leadership
Today, I’m pleased to report to you that manufacturing in America is making a comeback. That’s a tribute to the hardworking men and women who produce the goods and generate the ideas that power the U.S. economy as well as the global economy.

Manufacturing supports more than 17 million jobs, contributes $2.09 trillion annually to the U.S. economy, has the largest economic impact of any major sector and accounts for more than three-quarters of all private-sector research and development. Many policymakers and citizens do not understand the depth and breadth of this manufacturing success story, and the NAM aggressively campaigned in 2014 to help them realize our impact—and support our growth.

Capitalizing on the reach of his annual State of Manufacturing address, NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons first touted the “manufacturing comeback.” He launched a narrative that carried manufacturers through 2014—and into the future.

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Learn More
“These are manufacturers’ ideas to reignite that beacon of hope, of optimism and of opportunity that has always lit our path forward. These are our ideas to guarantee American Exceptionalism.

WE LEAD MANUFACTURERS TO SUCCESS IN WASHINGTON AND BEYOND. EFFECTIVE
Headlining Manufacturing’s Comeback

NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons promoted our industry’s gains in an unprecedented number of speaking engagements across the United States. From Houston to Seattle, Charlotte to Milwaukee, the message was clear: Manufacturing isn’t just making a comeback. Manufacturing in America is back.

“It’s a long list, but let’s be clear—for America to maintain our mantle of economic leadership, we need policies at the federal level that help manufacturers seize the opportunities before us, not policies that hold us back,” Timmons said at The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. “Public policy matters, and manufacturers—with their outsized impact on the economy—have a responsibility to ensure policymakers hear our voices.”

In hundreds of meetings with members of Congress and key Administration officials in 2014, the NAM and the manufacturing army advocated policies and secured legislative and regulatory victories that made our industry stronger. But policymakers also rely on the NAM for our expertise as the lead advocate for manufacturers and as the conduit to a more than $2 trillion industry. These congressional and Administration leaders sought out our board meetings, executive committee meetings and policy committee meetings as critical forums to connect with manufacturers—and connect they did. The NAM provided premier discussions for these high-level meetings of the minds.

Influencing Key Washington Officials

“The shale gas boom is fueling the manufacturing comeback,” Timmons said at a Jones Day regional energy conference.

NAM Board Chair and Caterpillar Chairman and CEO Doug Oberhelman and the Caterpillar team cohosted the Smart Manufacturing Summit, providing an opportunity for the forces behind the manufacturing revival to connect.
BRINGING REAL LEADERS TOGETHER

Through our first-ever Leadership Engagement Series, the NAM is serving as a catalyst for change, advancing the manufacturing agenda—your agenda. We brought leaders together—throughout the country—to craft solutions and break the gridlock in Washington. The series opened a dialogue with CEOs of the top manufacturing companies in the world today. Through this dialogue, we challenged more executives—hundreds of executives—to get involved in the political process personally and teach Washington a thing or two.

The panels offered manufacturers exclusive access to our industry’s most innovative minds. The NAM harnessed the insight and experience of our Board of Directors to convince their peers all throughout the supply chain about the importance of reaching out to their representatives—to not give in to, or give up on, Washington, but to move it in the direction that we need. And Washington is already paying attention, thanks to the NAM’s efforts to publicize the Leadership Engagement Series in must-read Beltway publications like Politico and in newspaper op-eds highlighting our thought leadership across the country.

EXPANDING THE MANUFACTURING ARMY

The Leadership Engagement Series reached manufacturing executives

537 manufacturing executives

LEADERSHIP ENGAGEMENT SERIES: NATIONWIDE REACH

Forums were held in 10 cities
In 2014, the Council of Manufacturing Associations (CMA), State Associations Group (SAG) and Allied Associations Group members expanded the scope, reach and influence of the NAM. With record attendance at NAM events and programs, involvement in NAM issue advocacy campaigns and participation in Manufacturers’ Center for Legal Action cases, the NAM grew manufacturing alliances that moved our agenda forward. CMAs, SAGs and Allieds played a central role in the NAM’s fight to reauthorize the U.S. Export-Import Bank, curtail the Environmental Protection Agency’s strict new ozone standard and more.

