

# CMA Weekly Update



## CMA Weekly Update – September 11, 2020

### Key Issues

- **The NAM's Latest Face Mask PSA:** As the NFL season kicks off, the NAM is out with a special new face covering public service announcement, teaming up with The Ohio Manufacturers' Association, OMA President Eric Burkland and the 1988 AFC Champion Cincinnati Bengals' Solomon Wilcotts, David Fulcher, Kevin Walker and Ira Hillary. You can view the full PSA [here](#), and it will run before, during and after this Sunday's Bengals' home opener. I'm excited to say that my brother, Kevin Walker (#59), played on that AFC Championship team.

And as a reminder, to help keep manufacturing facilities safe from community spread of COVID-19, you can ask your member companies to take part in the [Creators Respond Commitment](#). Click [here](#) for template emails to share with them.

- **NAM Advocates for More PREP Act Liability Protections:** NAM members have made lifesaving contributions to the nation's pandemic response, manufacturing medicines, vaccines, devices, diagnostics and other essential products. But as it stands, the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act provides immunity from legal liability to manufacturers only if their products are distributed by arrangement with the federal government or as part of an authorized government-led response. This leaves manufacturers of these products vulnerable to resource-draining, speculative lawsuits if they choose to sell them through private sector channels. So the NAM petitioned the Department of Health and Human Services today to expand the scope of the PREP Act's liability protections to cover countermeasures sold through private channels. This will help incentivize the safe production of more critical public health products. For more information, you can read our message to DHS [here](#).
- **Manufacturers Make Progress on State Liability Protections:** As the NAM continues to fight for commonsense liability protections for manufacturers and essential businesses at the federal level, our network of state partner associations has been leading the charge for critical companion legislation in state capitols. Thanks to the dogged advocacy of the Idaho Association of Commerce & Industry, the state legislature passed—and Gov. Brad Little signed into law—important liability protections. And in Ohio, our partners at the OMA championed similar legislation that is now on its way to Gov. Mike DeWine's desk. The NAM continues to work closely with our partners in every state to ensure they have the support and resources needed to pursue this issue in the months to come.

- **Third Quarter Manufacturers' Outlook Survey Results:** In case you missed it in [Input](#) this morning, manufacturers are reporting that federal COVID-19 relief programs are making a difference. In our third quarter Manufacturers' Outlook Survey, 82.7% of respondents said COVID-19 had or will have a negative impact on their cash flow, and 72.1% of them noted they had obtained funds through the Paycheck Protection Program, Main Street Lending Program or other liquidity programs—all of which were top legislative priorities for your NAM. You can click [here](#) for more results from the Outlook Survey.
- **USITC Launches Investigation** In June, the U.S. International Trade Commission launched an [investigation](#) into the “Economic Impact of Trade Agreements Implemented Under Trade Authorities Procedures, 2021 Report.” Under the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015, the USITC is required to prepare two reports on the economic impact on the United States of all trade agreements, with respect to which, Congress has enacted an implementing bill under trade authority procedures since Jan. 1, 1984. The USITC released the [first report](#) in June 2016.

As detailed in USITC [hearing](#) and [investigation](#) notices, a public hearing will be held on Oct. 6 at 9:30 a.m. EDT. Requests to appear at the hearing should be filed electronically by Sept. 21 at 5:15 p.m. EDT; prehearing briefs or statements should be filed by Sept. 25; an electronic copy of witness testimony must be filed by 12:00 p.m. EDT on Oct. 2; post-hearing briefs or statements should be filed by Oct. 23; and all other written submissions must be filed by Nov. 6. If you have any questions, please let me know.

- **Webinar: Hurricane Preparedness and Response in a Pandemic:** The challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic can complicate hurricane preparedness. As manufacturers assess their preparedness and response plans, we offer this opportunity for your association staff members to join a discussion with NAM partners SBP and Good360 next Monday, Sept. 14, at 1:00 p.m. EDT. This webinar will explain what manufacturers can do to prepare for a hurricane, help identify the steps they should take to ensure their employees and businesses are ready and show you how the manufacturing industry is helping with the response and recovery efforts already in progress. You can register [here](#).

### CMA Member Highlights

- News from **Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association** – September is Baby Safety Month, an annual time to focus on safety considerations unique to babies and young children. You can read more details [here](#).
- **Kathie Morgan, president & CEO of ASTM International** wrote this [article](#) on how ASTM is addressing DE&I to build an inclusive and diverse workforce.

Read this [article](#) on how **John Mitchell, president and CEO of IPC** is transforming the organization and the electronics industry.

### Manufacturing Institute

- The Institute is hosting a D&I Roundtable: [Ally – What it Means and How to Be One](#) on September 18, at 12pm ET.

- The **2021 STEP Ahead** nominations are open through October 2. The STEP Women's Initiative supports women in science, technology, engineering and production careers. The awards celebrate and recognize the accomplishments of outstanding female leadership in manufacturing and serves as a platform for companies to select leaders for national recognition. Details on the awards process are included in this [Nominations Guide](#). Please share this with your members and encourage them to nominate an outstanding woman in manufacturing.
- **MFGDay20** is October 2. This is a great opportunity for manufacturers across the country to showcase modern manufacturing careers. I know many of your members are hard at work planning their (mostly virtual) events, and might be unsure about planning an event. This year, MFG Day is more important than ever, with manufacturing careers at the heart of some of the most impactful work being done in response to the pandemic. We all have the unique opportunity to spotlight manufacturing for America's youth, and the Manufacturing Institute and NAM will continue to assist manufacturers in planning for on-site and virtual tours and digital activities.

This year, the MFG Day resources and event registration has moved to the Creators Wanted site, which will be the home of all of our efforts to engage the workforce of tomorrow in manufacturing. Your members can [register their MFG Day event here](#) and access [MFG Day resources here](#), including a recording of the MFG Day kickoff webinar with general information, a recording of the [planning webinar for virtual events](#), access to MFG Day t-shirts, and more. For more details on If you would like to discuss how your industry can best support MFGDay20, please contact me at [tmuse@nam.org](mailto:tmuse@nam.org).