

tmta talk

A Publication of the Tooling, Manufacturing & Technologies Association

From Rob's Roost

by: Rob Dumont,
President & CEO



“Talking Turkey from The Roost!”

That great American celebration, Thanksgiving, is in the wings and arrives on the 22nd of November so perhaps this is a good time to “Talk Turkey”!

During my five plus years tenure at the helm of your Association, the staff of the MTA/TMTA have worked diligently to keep the level of dues under control and we have been successful (in my view) in that there has not been a dues increase during that time.

The good news is that *we are not considering an increase in dues* so if that is a concern to you, put it aside.

The “Talking Turkey” part of all this is the ‘WHY’ we are not considering an increase in dues. We have a number of **Endorsed Service Providers** and, as is disclosed on the back page of each edition of **TMTA Talk**, your association receives a benefit from those Endorsed Service Providers when you patronize them. For the sake of certainty; that benefit translates into cash flow that supports the operations and function of the association.

In addition the TMTA has its own insurance agency and a relationship with the Ralph C. Wilson Agency (RCWA) now the Insurance Arm of the TMTA. Through RCWA we are now able

to provide a full range of insurance products for our members and their employees.

The cost of insurance to you does not rise as a result of this arrangement; all insurers pay a commission on the sale of insurance products and the TMTA shares in that process and is thus able to finance, among other things, its advocacy efforts on your behalf. On the other hand, in terms of insurance and the cost thereof, TMTA and RCWA together have identified the best products for you at the best available prices. Indeed we are currently putting together a program that will have the potential to pay participating members a dividend annually. I say “the potential” because a dividend program is tied to claims experience and is paid out of ‘profit’. So, if the program has a year with low claims a dividend will be available and, conversely, if the year has high claims there will be no dividend. Thus, the importance of risk management!

From all of this I would invite, indeed *urge* you to contact the TMTA insurance agency for a quote. You have nothing to lose and stand to gain substantially. Our products and service are second to none and as an association we keep your best interests as our priority.

You will shortly be receiving mailings from Reliance Standard relative to products now available through the TMTA insurance agency. Be sure to review the offerings, they are designed with you in mind. We have together with RCWA ‘vetted’ these offerings and consider them to be among the best available at competitive prices. Of course we market other products that our members need and we will be pleased to quote you on your entire package of insurance needs.

Advocacy for manufacturers is critical and it is expensive. Help us to manage that expense by participating in our insurance programs. Obviously there is no obligation but the fact is: you need the products and if you participate in our agency we can support the critical advocacy efforts that we are engaged in.

Inside This Issue

- Page 2 Health News
- Page 3 TMTA Blog / TMTA Website Sponsor
- Page 4 E-Mail Mistakes to Avoid
- Page 5 Legislative Update / TMTA Board of Directors Needs You! / Meeting with Rep. Duncan Hunter
- Page 6 FYI
- Page 7 Welcome New Members / Members In the News / You're #1 to Us!
- Page 8 Marketplace / Carpe Diem! / TMTA Endorsed Providers List / CPI-U/W-Inflation Talk

TMTA Calendar of Events - October 2007

Remember, visit the TMTA website Calendar at www.thetmta.com for detailed, up-to-date information on all events.

- 17 TMTA Board of Directors meets
- 18 MTMIC Annual Meeting
11:00 am @ Red Run Golf Course, Royal Oak



Important Online Prescription Tool

Did you know that you can manage your prescription use online through BCBSM? If your BCBSM card has the DRAMS logo and the phrase “Rx claims: Bill Medimpact” in the lower right-hand corner, you can access the Online Drug Benefit Tool from the BCBSM website. (If your member ID card does not include a reference to Medimpact, you may still be able to access your account on another website. Click on ‘Locate or verify your self-service Web site now’ from the BCBSM web page for assistance.)

By using this important tool, you can access information about your prescription drug benefit, locate a pharmacy, review a record of prescriptions that have been filled for you and view the total cost of your drugs and your estimated co-payment amount.