On a regular basis, the NAM gathers communications representatives from CMAs to discuss strategies that can drive the public’s attention to our industry and enhance our advocacy efforts.

A record-breaking number of SAG members gathered in Chicago, Illinois, for their annual meeting. SAG and Allied members engaged with the NAM more than ever in 2014, helping to raise the profile of manufacturing in every state and Puerto Rico.

The NAM empowered our allies through on-site visits, video greetings, conference calls, town halls and member briefings to 33 SAG and Allied members, an 80 percent increase from the previous year.

CMA leadership conferences in 2014 connected manufacturing executives from a diverse range of industry sectors.

Increase in CMA membership over 2013
Increase in Winter Leadership Conference attendance over 2013
Increase in Summer Leadership Conference attendance over 2013
Increase in total CMA revenue over 2013

27% 2.9% 26% 14%
EDUCATING THE PUBLIC

On October 3, manufacturers in all 50 states opened their doors to the public for the third-annual Manufacturing Day. More than 1,635 events, an 800 percent increase since the inaugural Manufacturing Day in 2012, demonstrated the power and vitality of manufacturing to the public. By inviting students and members of the community into their facilities, manufacturers showcased the dynamic, highly skilled jobs that our industry offers.

In 2014, The Manufacturing Institute, the NAM’s 501(c)(3) arm, continued to lead efforts to address workforce development issues. The Institute tackled perception issues through the Dream It. Do It. program, recruited highly skilled veterans through the Get Skills to Work program and recognized women in our industry through the STEP Awards.

REACHING THE NEXT GENERATION OF MANUFACTURERS

Millennials might be surprised by what they find inside a 21st-century manufacturing facility: high-tech shop floors, cutting-edge technology and high-paying, highly satisfying careers. From delivering his State of Manufacturing address to headlining Iowa’s Advanced Manufacturing Conference, NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons took the message of modern manufacturing on the road in 2014. NAM initiatives are transforming outdated perceptions, closing the skills gap and leading science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education initiatives to ensure current and future learners have the right skills needed to sustain the manufacturing comeback into the future.

In front of the classroom and on the stage before hundreds of students, Timmons inspired millennials to take advantage of the opportunities that manufacturing offers. “There’s no shortage of different paths within manufacturing—from satellite technology to breakthroughs in these medical devices or energy advances that could power the world,” he said as the featured lecturer in the University of Kansas Anderson V. Charrette Lecture Series. “In manufacturing, you have the chance to invent, to create and to bring innovation to the lives of those in need. It’s a bright future with expansive opportunity.”

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The 2014 NAM Award for Manufacturing Legislative Excellence did more than recognize the 270-plus members of Congress from both sides of the aisle who consistently supported the manufacturing community by maintaining a voting record of 70 percent or higher. The award informed voters about the priorities at stake in the elections. The NAM advanced these priorities at congressional dialogues across the country, connecting key lawmakers with manufacturers in their districts.

As Washington becomes more complicated, the voice of manufacturing leaders at all levels—not just CEOs—is absolutely critical to move the needle on our priorities. To that end, the NAM hosted its inaugural Manufacturing Executive Leadership Program in 2014. This program, held jointly with the Center for Creative Leadership, gave top manufacturing executives from across the country an insider’s training on how Washington works and tools to advance their legislative agendas.

The NAM’s policy and government relations, external relations and communications teams, together with widely respected political leaders, highly influential policymakers and formidable advocacy experts, convened for three days of educational sessions. These sessions provide participants with insights to ensure that when manufacturing executives engage in the public policy arena, they will serve as effective advocates for manufacturing in their communities and sectors.

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“Manufacturing has always been important to America’s growth. It brought our country to a position of greatness. It provided a path to economic stability for millions of its citizens. Its output resulted in higher standards of living and better relations with people and countries from across the world.”
International leaders value the input and perspective of the NAM because they recognize the association as the voice of manufacturing in the United States. And so, the NAM is becoming a key player on the international stage. Our goal: advance policies that ensure manufacturers in the United States thrive in the global marketplace.

