



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MAF ELECTS OFFICERS, MORE EMPHASIS ON WORKFORCE

(Tallahassee, FL) – The Manufacturers Association of Florida (MAF) announces the 2016 officer election results, following an association vote.

The MAF officers for 2016-2018 include:

- President - Al Stimac, President of Metal Essence and Machining Training Solutions and Board Member of the Manufacturers Association of Central Florida (MACF)
- Vice President of Government Relations - Lee Killinger, Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs, The Mosaic Company
- Vice Presidents for Workforce and Education –
 - Maureen Wilt, Education Program Manager, Florida Power & Light Company
 - Abe Alangadan, Business Unit Manager, Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Inc.
- Secretary-Treasurer - Mike Williams, Public Affairs Manager, PotashCorp-White Springs

“Manufacturing is changing,” said Al Stimac President of MAF. “In the past couple years MAF and its members have engaged in more and more projects with an emphasis on workforce development and incumbent worker training. The connection between the manufacturing industry and education is a vital one. The election of two Vice Presidents of Workforce and Education is a testimony to the important role education plays in manufacturing. The gap in workforce training is huge, but through industry partnerships, we are making great strides at closing it. The MAF Board and association members have established developing a skilled manufacturing workforce as a high priority and we are excited about the work our officers will be able to do for the industry over the next term. Maureen Wilt and Abe Alangadan both have strong backgrounds in connecting the community and the workforce to their businesses and we look forward to bringing their expertise to the industry’s workforce issues.”

“MAF has long been known for working to make the Florida tax climate right for manufacturers. In the next two years we will be adding another high priority – making the skilled workforce climate right for manufacturers. Our election this year demonstrates that advocacy and workforce are our top priorities,” said Nancy Stephens, Executive Director, MAF.

Al Stimac has been re-elected to the Presidency of MAF. He is President of Metal Essence, a small CNC machining shop and President of Machining Training Solutions, a progressive CNC training company. He also serves on the Board of the Manufacturers Association of Central Florida, the Florida Higher Education Coordinating Council, the CareerSource Florida Board, and the Board of Directors of the National Association of Manufacturers.

Lee Killinger, Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs, The Mosaic Company, was newly elected to this position. His diverse background in government, business and environmental issues make him uniquely qualified for leading MAF’s advocacy efforts.

Maureen Wilt, Education Program Manager at Florida Power & Light Company, manages the company’s K-12 education strategy and develops new programs to connect schools to community industries. In this role Maureen also provides support for STEM initiatives, teacher grants, educator workshops, and robotics clubs. As a newcomer to the MAF position, her experience with connecting the community to businesses

will be extremely valuable as MAF looks to expand its reach to all the entities that have a hand in workforce education.

Abe Alangadan, Business Unit Manager at Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, Inc. is also newly elected to this MAF position. In his company he oversees the planning and implementation of high volume manufacturing lines. As an advocate for manufacturing education, Abe organizes facility tours for K-12 schools and colleges in the Jacksonville area to visit Johnson & Johnson. During October's Manufacturing Month in 2015, Abe was responsible for introducing more than 300 students to the world of advanced manufacturing with site tours, robotics, and hands on technology demonstrations. His innovative approach to connecting students to manufacturing will serve as a model for kicking up the MAF workforce education activities.

Mike Williams, Public Affairs Manager, PotashCorp – White Springs, has been re-elected to the position of Secretary Treasurer. Mike has a long history with MAF and its predecessor organizations. He brings institutional knowledge, dedication to the industry and trust to his position.

MAF looks forward to new challenges in 2016-2018 with our new vibrant leadership team!

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About the Manufacturers Association of Florida (MAF)

The MAF was formed in 2006 to improve the business climate for manufacturers in Florida. There are some 19,000 manufacturers in Florida investing in new technology, employing highly skilled workers and competing globally. For more information about MAF, visit www.mafmfg.com.