Chicago Manufacturing Renaissance Council

Establishing the Chicago Region as a Global Leader in High Performance Manufacturing
12,000 companies in the Chicago metro-area:

- Directly employ 484,000 people;
- Create a total of nearly 1.8 million jobs in the economy—44% of total employment;
- And pay an average wage of $64,000/year including benefits.
CMRC Origins: Exposure of a Non-System

- 2001: *Creating A Manufacturing Career Path System in Cook County* released by CLCR/CFL
  
  - “Cook County faces a crisis in training and education for our manufacturing economy.”
  
  - “… most of the parts of the present system to recruit, train, and educate workers to prepare them for modern manufacturing are not working effectively. As a result, *the foundation upon which our healthy economy has been built is at risk.*”
CMRC Mission

To be a global leader requires high productivity, high wages, high profits, breakthrough innovation, strong investment and practices that offer long term rewards to its owners, managers, employees, communities and the public sector.
A Vision for Change

- **Leading the Race to the Top!**
  - Consensus around development vision that Chicago should strive to be a global leader in high performance manufacturing;

- This type of high value-added economy:
  - Will provide a strong return for owners and our communities;
  - Merger of public and private interests;

- Succeeding requires a strong social partnership of business, labor, government, educators and community leadership.
Austin Polytechnical Academy

- Small unionized public school initiated by CMRC;
- Training the next generation of leaders in manufacturing—not a trade or vocational school!
  - Skilled production positions
  - Management
  - Ownership
- Committed to the development of the community;
- First of 6 other schools in other communities;
Austin Poly continued:

- 37 company partners—mostly small, privately-held companies in advanced manufacturing;
  - Internships and summer jobs for all students
- College prep; sports and teamwork;
- Project Lead the Way and NIMS credentials;
- Long term vision: community controlling the means of production with its HR values;
A world-class workforce development system is the pre-requisite for global leadership

- **“Manufacturing Works” Chicago Workforce Center for Manufacturing**
  - A sector-based, demand driven one stop dedicated to meeting the hiring needs of high performance manufacturers;

- **Austin Polytechnical Academy**
  - Chicago’s first manufacturing-focused high school;
  - Preparing the next generation of leaders for the manufacturing economy.

- **Expanding post-secondary options & capacity**
  - Alignment of City Colleges of Chicago manufacturing programs with industry-needs;
  - Scaling up non-profit and private sector training and education capacity;
  - Integrating, secondary ed. curricula, industry-recognized credentials, and college programs.
Strategic Issues

- CMRC represents a contending development vision for the city and the region;
- At the leading edge of advanced manufacturing and innovation rather than protection;
- A strategic partnership with small, privately-held companies moving to the HR;
- Broad high-level partnership; and
- Education is key entry-point and builds mass support.