In 2014, at the invitation of Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA), NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons attended the U.S.-Spain Council Forum 2014, a gathering of Spanish and U.S. governmental and business leaders, to discuss our vital relationship and the importance of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP). Timmons traveled as part of the U.S. delegation; his itinerary included a meeting with the king of Spain and a high-level forum—with U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman, among others—to advocate an ambitious and comprehensive T-TIP agreement. Beyond the summit, the NAM reached an additional eight countries (Canada, Germany, the United Kingdom, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Italy and Ireland), engaging in critical discussions to expand market opportunities for manufacturers in the United States.

The NAM’s National Public Affairs Steering Committee (NPASC), a group of 150 leading corporate public affairs and government relations executives from the NAM’s largest member companies, bolsters our grassroots efforts and offers insight on our public policy positions and guidance on our lobbying strategy. The NPASC convened three times in 2014: in the spring, in the fall and following the election.

The 2014 Manufacturing Summit brought upward of 500 manufacturers to Washington, D.C. Manufacturers participated in more than 220 scheduled congressional lobbying visits, attended a congressional reception with members of Congress and congressional staff and heard addresses by Vice President Joe Biden, Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE) and Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY), the majority leader in the 114th Congress.

remains at Hanover Messe, the world’s largest industrial trade fair. From regulatory cooperation and market access to intellectual property, investment and cross-border data flows, he spoke extensively about issues to tackle in the T-TIP negotiations: “The United States and Europe have a vital opportunity to strengthen our international economic policies and to broaden and deepen the world’s largest trade and investment partnership,” Timmons said.
With more than 17 million voters whose jobs depend on manufacturing, manufacturers can change election outcomes and elect candidates who know how to create jobs, lead and govern. And we did.

Well ahead of Election Day, the NAM expanded our programs at every level to help break the gridlock and turn manufacturing voters.

We built a broad coalition of local, state and national partners and allies to host employee voter registration drives. We spearheaded get-out-the-vote efforts during the primary season, and we sent election teams armed with the NAM’s voter guide and other proprietary election materials to key states, including Colorado, Iowa, Kentucky, and North Carolina, in the fall. These teams directly delivered NAM member companies the resources they needed to engage and educate their employees to help them make informed decisions at the ballot box.

Underscoring these efforts: The NAM Election Center, the one-stop shop for customized election information, how-to guides on building effective and legally sound get-out-the-vote strategies and for priority issue education.

Far from marking an end to the NAM’s efforts, Election Day only pushed us to work harder for the remainder of 2014 and beyond. The manufacturing electorate supported candidates who are committed to increasing growth, investment and opportunity. The NAM is already ensuring that Congress follows up on those commitments. As we gear up to tackle the 2016 presidential election, we are working to create a new day in government—a rising sun on an America that works again.

MAKING THE MANUFACTURING VOTE COUNT

In 2014, the NAM’s federal political action committee (NAM-PAC) hosted 22 events that raised more than $350,000 to support pro-manufacturing allies in Congress.

The NAM’s Post-Election Briefing examined the impact of the manufacturing vote and featured insights from The Cook Political Report, as well as (l-r) NAM Senior Vice President of External Relations Ned Monroe, former Sen. Blanche Lincoln (D-AR) and former Sen. and Gov. George Allen (R-VA).
The NAM has evolved, innovated and changed for the times—just like the storied companies of our association.

WE PIONEER WAYS TO INFLUENCE THE LAW.

INNOVATIVE
In its first full year, the Manufacturers’ Center for Legal Action established the infrastructure—and set the legal strategy—to sustain the manufacturing comeback. As congressional gridlock and aggressive regulatory overreach grew in 2014, the Center took the manufacturing agenda to the courts, the next generation of advocacy.

The Center launched a new General Counsel Steering Committee and six Issue Advisory Groups, giving NAM member companies a strategic voice in what litigation to tackle. This critical input not only enhanced and broadened the NAM’s relationships with member companies, but also allowed the NAM to better represent our members’ interests before administrative agencies and the courts. The Center formed additional coalitions within the manufacturing legal community, building support for shared legal priorities among member companies and key Council of Manufacturing Associations and State Associations Group allies.

