solutions. Manufacturing managers will learn which technologies are being used to make parts better, faster and at lower cost. This article will offer compelling competitive reasons to invest in manufacturing technology. If you have an idea for this article, please contact **Senior Technology Editor John Teresko**, jteresko@industryweek.com.



Six Sigma Strategies

Six Sigma efforts take a structured, quality-centric approach to manufacturing that aims at nothing less than near-perfection. While Six Sigma proponents point to the methodology's key role in enabling continuous improvement, critics often dismiss it as little more than a fad. This article sets the record straight about the effectiveness of Six Sigma projects, and explores the best practices of companies that have successfully enhanced the quality of their products and operations. If you have an idea for this article, please contact **Associate Editor Nick Zubko**, nzubko@industryweek.com.

Departments

FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS:

Selecting Continuous Improvement Teams

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Maintenance Strategies
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SUPPLY CHAIN & LOGISTICS:

Measuring Supply Chain Performance
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PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT:

Best Practices in Product Portfolio Management
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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

Transportation Management Systems
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June Features

EDITORIAL CLOSE: 3/27/09 AD CLOSE: 4/27/09 AD MATERIALS DUE: 4/29/09 MAIL DATE: 5/21/09

The IndustryWeek U.S. 500

The IW US. 500 annual report, the only one of its kind ranks the United States' 500 largest publicly held manufacturing companies by annual revenue, net income, profit margin and revenue growth percentage for each manufacturer on the list. The 2008 report, based on 2007 annual revenues, showed that sales at the 500 largest U.S. manufacturers totaled nearly \$5.4 trillion, up more than 5% from the previous year, which would suggest that there's still quite a bit of life left in the U.S. manufacturing industry. We'll look at which industry sectors are driving manufacturing's growth—and why.

IW 50 Best Manufacturing Companies

Here's the chance for industry leaders to see how they rank in the battle for continuous improvement. This IW franchise is the definitive operational-excellence report card of the nation's largest, publicly-held manufacturing companies. This annual feature looks at and evaluates a combination of critical metrics, including: revenue and profit growth, inventory turns, asset turnover, and return on assets, and it reports which companies do it better than everyone else. The IW 50 Best Manufacturing Companies list prompts top executives to look for new resources, ideas and tools that can make their company a top performer, too. If you have an idea for this article, please contact [Managing Editor Jonathan Katz, *jkatz@industryweek.com*](mailto:Jonathan.Katz@industryweek.com).

The Lean Gurus

How do you create and sustain a continuous improvement culture? For many companies starting their lean journey, the first step is to tap into the experiences of a lean consultant. This article will profile some of the best known and most successful lean gurus, and offer insight into the management and production floor strategies they've taught. It will focus on what works and what doesn't, as well as providing an up-close look at some of the best minds in lean. If you have an idea for this article, please contact [Senior Editor Jill Jusko, *jjusko@industryweek.com*](mailto:Jill.Jusko@industryweek.com).

Global Hot Spots

With the rush to globalization, multi-national manufacturers are looking to every corner of the globe to set up shop. This article will examine why manufacturers are expanding their global supply chains into specific, and sometimes under-publicized, areas of the world. We'll reveal what impact this expansion will have on suppliers, customers and material providers. If you have an idea for this article, please contact [eMedia Editor Adrienne Selko, *aselko@industryweek.com*](mailto:Adrienne.Selko@industryweek.com).

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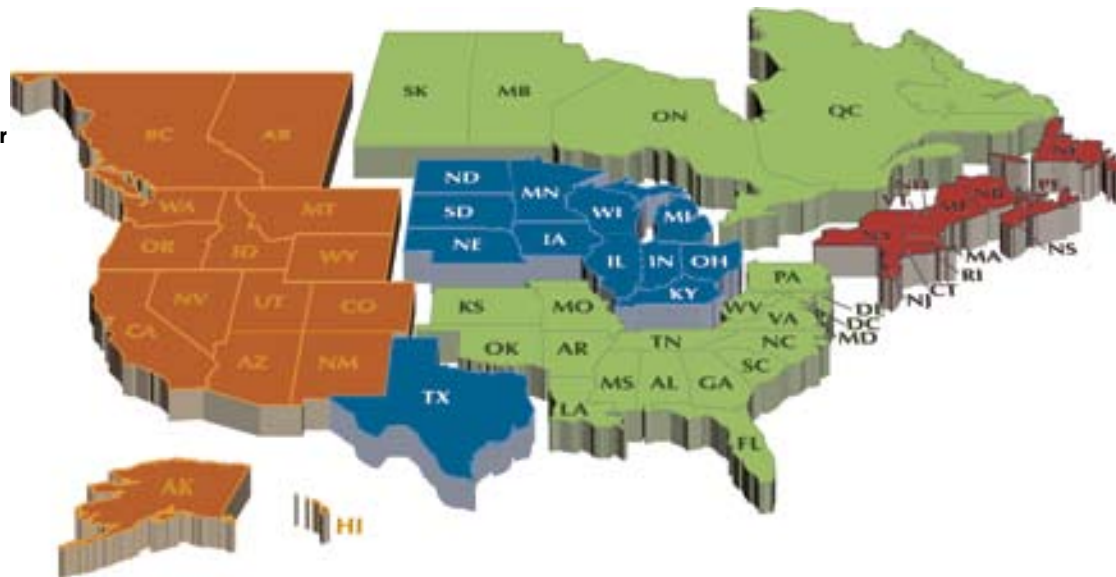
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