You should use this important tool to manage your prescription coverage. Review the filled prescription list to insure that a pharmacy is not billing BCBSM for drugs you never received. If there are discrepancies, contact BCBSM’s anti-fraud division at 800-482-3787.

Also, you can print a list of your prescription costs, by individual, by year, to show what has been spent for income tax purposes.

Registration is a one-time process. On your first visit, you’ll have the opportunity to create a user name and password. When registering as a spouse or dependent, use the first five letters of your first name and your full last name. Each individual has to register separately.

Go to www.bcbsm.com – I am a Member – Prescription Drugs – Drug Coverage & Claims Online – Drug Benefit Tool. If you have any questions, contact Elaine at TMTA at 248-488-0300, ext. 1309.

Beginning early first quarter 2008, CD ROMs currently being used to convey benefit information to members will no longer be sent to groups. Instead, groups, agents and members will now be able to retrieve Online Benefit Information through their respective bcbsm.com secured portals.

This move provides benefit information that’s more easily accessible, timely and understandable. In order to access the online benefit information, users must register with the bcbsm.com site and be prepared to sign on each time they access it.

One-third of American workers are likely to be disabled for an extended period of time. Who will pay their bills while they are off work? Individuals may think that they are too young to have an illness or accident or that it will never happen to them. Where will they be financially when it does? Disability insurance is the most overlooked insurance available.

Disability insurance provides partial income replacement so that if someone becomes disabled, they need not dive into savings, sell a home or radically change how they live. Working people are more likely to become disabled than they are to die prematurely, even though twice as many people have life insurance as have disability coverage, according to industry statistics.

According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, illness is a major factor in home foreclosures. The major cause of disability is chronic disease—cardiovascular, musculoskeletal problems and cancer are leading diagnoses—rather than work-related mishaps or non-workplace accidents.

Since its inception in 1933, TMTA has been using its mass purchasing power to promote lower cost services. We have been offering group life and disability insurance since 1950 with lower rates than individual companies could qualify for on their own. Today TMTA offers both employer paid and voluntary coverage options (which has no cost to the employer) with no minimum participation rates for voluntary plans.

Whether you are interested in adding insurance benefits for your employees or enhancing your existing benefits plan, contact TMTA’s insurance agent, Dennis Campbell, at 248-355-1414 or dennis@thetmta.com for more information.

Do You Know the Basics of Proper Hand Washing?

It is getting to be cold and flu season again and studies show that Americans are getting lax about washing their hands. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, hand washing is the single most important preventive step for reducing disease transmission. This includes infectious diseases such as the common cold and flu as well as Hepatitis A, E. coli, and Salmonella.

A study done by the American Society for Microbiology and the Soap and Detergent Association in 2006 showed that 77 percent of Americans washed their hands in public rest rooms—a 6 percent decline from 2005.

Dr. Ignaz Semmelweis was the first physician to recognize and promote the medical benefits of hand washing in 1847. At first his theory that infections were transmitted from one patient to another by the unclean hands of the medical staff was ridiculed and dismissed. Although he eventually demonstrated that when the hospital staff washed their hands with antiseptic soap and water before examining patients there was a dramatic decline in the death rate on the hospital wards, it was only after his death that he was recognized as a pioneer of antiseptic policy and the prevention of nosocomial disease.

Alcohol-based hand sanitizers can be a substitute for hand washing if soap and water are not available, as long as they contain more than 60 percent ethyl alcohol or isopropanol or a combination of the two. Available in a squeeze bottle, sanitizer gel is alcohol based and doesn't need to be rinsed off.

After using hand sanitizers, bacteria don't regrow as fast, which keeps residual micro-flora that reside in deeper layers of skin from coming to the surface. But hand sanitizers don't remove dirt; you need soap, water and friction for that. Dirt and other substances on your hands make the gel less effective.

Health care workers, for example, can use waterless hand sanitizers in place of soap and water because the employees routinely clean their hands several times an hour. However, others, like food-service workers, should not use hand sanitizers because their hands are contaminated with matter that interferes with the gel, such as fatty materials.