With this infrastructure securely in place, the Center doubled its litigation filings in 2014—and achieved major court wins on environmental issues, conflict minerals and labor. The Center also broadened the issues on which the NAM actively litigates—and the forums in which it does so. In 2014, the Center engaged on a trade secrets matter before the European Court of Justice, filed a first-ever amicus brief in a World Trade Organization matter and joined the food manufacturing industry in a challenge to Vermont’s first-in-the-nation GMO labeling law.

In every way over the past year, the Center advanced paths for manufacturers to shape the regulatory environment and change the law.

ADVANCING LITIGATION: THE NEXT GENERATION OF ADVOCACY

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ADVANCING LITIGATION: THE NEXT GENERATION OF ADVOCACY

14

Number of cases in which the NAM was a party

54

Number of cases in which the NAM weighed in as an amicus curiae

The Center’s victory against the National Labor Relations Board’s (NLRB) poster rule solidified the NAM’s fight against government overreach in the workplace. We are taking that fight to the next level in our ongoing challenge to the NLRB’s “ambush elections” rule. Manufacturers—both employers and employees—need a fair workplace to thrive. Through legal action, the NAM is determined to ensure a balanced playing field and strong employer–employee relations.

Meet the team:
Quentin Riegel, NAM Vice President and Deputy General Counsel; Patrick Forrest, NAM Vice President and Deputy General Counsel; and Linda Kelly, NAM Senior Vice President and General Counsel

The Center's work to protect free speech will continue in 2015 with its ongoing case against the Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, the challenge to the Securities and Exchange Commission's conflict minerals rule and the Vermont food labeling case.

FIGHTING FOR A FAIR WORKPLACE

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American manufacturing has done its part to get Americans back to work and reclaim our standing as the world’s finest manufacturing economy. Now it’s up to our government to help pave the way for the future, through enlightened policies that will help drive sustained growth in our most critical industries.
The NAM continued to champion the critical need for “all-of-the-above” energy strategies that protect our nation’s inherent advantages in energy resources.

How did the NAM do it? By demonstrating real leadership.

The NAM led powerful coalitions like the Partnership for a Better Energy Future, which opposed the Obama Administration’s burdensome greenhouse gas regulatory agenda. Under the NAM’s direction, PBEF flooded the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), with more than 1 million comments from manufacturers across the country. Policymakers simply could not ignore PBEF’s impact. Nor could they ignore PBEF’s polling data showing just how disconnected the EPA is from the everyday concerns of voters from coast to coast.

The Manufacturers’ Center for Legal Action led powerful coalitions of its own—and got results. The U.S. Supreme Court handed manufacturers a decisive victory against the EPA’s onerous greenhouse gas permitting requirements imposed on millions of manufacturing facilities, farms, energy providers and other stationary sources. If left in place, these burdensome requirements would have harmed virtually every aspect of our economy.

Our work on greenhouse gases was just the beginning. From advocating sensible ozone regulations to the Keystone XL pipeline, the NAM showed decisive leadership on energy through bold actions and demonstrable results.

Learn More
The NAM and The Weekly Standard engaged Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA), co-chair of the Senate India Caucus, and top policy minds on ways to improve U.S.–India trade relations.

The NAM partnered with Ex-Im allies to sponsor a Capitol Hill policy briefing, allowing about 70 congressional offices to hear directly from small businesses that use the Ex-Im Bank—and how it supports exports, job growth and competitiveness.

Number of pro-Ex-Im letters sent to Congress through the coalition's website

PAVING THE WAY FOR FAIR TRADE

In a Wall Street Journal Asia op-ed, NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons called on India to pave the way for the Trade Facilitation Agreement, a deal that could contribute an estimated $1 trillion to the world economy. The Alliance for Fair Trade with India (AFTI) grew even stronger under its second year of NAM leadership. The NAM and AFTI urged President Obama to press Prime Minister Narendra Modi to remove trade and investment barriers and to strengthen intellectual property rights when the two leaders met for the first time in September. The Obama Administration heeded our calls, confirming that the United States would discuss trade issues with Prime Minister Modi during his White House meetings. During Prime Minister Modi’s visit to New York, NAM leaders expressed manufacturers’ concerns directly to him. And we achieved success. In a significant win for the NAM, the United States and India announced an end to India’s blockage of the implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement.

TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

The January 2014 Member Focus cover story featured a testimonial from an Illinois-based manufacturer that is leading the charge to restore Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), a joint congressional–Administration framework for negotiating and implementing trade agreements that expired in 2007.

EXPORTING THROUGH EX-IM

Through the NAM’s leadership of the Exporters for Ex-Im Coalition, countless meetings with key lawmakers and Administration officials and the compelling firsthand accounts of manufacturers who depend on the Export-Import (Ex-Im) Bank for their very survival, we helped transform an unfounded, disparaging narrative that threatened jobs in the United States and global competitiveness. This short-term extension of the Ex-Im Bank through June 30, 2015, is an important victory—but it isn’t enough. Manufacturers need a long-term reauthorization of the Ex-Im Bank to drive economic growth.

In Pittsburgh, NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons joined Westinghouse Electric Company President and CEO Danny Roderick and Pierre Paul Oneid of Holtec International, Inc., a Westinghouse supplier, to speak with reporters about the Ex-Im Bank’s impact on their businesses.
Manufacturers need the right policies in place to reach the 95 percent of consumers who live outside U.S. borders. These policies include the following:

- Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) that facilitates the development and approval of trade agreements
- A Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP) that eliminate foreign trade barriers and create new markets for U.S. products
- Intellectual property protections that safeguard the innovation essential to manufacturing in the United States
- A Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (MTB) that ends higher taxes on essential manufacturing inputs

At trade events across the country with member companies and members of Congress, the NAM explained our priorities and laid the foundation for open markets, a level playing field and increased competitiveness in a global marketplace.

The NAM recognizes that strong employer-employee relations are the bedrock of manufacturing in the United States. Without the thousands of men and women behind everything from medical devices to automotive parts, soft drinks to satellite technology and more, the manufacturing comeback would grind to a halt. The federal government must be a trusted partner for both employers and employees. By stacking the deck against employers, the government erodes trust and damages the credibility of our nation’s job creators.

In 2014, the NAM aggressively countered these actions. We built on the success of the Manufacturers’ Center for Legal Action’s case against the National Labor Relations Board’s (NLRB) unlawful poster rule. And we took on perhaps the biggest offender of bad ideas: the NLRB’s “ambush elections” rule.

The rule changes longstanding labor policy by shortening the time frame for businesses to hold union elections to as little as 14 days, even though more than 90 percent of elections are held within 56 days. A shorter time frame robs employees of their ability to make an informed decision on union representation and hampers an employer’s ability to prepare adequately for an election. The NLRB made the rule even more egregious by requiring employers to hand over the personal e-mails, private phone numbers, home addresses and shift times of their employees to union organizers—infringing on the privacy rights of employees and the free speech rights of employers.

With the Center at the helm, we laid the groundwork for an ongoing court challenge with allies in the business community. We intend to once again be successful in the courts—and to stop this rule from taking effect.
TACKLING THE $2 TRILLION REGULATORY BURDEN

Complex, inconsistent and duplicative regulations hinder manufacturers in the United States, forcing them to spend unnecessary sums of money on compliance procedures, data collection and legal costs while making it nearly impossible to plan for, and invest in, the future.

At the NAM, we’re fighting back with all-out effort. We are challenging regulatory overreach in the courts. We are marshaling allies in all sectors of business to push for action. And we are finding ways to build consensus among Republicans and Democrats on the urgent need for regulatory reform with facts and figures that drive headlines and produce results.

$2.028 TRILLION. That’s how much complying with federal regulations costs the economy in lost growth annually. “Manufacturers are hit hardest,” NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons said on CNBC. The NAM’s study disclosed the regulatory burden—and the extent to which manufacturers bear a disproportionate share of it.

Before we even released the study, our opponents tried to discredit it, knowing how devastating it would be to their false arguments. Thanks to our rapid response strategy, they failed. Since that time, media reports have continuously relied on the study as a source for sound data. Our extensive rollout campaign included testimonial videos from NAM members, media outreach and digital ads.

