



MESSAGE FROM **SME LEADERSHIP**

The Value of Membership

Joining a professional association is a perfect way for individuals to find their community. Associations like SME provide a valuable network of people and programs to help advance your career.

Throughout our collective careers, we've benefited greatly by collaborating with a community and taking advantage of networking opportunities through professional associations. We can unequivocally say that SME is one of those associations.

The support a professional organization provides is advantageous. As leaders of SME, the value in professional memberships has helped us connect to our peers and industry experts while staying informed on all things manufacturing. SME is the only professional organization that represents individuals from all facets of manufacturing. Whether it's learning about the latest manufacturing products and technologies, engaging with local SME chapters, or accessing the resource center and certification programs, SME gives you the tools you need to advance your career and succeed at all stages of manufacturing.

The diverse community of SME members is strong and continues to grow. We've seen great growth in recent years, welcoming new members from across industries at all different stages of their careers. However, SME isn't intended only for seasoned industry professionals — there are also a great deal of student member benefits. In fact, it's exciting to report that 89% of student members participating in the SME PRIME schools program entered the manufacturing workforce in some capacity.

If you want to get the most out of your membership, just joining a professional association is not enough. You must be an active member and be intentional with your participation. An SME membership provides endless options to share common thoughts and network organically, as well as opportunities to be a part of a respected group of individuals who are helping shape manufacturing.

A professional membership is important, and it's all about the people and resources that will help advance your manufacturing career. Membership matters, and our association thrives on the investment of committed members. We hope you'll consider joining the SME family, and we thank our members for their time, resources and dedication to SME.



Robert "Bob" Willig
Executive Director & CEO
SME



Sheronda L. Carr
Senior Director, Membership
SME