Antibacterial soap, which contains chemicals triclosan or triclocarban, must be used with water and is marketed as having the ability to kill bacteria. It's no more effective than using non-antibacterial soap and doesn't prevent colds or flu, which are caused by viruses, not bacteria.

Soap and water is the gold standard, especially if you hands are visibly soiled. The most common mistake is applying the soap to dry hands. Wet your hands first. Soap doesn't necessarily kill germs, but it makes your hands slippery so that your scrubbing loosens the germs and they slide down the sink.

Follow these instructions for proper hand washing and to prevent infections:

- * Wet your hands with warm, running water.
- * Apply liquid or bar soap and lather well.
- * Rub your hands together vigorously for at least 15 seconds (about the amount of time it takes you to sing Happy Birthday). Scrub all surfaces including the backs of your hands, wrists, between your fingers and under your fingernails.
- * Rinse well.

- * Dry your hands with a clean or disposable towel.
- * Use a towel to turn off the faucet and, if in a public rest room, also use the towel to open the door to leave.

And, speaking of cold and flu season, don't forget about "respiratory etiquette": Cover your nose and mouth when you sneeze, cough or blow your nose; use a tissue whenever possible; wash your hands frequently and thoroughly; and stay home when you have a cough and fever.

Do you have something to say, but no one to listen?

Visit the **TMTA Blog** and voice your opinion. Use the TMTA Blog Button on the homepage of our website at www.thetmta.com.

This can be a very powerful forum for everyone, but only if you use it. Post your message today!



Be A TMTA Website Sponsor

Promote your company while showing your support for the TMTA by becoming a **TMTA website sponsor**. For a 3, 6 or 12 month sponsorship, you can have your company's logo with a link to your own website prominently displayed on the TMTA homepage. In addition, a separate 'TMTA web sponsors page' will detail what your company is all about.

For more information, contact Elaine at 248-488-0300, ext 1309 or e-mail to elaine@thetmta.com.



When black cats prowl and
pumpkins gleam.
May luck be yours on Halloween.

~Author Unknown

E-Mail Mistakes to Avoid

E-mail is a necessity for many businesses, but is it being used effectively at your company? Take the time to make sure your employees don't fall into the pitfalls of using e-mail improperly and risk alienating fellow employees as well as clients and customers that may cost your business money.

Listed below are some of the common e-mail mistakes to avoid:

- * Don't e-mail when you are angry. Always wait until you calm down and have someone else edit your e-mail before you send it.
- * Don't use sarcasm. One hundred percent of the tone in an e-mail comes from the words you use and how you use them. Since there is no tone of voice or body language for the reader to take cues from it is easy to offend someone when you do not mean to do it.
- * Don't gossip when writing an e-mail. You never know who the e-mail can and will be forwarded to—even accidentally, so be careful what you write unless you want everyone to know it.
- * Don't ever think that you are anonymous when sending an e-mail. All e-mails contain visible information that can trace back to the sender in the header under 'received'—even if you are sending it from a phony e-mail account.
- * Don't use all UPPERCASE or all lowercase and use correct punctuation. Uppercase is the e-mail equivalent of yelling. All lowercase and/or no punctuation indicates that you are too lazy to hit the shift key and therefore not necessarily the kind of person someone would want to do business with.
- * Don't use unprofessional addresses when e-mailing from a business. Create a professional business e-mail address and never change it. Changing your business e-mail address is like moving your brick-n-mortar business. People will lose track of you.
- * Don't use funky backgrounds or stationary in your business e-mails. Colors usually show up differently on different computers and it may make your e-mail hard if not impossible to read, besides looking unprofessional.
- * Don't forget to follow the principles of good writing. Carry a professional tone. Create a positive impression by using proper grammar and spelling, using a clear, descriptive subject line, and by not using jargon and abbreviations that might mystify some readers.
- * Don't believe that an erased e-mail is gone forever. Even if you delete your messages, they can still exist in backup folders, your computer's hard drive and/or on remote servers for years and can be retrieved by skilled professionals. Think of e-mails as permanent documents that belong to your employer.
- * Don't assume people have time to read lengthy messages. Whenever possible, be short and to the point. Most e-mail readers have a short attention span. It is easy for the reader to think he knows where the message is going and to move on to the next message missing information buried at the end of a long e-mail. Also, make sure the recipient understand exactly what you expect of them or if your message is simply an FYI.
- * Don't ever send an e-mail with out rereading it thoroughly. Look for spelling and grammatical errors—don't depend on spell-checker to catch them. Double check the 'To' line to make sure the recipient is the intended one. Make sure that if you have an attachment it really is attached. Remember that people will judge you subconsciously on your mistakes.
- * Don't be trigger happy with the "Reply All" button. Remember that when you hit "Reply All" your e-mail message is being sent to everyone included on the original e-mail; while the "Reply" button sends your message only to the original sender. Know the difference.
- * Don't forget when you are forwarding an e-mail, erase the heading information from the original e-mail so the new recipient does not receive the e-mail addresses from the prior recipients. Spammers can pick this information up.
- * Don't put anything in an e-mail that can come back to haunt you. E-mails can be used to make legally binding contracts, major financial decisions and conduct professional meetings. Don't make promises or commitments that you may not be able to keep or disclose private company information. Remember what Elliot Spitzer, Governor of NYS and former Attorney General of NYS said "Never write when you can talk. Never talk when you can nod. And never put anything in an e-mail."
- * Don't forget to back up your e-mails. Just as you would keep a hard copy of other important business and personal documents, it is important that you regularly back up your e-mail to preserve a record in case your computer or e-mail crashes.