Robyn Boerstling, NAM Director of Transportation and Infrastructure Policy, moderated the Transportation Infrastructure Summit at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

At a roundtable with House highway and transit lawmakers, NAM Senior Vice President of Policy and Government Relations Aric Newhouse called attention to what manufacturers need: a multiyear surface transportation bill that includes a long-term funding solution for the Highway Trust Fund.

Despite pronounced congressional gridlock, the NAM secured a crucial, and rare, legislative victory: the Water Resources Reform and Development Act, signed into law in June. It marked the NAM’s pioneering commitment to rebuilding and modernizing our nation’s crumbling infrastructure, including roads, bridges, utilities, pipelines, transmission lines and transportation labs.

With a groundbreaking report on the cost/benefits of infrastructure funding, the NAM proved that targeted, long-term investment from the public and private sectors is needed to increase manufacturing competitiveness. And our report made leading headlines in The Wall Street Journal and other newspapers across the country.

As NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons testified before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, “For manufacturers, infrastructure is a competitiveness issue.” America has a fundamental choice: whether our nation is to be yesterday’s story or tomorrow’s. At the NAM, we’re deciding to be authors of our future.
REFORMING OUR NATION’S TAX CODE AND ECONOMIC POLICIES

“The inability to achieve comprehensive tax reform represents the single biggest failure of leadership during a time of already historic dysfunction in Washington. And manufacturers are paying the price.”

– NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons

Until tax reform happens, manufacturers will continue to toil under the highest corporate tax rate in the world. To improve our competitiveness, the United States must overhaul its tax system, including for the two-thirds of manufacturers organized as “flow-throughs” and pay taxes at individual rates. In 2014, the NAM continually made the case to the Obama Administration, to lawmakers and to the public for a comprehensive fix. What’s needed is a serious focus on comprehensive tax reform.

The NAM will not relent, keeping the pressure on our leaders to do the right thing.

For more than a year, the NAM tackled the skills gap with an eye on results, creativity and hands-on involvement through our board-level Task Force on Competitiveness & the Workforce.

Led by Chip Blankenship, President and CEO of GE Appliances & Lighting, the task force convened at NAM headquarters for the first time in February. These manufacturing executives immediately went to work, meeting with governors, educators, members of Congress and their staffs, think tanks, economic development experts and countless others to share experiences and best practices. By October, the task force developed a toolkit that our members are already using to build a workforce-ready talent pipeline in their communities and train workers for the jobs they need to fill.

Manufacturers also need federal policies aimed at closing the skills gap. The NAM’s persistent lobbying helped secure yet another rare legislative victory in a Congress beset by gridlock: the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Signed into law in July, WIOA gives federal programs the ability to adapt to the needs and demands of employers and employees in the future.

Increasing Pension Premiums: The Impact on Jobs and Economic Growth

May 2014

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ADVOCATING AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

The top business challenge cited by more than 77 percent of respondents in the December NAM/IndustryWeek Survey of Manufacturers is rising health care and insurance costs. These concerns have hovered near the top of that list for much of the past two years due to uncertainties surrounding implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

To educate our members about existing law, the NAM led ACA University, a series of webinars held in coordination with the Council for Affordable Health Coverage and The Latino Coalition. In 2014, more than 350 of our member companies participated in webinars on health care exchanges, open enrollment and tax implications.

With roughly 97 percent of NAM members offering health care coverage to their employees, we need policies that will support their decision to continue to do so. With the NAM’s support, the House passed the Employee Health Care Protection Act—and should it be reintroduced in 2015, we will push hard to move it toward passage and ultimately to the President’s desk. Our government relations team will continue to work with policymakers on health care reform that reduces out-of-control costs and improves patients’ access to care.

ADVANCING TECHNOLOGY, ADVANCING MANUFACTURING

The NAM is increasing awareness about what manufacturing truly is—exciting, sleek and technology-driven. Whether it’s NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons speaking to the Iowa Association of Business or NAM Senior Vice President of Policy and Government Relations Aric Newhouse addressing the Pittsburgh Technology Council, the takeaway is clear: Today’s manufacturing is advanced manufacturing, reaching new heights of excellence and innovation each and every day.

