



For Immediate Release:
Sept. 8, 2006

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Website to Foster Manufacturing in Great Lakes Region **www.greatlakesmanufacturing.org an extension of the** ***Great Lakes Manufacturing Council***

Detroit – The Secretariat of the Great Lakes Manufacturing Council (GLMC) today announced the launch of a new website www.greatlakesmanufacturing.org aimed at supporting the council's efforts to promote and support manufacturing throughout the Great Lakes states and Ontario which would collectively represent the 3rd biggest economy in the world in terms of gross national product (GNP).

"The Great Lakes region with its rich history and knowledge base in manufacturing and innovation deserves much greater respect than it currently garners," said Ed Wolking, Jr., executive vice president of the Detroit Regional Chamber and member of the GLMC Secretariat. "This new website is a virtual extension of the newly formed Great Lakes Manufacturing Council and will help us raise awareness and visibility of the continuing importance of manufacturing within this region and beyond."

The Great Lakes Manufacturing Council was formed to maintain and increase the competitive advantage for manufacturing and preserve the prosperity of the Great Lakes region. Its efforts are concentrated on four focus areas: image, workforce, innovation and logistics/borders with partners in Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Ontario and Wisconsin. The GLMC is in the process of becoming a non-profit 501(c) 3 under the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

According to Helen Gagel, vice president External Relations of the Chicago Manufacturing Center, "The Great Lakes region is a global nexus for transportation, logistics, information, and--of course--manufacturing. The Council will be a unifying voice for the many advantages of locating and growing in the nation's industrial heartland."

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