Legislative Update

by: *Judy Augenstein,*
Legislative Consultant, Lansing



Proposals are being discussed in Lansing to expand the existing legislative term limit law. Under one proposal, the law would be expanded to allow lawmakers to serve a combined 14 years in the Capitol instead of the current six years in the House and eight years in the Senate. This would allow a House member to serve seven terms in the lower chamber at the expense of forfeiting an opportunity to move to the Senate. Another plan would allow lawmakers to serve a total of 12 years in the legislature. They could serve all 12 years in one chamber if they so chose. Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, commented that "The proposal should be tied to something else, some government responsibility, maybe some ethics issues for elected officials. The public needs to have a reason to vote for term limits. One of the ways you do that is to make sure responsibilities are included." Bishop wants to close the revolving door through which former lawmakers immediately become lobbyists. He said he is also considering "rules of professional conduct for legislators. Other states have that and it is not too much to ask."

Governor Jennifer Granholm told participants at a recent conference on energy that renewable energy projects will help rebuild Michigan's economy and create jobs in the state. Granholm said "We have incredible alternative energy resources in Michigan from our lakes, farmland and forests to our industrial capability to our world class intellectual and R&D talent." Granholm has set in motion an economic plan to diversify the state's economy with a focus on alternative energy. "In the 20th century, Michigan was the state that put the nation and world on wheels. In the 21st century, we want to be the source of the renewable energy infrastructure that other states and nations will need." In addition to working with lawmakers to develop the state's renewable portfolio standard and expand alternative energy renaissance zones, Granholm has proposed investing more than \$100 million over the next three years to grow this specific sector of Michigan's economy.

The House Renewable Energy Work Group plans to release their conclusions relative to renewable fuels within the next few weeks. Representative David Palsrok, R-Manistee, member House Energy & Technology Committee and Rep. Jeff Mayes, D-Bay City, Chair, House Agriculture Committee, are the legislative members charged with making recommendations pertaining to renewable fuels and a Michigan RPS. The Senate Energy Policy and Public Utilities Committee serves as the Senate Work Group on Renewable Energy. The House and Senate work group findings will eventually merge into a package of bills which will include legislation to create a Renewable Portfolio Standard.

Senator Randy Richardville, R-Monroe, is working with Senator Alan Sanborn, R-Richmond, Chair, Senate Economic Development and Regulatory Reform Committee, to set a date to schedule SB 680 for debate. The bill was introduced at the request of TMTA. The measure amends the Renaissance Recovery Zone Act by allowing companies with 75 employees or more to participate in the Act as long as they negotiate a portion of their special services tax with local government. I am working to get this bill passed into law by the end of the calendar year.

