



2012 SME ANNUAL CONFERENCE

JUNE 3-5, 2012 | CLEVELAND, OHIO



CLEVELAND ROCKS!

When people think of Cleveland, they think “rust-belt” city, about sports teams that seem to always fall short of championships or when the Cuyahoga River was so polluted, it caught fire. That was Cleveland. Cleveland now boasts the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, two of the top medical centers in the country, a world-renowned orchestra, museums, and soon, downtown Cleveland will hold a state of the art medical mart and one of four casinos in the state. **Think of Cleveland as your destination for the 2012 SME Annual Conference.**

MEET

The members of Cleveland Chapter 3 and Northeast Ohio Chapter 220 are proud to be the hosts of the 2012 SME Annual Conference. I attended my first SME Annual Conference as part of Chapter Day in 1992. To see the number of other enthusiastic SME volunteers from across the country all gathered in one place was truly motivating. I continue to attend annual conferences at every opportunity. Whether I’m making acquaintance with other volunteers, sharing best practices, learning new technologies or simply shaking hands with International Honor Award winners, I’m never disappointed having attended the meeting. My chapter, committee, and company have all benefitted from my experiences at the SME Annual Conference. The people you meet through SME— that’s my favorite Member Benefit.

KNOW

Many of our SME members attend the SME Annual Conference to learn the latest in technology. State of the art technology lives in Northern Ohio. Case Western Reserve University in downtown Cleveland has partnered with the Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals to become leaders in medical research and biomedical engineering. More than 400 bioscience companies are located in Northeast Ohio, many involved in all aspects of medical manufacturing from surgical instruments to prosthetic devices. Want to learn about strong, but lightweight materials? The University of Akron, less than an hour from Cleveland, has the largest faculty and, the most graduate and doctoral students in the country as part of the College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering. Just last month graduate students released exciting research on stimuli affecting changes in Spider Silk Glue. And if the Last Frontier is what interests you, Cleveland is home to the NASA Glenn Research Center and an office of the Ohio Aerospace Institute. There are eleven Fortune 500 companies in Northeastern Ohio including Goodyear Tire and Rubber, Eaton Corporation, Parker Hannifin, Sherwin-Williams and Timken. While the focus of our speakers has yet to be determined, we have top-notch resources from which to draw.

GROW

The SME Annual Conference is the place to explore your future as a leader and as a manufacturing practitioner. For those interested in becoming stronger leaders, there are member-only sessions, which point out SME resources you might never knew existed. There’s an opportunity to get a taste of the SME Leadership Series. Volunteer leaders and SME staff plan face-to-face meetings to provide an opportunity to learn what is happening within SME and how you can become part of the action. New for this year, we’re planning a special tract of activities specifically for student members, including competitions for the Student Chapters. There is such a wide variety of activities planned; it will be difficult to choose where to be. One thing is for sure, you’ll come away from the experience smarter, stronger and with plenty of enthusiasm to take back to your chapter, technical community, and employer.

I’ll see you in Cleveland!

Edye S. Buchanan, CMfgT
2011 Secretary, Cleveland Chapter 3
2011 Chair, SME Chapter Enhancement Committee