In its second year in operation, the NAM D.A.T.A. (Driving the Agenda for Technology Advancement) Policy Center positioned us as the authority on innovation. Our event in San Francisco examined the intersection of manufacturing and technology—and how it impacts Silicon Valley.

NAM Director of Technology and Domestic Economic Policy Brian Raymond serves on the Board of Directors for the National Alliance for Jobs and Innovation (NAJI), a private-sector coalition dedicated to stopping unfair competition from the use of stolen intellectual property through piracy, counterfeiting or trade secrets. The NAM and NAJI partnered on a study examining the economic impact of software piracy on manufacturers in the United States.

Connected cars. Smart homes. Health care technology. 3-D printers. We saw all of this and much, much more from the 3,200 companies participating in the 2014 International Consumer Electronics Show. Manufacturers had a heavy dose of participation from government leaders and manufacturing policy experts talking about how Washington can impact that business.
"If we can no longer rely on our political leaders to lead us, it becomes our right and responsibility to step up and show them the way. What no longer seems to exist in Washington, we can find in ourselves..."
RECOGNIZING OUR STRENGTHS

From our successful issue advocacy campaigns to our winning communications strategies, the NAM received unprecedented acclaim for our results-oriented leadership. We used award events as platforms to focus the attention on where it really belongs: the men and women who make things in America. The awards themselves are secondary to the real success achieved—broad awareness and appreciation for the role played by manufacturers in the United States. These awards are less about the NAM and more about the job creators we serve every day.

As NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons accepted the Adam Smith Award, he issued a call for the business community: “It’s time to get back to basics and ensure that our elected officials embrace and promote what made our nation strong: free enterprise, competitiveness, individual liberty and equal opportunity.”

Association TRENDS also recognized the NAM’s “What Manufacturing Means to America” video.

Among more than 4,000 entries for the Graphic Design USA Awards, only 15 percent merited certificates of excellence. The NAM received three awards—for our 2013 annual report, our “hub” employee lounge and our federal energy savings executive summary.

“The past four years under CEO Jay Timmons, NAM has become an increasingly prominent part of the conversation in the top regulatory, legislative and electoral arenas of the day, and also in getting more involved in electoral politics,” the influential CEO Update said in its profile of Timmons. “Yet the key to such influence is not charging up the Hill (or the Hill) alone, nor a ‘my way or the highway’ attitude. It is Timmons’ collaborative style that draws strength from broad coalitions including left-leaning Hispanic rights groups on immigration and labor unions in promoting the Keystone XL Pipeline.

The Hill’s list of Top Lobbyists of 2014 featured Timmons and NAM Senior Vice President of Policy and Government Relations Aric Newhouse. “Timmons and Newhouse are embroiled in many of Washington’s biggest brawls, including disputes over environmental regulations, Export-Import Bank reauthorization, immigration, tax reform and trade and workforce issues,” the newspaper said.

The NAM’s Alliance for Fair Trade with India campaign received the American Business Award Gold Medal for Communications Campaign of the Year.

The NAM’s video brochure won the gold at the Association TRENDS’ Salute to Association Excellence.

The NAM’s 2013 annual report won the National Capital Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America’s Thoth Award. NAM Senior Vice President of Communications Erin Streeter (right) accepts the award.

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“Leading the NAM into the future the NAM’s senior staff and leadership team.”
At the Fall 2014 Board of Directors Meeting, the NAM elected new leadership for the 2015–2016 term:

Chair
Gregg M. Sherrill
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Tenneco Inc.

Vice Chair
Tom T. Reed
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.

Small and Medium Manufacturers Group Chair
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And nine members joined the NAM Executive Committee:

Matt Barr
Chairman and CEO
Carolina Color Corporation

Thomas A. Burke
President and Chief Executive Officer
Modine Manufacturing Company

Mark A. Cordova
President
Centennial Bolt, Inc.

Jeffrey S. Edwards
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Visit www.nam.org to meet our 2015 board leadership and full executive committee.