The TMTA Board of Directors Needs You!



The Tooling, Manufacturing & Technologies Association is governed by a 12 person Board of Directors. Each year at least 4 seats on the Board are up for election; directors are elected to serve 3-year terms.

Please consider submitting your name for election. It is a voluntary position, but an extremely important one. The Board makes decisions that effect the Association and its member companies.

If you are interested in being on the ballot for the term beginning in 2008, please let us know by sending either a fax to 248-488-0500 or an e-mail to ron@mtaonline.com by Wednesday, October 31st.

Meeting with Presidential Contender Rep. Duncan Hunter

by: *Brian Sullivan,*
Director of Sales, Marketing & Communications

On Monday, October 8th, Rob Dumont and I attended a meeting and luncheon for Rep. Duncan Hunter, presidential candidate and co-sponsor of the current Chinese currency manipulation bill in the House. Rep. Hunter was in Detroit to participate in the Republican Presidential Debate on Tuesday, October 9th, in Detroit.

E & E Manufacturing Company, Inc., a member of TMTA, hosted this event. Rep. Hunter spoke to invited manufacturers about trade reform issues like the Chinese currency manipulation bill that he has co-sponsored as well as other trade reform issues of concern to small- and medium-sized manufacturers.

Rep. Hunter asked TMTA to assure TMTA members that he is and always has been a champion for small- and mid-sized manufacturers and for trade reform legislation that impacts American manufacturing.



October 14-20 is National Drug-Free Work Week. The purpose of Drug-Free Work Week is to educate employers, employees and the general public about the importance of being drug-free as an essential component of a safe and healthful workplace.

The Hazelden Foundation, a national nonprofit organization that helps people reclaim their lives from the disease of addiction, found that while most human resource practitioners recognize substance abuse and addiction as among the most serious problems faced in today's workplace, few companies proactively address these issues with their employees.

To learn how to participate in Drug-Free Work Week and for ways to promote drug-free workplace messages, visit the U.S. Department of Working Partners for an Alcohol- and Drug-Free Workplace Program website at www.dol.gov/working-partners.

Ideas range from training supervisors to recognize the signs of substance abuse and developing a written drug-free workplace policy to distributing payroll messages and display materials to print listing sources of help for workers with substance abuse problems.

The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) is now providing a **direct link to a complete list of national consumer product recalls** at www.recalls.gov. Several federal agencies routinely monitor the quality of consumer products purchased in America. From time to time, these agencies, in cooperation with private industry, issue both mandatory and voluntary recalls on items that might pose a risk to U.S. citizens.

Timberland Company is voluntarily recalling Timberland PRO Direct Attach Steel Toe Series boots made in the Dominican Republic and sold nationwide between September 2005 and September 2007. Product testing has demonstrated that the boots may not comply with applicable safety standards for compression and impact resistance.

These boots have a 4 digit date code ending in 35 and beginning with a number from 25 to 45 (e.g. 2535, 2635...4535). Consult the green loop tag inside the boot to determine whether your boots are subject to this recall.

Consumers can contact the Timberland Company to receive a free replacement pair of boots at 1-800-445-5545.

OSHA's Safety and Health Topics page has added a Storage Tank Module. It addresses the requirements and solutions for working in permit and non-permit required confined space in above ground storage tanks.

The module provides examples of hazards and possible abatement methods and developing and implementing a safety and health program as well as other useful information relevant to the industry.

Visit their website at www.osha.gov/dcsp/products/topics/storage tank/index.html.

The Michigan Department of Treasury has activated a website dedicated to the new Michigan Business Tax (MBT) in an effort to educate Michigan's business community, tax practitioners and others on the MBT which takes effect January 1, 2008.

The website features a webinar offering definitions and details on different elements of the MBT such as Nexus, Unitary Filing and Apportionment. Future webinars are planned. There is a range of information and analysis, from a broad overview to a section-by-section description of Public Act 36 of 2007. There is also an MBT Estimator, a FAQ section and much more.

