

CMA Weekly Update



CMA Weekly Update – July 2, 2021

Domestic travel is taking off again, but [international travel](#) is lagging due to a confluence of pandemic related challenges. Restrictions for U.S. bound travelers continue to negatively impact international manufacturing executives, technical specialists and students and is a particularly thorny issue for our association partners who rely on an international presence at U.S. business events and trade shows. While there are processes in place to allow for travel exceptions, processing backlogs and unclear, narrowly applied guidelines are negating the ability to use them. If your association is having difficulty with the issuance of Visas and/or National Interest Exceptions from the U.S. State Department, we would like to know more. Please [reach out](#) to provide input on how this issue is affecting your organization or your members.

Key Issues

Infrastructure Update The NAM issued its support of the bipartisan infrastructure plan developed by senators in both parties and endorsed by President Biden this week. In a joint [statement](#) from top manufacturing leaders, we urged Congress to move swiftly to pass it. The plan will significantly enhance manufacturers' competitiveness and, consistent with our advocacy, not raise corporate tax rates. NAM also noted that we intend to work with Congress to address issues that target specific manufacturing sectors with new taxes.

Supreme Court Safeguards Manufacturing Associations Yesterday the Supreme Court delivered a decisive ruling upholding manufacturers' First Amendment rights—and the rights of all who support nonprofit organizations. The court issued a 6-3 decision in *Americans for Prosperity Foundation v. Bonta, Attorney General of California* in which the NAM and many CMA partners joined together to file an amicus brief. Together, we supported the effort to challenge a California law that forced nonprofits and charities to disclose donor information and violate donor privacy. More details about the ruling can be found in our statement [here](#).

Delta Variant Threat Increasing Health officials are issuing warnings about the rise of the COVID-19 delta variant and the likelihood that it will become the dominant Coronavirus strain in the US. Vaccines have proven to be effective against the strain. Since nearly all COVID-19 deaths in the United States are now occurring among [unvaccinated people](#), for the unvaccinated, the more contagious variant poses a larger threat. The NAM and The Manufacturing Institute continue to spread the word about vaccine efficacy through our [This Is Our Shot](#) project. Its resources include advice on

talking to [vaccine-hesitant workers](#) and guidelines for putting together vaccination clinics.

NAM Steps up the Fight Against Counterfeits Counterfeit goods are a threat to manufacturers and the consumers they serve. The problem affects a broad range of manufactured goods from automotive parts and children's toys to medical devices and pharmaceuticals. In recent weeks, the NAM has been highly visible and active fighting for manufacturers against fake and counterfeit products, including:

- Aligning with legislation to make e-commerce platforms liable for counterfeits if they fail to take key steps to keep them off their platforms (SHOP SAFE Act). It would also provide incentives to screen potential vendors to prevent the entry of counterfeit products onto their platforms.
- Advocating for separate legislation (INFORM Consumers Act) that would boost counterfeiting enforcement by improving e-commerce sellers' transparency to consumers.
- Partnering on a [public awareness campaign](#) called United to Safeguard America from Illegal Trade) aimed at educating consumers about the danger of fake, counterfeit and illicit products.

Read more about this issue in our report, [Countering Counterfeits: The Real Threat of Fake Products](#).

Advocacy Opportunities

Infrastructure Engagement Opportunity As mentioned above, the NAM released a [statement](#) in support of the bipartisan infrastructure plan developed by senators in both parties and endorsed by President Biden, calling on Congress to move swiftly to pass it. The plan will significantly enhance manufacturers' competitiveness and, consistent with our advocacy, not raise corporate tax rates. NAM also noted the need to address superfund taxes and avoid targeting specific sectors with new taxes.

- **BEFORE THE WEEKEND:** Be on the lookout for an email about this early next week, but [here's your first chance](#) to join a joint association letter to Congress calling on them to enact the recent infrastructure framework.

[Let us know](#) if we can provide you with additional resources to engage your members.

CMA Member Highlights

- Kimberly Korbelt, Executive Director at **American Wire Producers Association** (AWPA) has announced her retirement, effective August 31 after nearly 37 years with AWPA. Kimberly served multiple terms on the CMA Board, most recently as the CMA Board Chair in 2019. Kimberly has been a valued member of the CMA and a true champion of manufacturing. We wish her the best.
- July is #NationalHotDogMonth and the **North American Meat Institute** (NAMI) is looking for three official Hot Dog Ambassadors. If you've mustered the courage, ketchup on the entry details [here](#) and relish your top dog status.

The NAM provides this weekly update with key content for our association partners. This is also a platform to highlight work of our CMA partners. [Shoot us a note](#) on any initiatives or messages that your organization has launched that we can share with others.

Coming up

- July 8: [Quarterly Economic Update for Manufacturers](#) (2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Eastern) Join us for a review of the latest survey results, current economic indicators, and how a focus on one of the top issues could positively impact several of the other top 10 issues.
- July 15: [Are Manufacturers Cyber-Ready for Today and Tomorrow?](#) (2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Eastern)
- July 22: [Trends in Manufacturing](#) (2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Eastern) For many manufacturers, the destabilizing force of the pandemic exposed weaknesses along the entire value chain. Join a discussion about ways manufacturing leaders are driving business agility in the wake of 2020, adapting to a new landscape across customer-facing roles, supply chains and digital systems, and preparing their business to be future-ready for the next decade.
- July 30: [D&I Roundtable: Recruiting and Retaining Employees with Differing Physical Abilities](#) (12:00-1:00 p.m. Eastern)
- August 4-6: [CMA 2021 Summer Leadership Conference](#) (Broadmoor Resort, Colorado Springs, Colorado). **Registration is OPEN** and space is filling up at the Broadmoor. Make your plans to [attend](#) in-person or virtually now.

Add to Calendar: [Apple](#) | [Google](#) | [Office 365](#) | [Outlook](#) | [Outlook.com](#) | [Yahoo](#)

- August 13: [D&I Roundtable: Recruiting and Retaining Talent Using Return-to-Work Programs](#) (12:00-1:00 p.m. Eastern)

Leadership Reads (and Listens)

A weekly roundup of leadership, operations and productivity articles, podcasts and micro-learning opportunities.

[5 Questions Boards Should Be Asking About Digital Transformation](#) HBR (7-minute read)

[Hybrid Work is Here to Stay. Now What](#) HBR IdeaCast Podcast (25-minute listen)

[Drum Up Enthusiasm for Return to Work with Strategies and Transparency](#) CNBC (5-minute read)

[The Power of Our Profession](#) ASAE Stronger by Association Podcast (60-minute Listen)

[Your Leadership Playbook for 2021](#) Entrepreneur (5-minute read)