



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **The Association for Manufacturing Excellence Forms Alliance with the Chicagoland Lean Enterprise Consortium**

**ROLLING MEADOWS, Ill.—August 9, 2011—**The Association for Manufacturing Excellence (AME), is pleased to announce its recently formed alliance with the Chicagoland Lean Enterprise Consortium (CLEC).

“This mutually beneficial partnership will offer both AME and CLEC members new opportunities, from networking to world-class knowledge and education, that will help improve everyone’s bottom lines,” says Bill Baker, VP of Alliances for AME. “This partnership is a natural extension of the AME’s Rebirth of Manufacturing campaign that focuses on growing the manufacturing sector and employment in North America through education, awareness and advocacy.”

The formalized agreement between AME and CLEC is the framework for developing a mutually beneficial partnership which will:

- Facilitate an increased awareness of world-class manufacturing processes, systems and methodologies that maintain and enhance a company’s competitive position in the global marketplace
- Increase the appreciation for, and understanding of, manufacturing’s positive role in our North American economic growth and prosperity
- Recognize manufacturing entities for their enterprise excellence in operations and processes focused toward “world-class” accomplishments in quality, cost, delivery and business results
- Facilitate inter-company collaboration to accelerate the sharing, challenging and leveraging of best practices for continuous business-performance improvement

This alliance offers support for AME and CLEC by promoting already-existing events and conferences, organizing joint workshops, sharing articles for publication and developing training materials. These efforts are designed to further the missions of both organizations, providing members with the tools to effect growth in North American manufacturing.

For more information on AME and its member benefits, please visit [www.ame.org](http://www.ame.org). For details on CLEC, visit <http://www.cumberlandchicago.com/hpc/index.html>.

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#### **About the Association for Manufacturing Excellence**

The Association for Manufacturing Excellence (AME) is the premier not-for-profit organization dedicated to the journey of continuous improvement and enterprise excellence. AME’s membership is composed of a trusted network of volunteers who are committed to leveraging the practitioner-to-practitioner and company-to-company shared-learning experience. Through engaging workshops, seminars, plant tours and industry-leading conferences, AME members are continually discovering and implementing new continuous improvement strategies and best practices. AME offers its members a multitude of valuable resources to help them stay abreast of current industry developments, and improve the skills,

competitiveness, and overall success of their organizations. Join AME in leading the “*Rebirth of Manufacturing Jobs in North America*.” For more information, visit [www.ame.org](http://www.ame.org) or email [info@ame.org](mailto:info@ame.org).

**About the Chicagoland Lean Enterprise Consortium**

The Chicagoland Lean Enterprise Consortium (CLEC) is a business consortium of companies based in the Chicago area and focused on application of Lean operating methods to continuously improve their business performance. It is facilitated by Cumberland HPC Chicago. To learn more, contact CLEC at [information@CumberlandChicago.com](mailto:information@CumberlandChicago.com) or 630.789.8262.