With the MBT taking effect in January, taxpayers and their preparers should note the following filing information and dates: Taxpayers expecting to have a 2008 tax liability exceeding \$800 must file quarterly estimates. Quarterly Estimate Return forms and instructions will be mailed to businesses currently registered for the SBT in early January 2008. Forms will also be posted on the MBT site. For Calendar Year Filers, MBT returns and payments will be due April 15, July 15, and October 15 of 2008 and January 15, 2009. Returns and payments for Fiscal Year Filers are due the 15th day of the first month after each quarter. Annual MBT Returns are due the last day of the 4th month after the tax year end, with payment of final liability.

The MBT website can be viewed at www.michigan.gov/mbt.

The Michigan individual income tax rate is increased from 3.9% to 4.35% effective October 1, 2007. The 4.35% tax rate will remain in place through September 30, 2011 when the rate will be reduced by .1% on each October 1 for years 2011 through 2014. The rate returns to 3.9% on October 1, 2015. The Michigan Department of Treasury has released updated withholding tables for the remainder of 2007 that reflect the new tax rate. Find them at www.michigan.gov/treasury.



Welcome New Members!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome the following new member to the Tooling, Manufacturing & Technologies Association:

- ❖ **XCEL Mold and Machine, Inc.** of North Canton, OH, specializing in building plastic molds and diecast dies.



Members In The News

True Industries Inc. of Roseville has been selected for inclusion in the state's Tool & Die Recovery Zone. They will join the existing Eastern Michigan Tool & Die Collaborative. They will receive tax abatements for up to 15 years and the distinction will provide an important economic boost for the local economy.

State Rep. Frank Accavittii (D-Eastpointe) says "The tool and die industry is a vital sector of Michigan's economy. By allowing these local tool and die companies to become more competitive through collaboration, the state is supporting their growth—and that helps spur our economy."

According to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, the company is taking advantage of changes in the original statute that allow for membership in existing tooling coalitions. "There is strength in numbers and individual companies can benefit from the economies of scale and shared knowledge available to them in this cooperative setting." The zones were created to give the struggling industry a boost and help small tool and die companies become more competitive.

True Industries has been a member of the TMTA since its inception in 1990 and specializes in manufacturing tools, dies, jigs and fixtures; wholesale industrial machinery and equipment; and plate metal fabricators.

Our congratulations and best wishes to the above member. Let us know what is happening at your company. We would like to share it with all our readers.



You're #1 to Us!

From time to time, we like to acknowledge and thank our long-standing members for their support and participation in the TMTA and its programs.

- **Reska Spline**, Warren—member since 1941;
- **Schwartz Boring**, Warren—member since 1942;
- **Springfield Tool**, Greenville, SC—member since 1949;
- **Perch Machining**, Detroit—member since 1950;
- **Buckingham Tool**, Livonia—member since 1951;
- **Paramount Precision**, Oak Park—member since 1952;
- **Republic Die & Tool**, Belleville—member since 1959;
- **ThyssenKrupp Krause**, Auburn Hills—member since 1959;
- **Composite Forgings**, Detroit—member since 1961;
- **Atlas Tool**, Roseville—member since 1962;
- **Rayco Welding**, Warren—member since 1963;
- **Hydro-Craft**, Rochester Hills—member since 1964;
- **Erie Engineering**, Troy—member since 1966;
- **Colman Machining**, Detroit—member since 1968;
- **Valiant Industries**, Sterling Hts.—member since 1969;
- **Metro Machine**, Romulus—member since 1969;
- **Universal Cutting Tools**, Warren—member since 1971;
- **Maro Precision Tool**, Livonia—member since 1972;
- **JPT-Joint Production**, Macomb—member since 1972;
- **Jolico/J.B. Tool Inc.**, Utica—member since 1972;
- **Hydra Lock Corp.**, Mt. Clemens—member since 1972;
- **Schwartz Precision Gear**, Warren—member since 1972;
- **Conner Engineering**, Clinton Twp.—member since 1972;
- **Schwartz Machine Co.**, Warren—member since 1973;
- **Easom Automated Sys.**, Mdsn. Hts.—member since 1973;
- **Dependable Gage**, Oak Park—member since 1973;
- **Hancock Enterprises**, Taylor—member since 1973;
- **Future Products Tool**, Clawson—member since 1974; and
- **A.G. Davis/AA Gage**, Sterling Hts.—member since 1974.

