



# MANUFACTURING CONFERENCE

PRESENTED BY:

**Kirkwood**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# THANK YOU TO OUR MANUFACTURING SPONSORS



## **Kirkwood Community College – Platinum Sponsor:**

Is your business prepared for the new normal? Kirkwood Corporate Training can help your company prepare for, and adapt to, many of the critical business functions that rule the new normal in today's world. Contact Kirkwood today to get started at [www.kirkwood.edu/corporatetraining](http://www.kirkwood.edu/corporatetraining).



## **Van Meter – Luncheon Sponsor:**

Ready to better leverage your people, processes, and technology in your manufacturing business? Visit [vanmeterinc.com/transform](http://vanmeterinc.com/transform) to learn how to reinvent your business to overcome modern manufacturing challenges.



## **City of Cedar Rapids – Gold Sponsor:**

Manufacturing is the backbone of the Cedar Rapids economy. The City of Cedar Rapids is committed to providing support and services to help our local manufacturing companies succeed.



## **Shive-Hattery – Gold Sponsor:**

Shive-Hattery has a full-service, multi-disciplinary industrial team made up of in-house architecture, design, and engineering experts to support every aspect of your project, from initial design plans and regulatory permitting to mechanical, electrical, and plumbing services.

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Strategic  
Financial  
Solutions™

*Clarity. Security. Confidence.™*

## Strategic Financial Solutions – Silver Sponsor:

Strategic Financial Solutions is more than a financial firm. We are advocates for the financial futures of your company and your people. Our process “The 4R’s: Recruit, Retain, Reward, Retire” coordinates the design, administration, funding and implementation of Retirement and Executive Benefit programs. Our plans are designed to successfully retire and reward your key employees and executives.

bergankdv

## Bergan KDV – Bronze Sponsor:

Bergan KDV is powered by people who do business the Midwest way, delivering comprehensive business, financial and technology solutions including: business planning and consulting, tax, assurance and accounting, technology, workforce management, wealth management, and turnaround management services.



iowaeda.com

## Iowa Economic Development Authority – Bronze Sponsor:

The Iowa Economic Development Authority strengthens economic and community vitality by building partnerships and leveraging resources to make Iowa the choice for people and business. IEDA administers several state and federal programs to accomplish its goals of assisting individuals, communities and businesses.



Iowa Association of  
Business and Industry

## Iowa ABI – Bronze Sponsor:

ABI is the voice of Iowa business—your business. We advocate for you at the Capitol, connect you with fellow leaders, offer solutions and best practices, and develop your future leaders. As Iowa’s oldest and largest business network, representing 1,500 businesses and 333,000 employees, we’re here to serve you.



## Baker Group – Bronze Sponsor:

One of the nations’ top specialty contractors. As an employee-owned organization, Baker Group employees are committed to delivering reliable, client-focused and high-value construction services to each customer we serve. Our team of 700 employees serves all types and sizes of commercial and industrial clients.

# THANK YOU TO OUR BOOTH SPONSORS



## Visit these Virtual Booths for Vendor Giveaways!

Kirkwood Community College: Free registration for Safety & Health Conference – February 25, 2021

Shive-Hattery: Water Resistant WiFi Camera

Bergan KDV: Stop by our Virtual Booth to Win Gifts

Pratum: \$50 Amazon Gift Card

Centro: Yeti Roadie 24 Cooler

RSM: \$50 Amazon Gift Card

Hands Up Communications:  
One Page of Company Content Translated for Free

## Visit these Exhibitors and RSVP for their Live Demonstrations:

Hands Up Communications -  
Removing Language Barriers 1:30pm - 2:30pm

Van Meter Collaborative Robots -  
Question & Answer Session 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Van Meter Guided Workforce -  
Question & Answer Session 1:00pm - 2:00pm

The CBJ will be giving away **\$250 gift cards** to two Passport-style raffle winners. To collect virtual stamps for your passport:

1. "Like" an exhibitor's booth.
2. Comment on their booth in the Chat.
3. Claim exhibitors' "Deals and Offers."

Doing these three things at one booth will give you one stamp in your passport. Participants who collect 10 stamps will automatically be entered into the drawing. The Passport feature is only visible on the Mobile App, but Web App users can still participate and win.

# AGENDA



8:00 A.M.

## Welcome

**John Lohman**

CEO & Publisher  
Corridor Business Journal

## Opening Remarks

**Lori Sundberg**

President  
Kirkwood Community College

## KEYNOTE: State of the Economy

**Ernie Goss**

MacAllister Chair in Economics  
Creighton University

*Dr. Goss is the director of the Institute for Economic Inquiry and a professor of economics at Creighton University Heider College of Business where he holds the Jack A. MacAllister Chair in Regional Economics. He will share his insights into the state of the manufacturing sector of the economy in Iowa, and the Midwest, as we look to the final quarter of 2020 and the new year.*



9:10 A.M.

## Introduction by Nicole Mead of BerganKDV

## Collins Aerospace Coralville Operations COVID-19 Approach

**Charles Hughes Jr.**

Director of Coralville Operations  
for Mission Systems  
Collins Aerospace



*Mr. Hughes is director of Coralville Operations for Mission Systems at Collins Aerospace. The facility holds 800 dedicated employees who manufacture and distribute world-class aerospace electronics to both military and commercial customers all over the world. Mr. Hughes will discuss the facility's approach to COVID-19, the approach of leadership, and lessons learned along the way.*

9:45 A.M.

**PANEL DISCUSSION: Shifting Operations due to COVID-19**

**MODERATOR:**

**Mike Ralston**

President  
Iowa Association of Business and Industry



**PANELISTS:**

**Matt Banowetz**

Sr. Vice President of Engineering and Product Services  
Marion Process Solutions

**Mike McVey**

Vice President of Operations  
CIVCO Medical Solutions

**Patrick Patterson**

Director of Operations  
World Class Industries

*Mr. Ralston, president of the Iowa Association of Business and Industry, will moderate a panel discussion on shifting operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. Local manufacturing leaders will discuss how their plants quickly pivoted to produce PPE while keeping their facility clean and staff safe.*

10:40 A.M.

**Introduction by Councilmember Scott Olson of City of Cedar Rapids**

**Lessons Learned from 33 Years in Manufacturing**

**Rue Patel**

Plant Manager  
(Retired) General Mills

*Mr. Patel began his General Mills career in 1991. Through a series of roles across the North America Supply Chain, he went on to lead the company's largest manufacturing facility in Cedar Rapids, IA. Rue subscribes to the philosophy in which every interaction is a learning opportunity. He led the development of a highly acclaimed Boot Camp for first level leaders and enjoys being an active facilitator and developer of talent.*



11:15 A.M.

**Introduction by Brian Brandt of Strategic Financial Solutions**

**The Skill Shapes that Define Iowa's Manufacturing Sector**

**Josh Wright**

Executive Vice President,  
Workforce and Economic Development  
Emsi



*Do you have a handle on the hard skills you need to fill your manufacturing roles? Mr. Wright will cover how the skill shapes (and skill gaps) that define manufacturing are evolving rapidly — pre-COVID and especially post-COVID.*

12:10 P.M.

**Introduction by Jeff Spadaro of Van Meter Inc.**

**Manufacturing 4.0**

**Debi Durham**

Director  
Iowa Economic Development Authority

*Ms. Durham is a longtime economic and community development professional who serves as Director of the Iowa Economic Development Authority and the Iowa Finance Authority. She will discuss the state's recent economic development incentives, upcoming manufacturer survey, and the "manufacturing revolution."*

