



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Find Your Idea at AME Chicago 2012

CHICAGO—September 25, 2012—The Association for Manufacturing Excellence is challenging its members and the manufacturing industry at large to come together at its 28th Annual Excellence Inside International Conference. An expected 2,500 manufacturing practitioners from around the world will network in Chicago October 15 to 19, 2012, to gain insights from keynote speakers, share best practices with other professionals and explore world-class facilities.

The conference will include plant tours, presentations, collaborative workshops, special interest sessions, companions programs and an inspiring list of keynote speakers:

- **Captain Mark Kelly** – American astronaut, retired U.S. Navy captain, best-selling author and an experienced naval aviator who flew combat missions during the Gulf War. He's also the winner of many awards, including the Legion of Merit, two Defense Superior Service Medals and two Distinguished Flying Crosses.
- **Dan Ariens** – president and CEO of Ariens Co. since 1998. Dan's leadership has been defined by a set of five core values and 15 management principles. A strong proponent of lean manufacturing principles, Dan has created a culture of continuous improvement.
- **Daniel Pink** is the author of several bestselling books including, *Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us*, which is a *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *Boston Globe*, *Los Angeles Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle* and *Publishers Weekly* bestseller.
- **Jason Jennings** – is one of the most successful and prolific business and leadership authors in the world, writing among others *Less is More* and *Think BIG – Act Small* and founder of Jennings-McGlothlin & Company.
- **Dr. Patricia Gabow** – joined Denver Health in 1973 as chief of the Renal Division and is nationally recognized for her work in increasing access to basic health care for all Coloradans.
- **Mike Abrashoff** – took command of the worst-performing ship in the fleet and made it No. 1 by changing his leadership style and the culture – not the crew. Abrashoff will address the challenges most on the minds of leaders in these challenging times: collaboration, commitment, cohesion, accountability, engagement, rapid and continual innovation and engaging employees.

For details or to register for the AME 2012 Annual Excellence Inside International Conference, visit <http://www.ameconference.org>, or contact [Veronica Ceaser](#), registration coordinator, at (224) 232-5980, ext. 223. Additionally, follow the hashtag #AMEConf2012 and [@AMEConnect](#) for updates via Twitter.

About the Association for Manufacturing Excellence (AME)

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 and 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 "Revitalization of Manufacturing in North America." For more information, visit www.ame.org or email info@ame.org.