TMTA's sincerest thanks to these long-standing members!

The Marketplace

Seeking a tenant that will be value added to our existing business. Lease up to 10,000 sq. feet of office and manufacturing space within our 30,000 sq. foot facility. We are a state-of-the-art tool and die facility located in Chesterfield Twp., MI. We have 20 ton cranes, 1,000 ton presses with feeders, CNC machining centers, wire EDM, CMM machine, standard die shop machinery, multiple CAD design stations, gated outdoor storage and much more.

We will share the use and cost of all equipment within our facility with a suitable tenant. A suitable tenant might be a mold shop, prototype, fabrication, fixture, stamping and/or design and engineering facility. This is a great opportunity with millions of dollars of equipment in place.

Contact: Mark B. at (586) 948-5300 or send an e-mail to estimating@americandie.com, by appointment only.



CARPE DIEM!

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
ENDS ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH.

REMEMBER TO SET YOUR
CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR!



List of Endorsed Service Providers

- ❖ **Reliance Standard/Ameritas** (life/dental insurance)
TMTA contacts: Dennis Campbell 248-355-1414
Stella Krupansky 248-488-0300 ext. 1310
- ❖ **Blue Cross Blue Shield/BCN** (health insurance)
TMTA contacts: Dennis Campbell 248-355-1414
Elaine Burger-Laskosky 248-488-0300 ext. 1309
- ❖ **Federated Ins.** (property & casualty insurance)
Provider contact: Joseph Busby 800-428-4143
- ❖ **Freedom One Financial Group** (401(k) programs)
Provider contact: Lesley Goodwin 248-620-8100
- ❖ **John M. Packer & Associates** (unemployment)
Provider contact: Nathan Wiest 800-482-2971
- ❖ **Custom Telecom** (phone/communications)
Provider contact: Kathy Schaumburger 866-332-1200

TMTA receives a benefit from its Endorsed Providers when you, as a member, patronize them. This is one way we are able to maintain the level of dues.

Inflation Talk

CPI-W Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

Month	82-84	1967	57-59
Aug 2007	203.199	605.267	703.92*
July	203.700	606.759	705.66*
June	203.906	607.374	706.37*
May	203.661	606.643	705.52*
April	202.130	602.083	700.22*
March	200.612	597.561	694.96*
Feb	198.544	591.403	687.80*
Jan	197.559	588.467	684.38*

CPI-U All Urban Consumers

Month	82-84	1967	57-59
Aug 2007	207.917	622.827	724.34*
July	208.299	623.970	725.67*
June	208.352	624.129	725.85*
May	207.949	622.921	724.45*
April	206.686	619.140	720.05*
March	205.352	615.145	715.40*
Feb	203.499	609.594	708.95*
Jan	202.416	606.348	705.17*

Note: August 2007 CPI-W represents a 1.8% increase from one year ago; CPI-U a 2.0% increase.

* Base Year 1957-59 is no longer released. BLS has issued the following conversion factors from the 82-84 year:

CPI-W—.2886674 CPI-U—.2870447

TMTA TALK®

A Publication of the Tooling, Manufacturing & Technologies Association

P.O. Box 9151 Phone (248) 488-0300
Farmington Hills, MI 48333 Fax (248) 488-0500

President and CEO — Robert J. Dumont
Copy Editor, Layout / Design — Elaine F. Burger-Laskosky

TMTA TALK is distributed free to all TMTA members.
Copyright © 2007 Tooling, Mfg. & Tech. Association All Rights Reserved

Deadline for submission of news, articles, letters, cartoons and Marketplace items is the 15th of each month.
Send/Fax to TMTA—Attention: TMTA Talk Editor.