

NORTH AMERICAN DIE CASTING ASSOCIATION

Chapter 3

Membership Directory

2025 - 2026

DRIVINGCHANGE

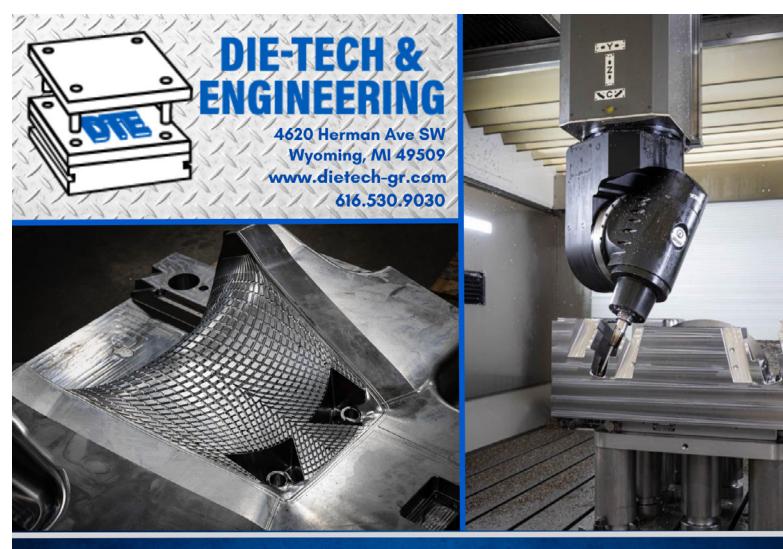
Innovations in Casting Processes, & Technology

2024 State of the Industry

Scholarship Award Winners

National Die Casting Award Winners

2025 Schedule of Events



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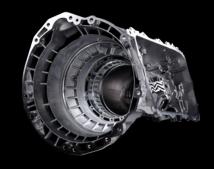


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NORTH AMERICAN DIE CASTING ASSOCIATION Chapter 3

ABOUT THE COVER ART

The NADCA Chapter 3 Member Directory cover art for 2025-2026 is designed to the theme of "Driving Change". The style resembles a magazine cover, which symbolizes change, new innovations, and accomplishments. The steering wheel features NADCA's recognizable circle symbol in the center.

EDITORIAL INFORMATION

The NADCA Chapter 3 Member Directory is a nonprofit publication, developed annually by the Chapter 3 Board Members. Advertising proceeds benefit Chapter 3 members, future, and current die casting professionals via free chapter dinner meetings, educational classes, scholarship awards, and much more.

Every effort has been made to avoid errors, misspellings, and omissions. If an error comes to your attention, please accept our sincere apologies and notify us so we may correct it in future issues.

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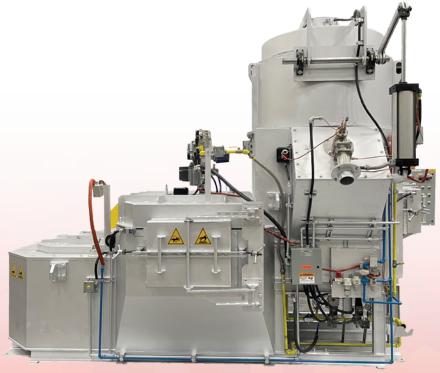
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Steve Rikkers Directory Chair marketing@nadcachapter3.org

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LETTER FROM OUR



2024 - 2025

Thank you for participating in this year's events for Chapter 3. It's your involvement that helps make our Chapter one of the most active and successful chapters of NADCA. Chapter 3 is one also one of the largest chapters at 330 plus members and covering the state of Michigan.

As a Chapter, Our Goal is to:

- Advance the science of die casting through education and research.
- Provide knowledge and application to the projects of our industry.
- Support the study and development of best practices related to die
- Provide, evaluate, and exchange information related to safety, engineering, metallurgy, and mechanics in the industry.
- Educate, train and recruit young people into the field of die casting.

Attendance of our in-person meetings continues to increase. Our Golf Outing was very successful. As a chapter, we awarded 6 internal scholarships and provided \$5,000 to WMU Endowment Fund for WMU students to obtain a scholarship within the Metal casting curriculum.



Todd Ikerd NADCA Chapter 3 Chairperson

Chapter Meetings (Theme - "Driving Change")

Our spring dinner meetings (January, February and April) are a great way to learn about industry related topics as well as connect with other industry professionals. We have our meetings downtown Grand Rapids for easy access for all. Pizza, drinks and education, what a great way to learn. Please check the website for dates and locations. www.nadcachapter3.org

Golf Outing

Chapter 3 board members want to say "Thank You" to our Golf Outing duo, Steve Barendse and Steve Rikkers for putting together a successful event. We use 100% of the golf proceeds to support education of our industry piers as well as awarding college scholarships to students in our industry. This past year we averaged 200 plus golfers and raised \$20,000 for education.

Thank you for your continued support,

Todd Ikerd

NADCA Chapter 3 Chairperson

Upcoming NADCA Events

NADCA events are a great way to stay up to date on all die casting advancements. Executive Conference, Marco Island, Feb 23-26, Plant Managers Conference, GM Bedford Indiana April 29-May1, Washington fly in, Washington DC June 10/11, Congress and Exposition, Milwaukie Wisconsin Oct 7-9. We would encourage everyone to attend the NADCA events.

Membership Directory

We feel this directory is one of the best resources for local Die Casters and suppliers. Under the guidance of Rob McInerney, Steve Rikkers and Tyler Kroes, the Chapter 3 Board members would like to say "Thank You" for a Job well done. If your company is interested in advertising in the upcoming directory, please reach out Rob, Steve or Tyler. All information is located on the NADCA chapter website. www.nadcachapter3.org



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STATE OF THE DIE CASTING INDUSTRY

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Introduction

The year 2024 presented a landscape of both opportunities and significant risks. Companies are grappling with ongoing economic volatility, including inflationary pressures, fluctuating supply chain costs, and rising interest rates, which are affecting profitability and growth potential. Geopolitical instability and trade uncertainties are also reshaping global markets, requiring businesses to navigate shifting regulations and adapt to new geopolitical dynamics. Additionally, businesses are under increasing pressure to adopt sustainable practices in response to growing environmental concerns and consumer demand for corporate responsibility. In this environment, agility, strategic foresight, and effective risk management will be crucial for businesses to thrive and stay competitive. The United States has completed an election cycle. and the voters have selected the next administration. The mandate on dealing with immigration, and the economy were the top issues.

For the North American Die Casting Association (NADCA), the top markets are automotive, appliances, lighting, plumbing fixtures, & computer equipment for aluminum, magnesium and zinc alloys. The 2024 markets were mixed with die casters & suppliers showing both positive sales increases and negative sales decreases.

For suppliers the forecasts they are reporting are slightly negative to positive 5%. 30% of the die casters that responded to the board barometer are forecasting a reduction in sales from 5% to 20% for 2025. While 70% of respondents are forecasting from the same to up 20% in sales for 2025. Once again, there is a mixture of somewhat negative forecast to very positive forecast for 2025.

The Presidential Election Result and Its Impact on Policy

The presidential election was one of the most closely watched elections in recent history. Vice President Kamala Harris was on the ballot for the Democratic party and former President Donald Trump was the nominee for the Republican party. The final outcome was that Donald Trump secured the election with a total electoral college vote of 312 to Kamala Harris' total of 226. Donald Trump also secured the popular vote with 76 million votes to 74 million votes for Kamala Harris.

The election was decided on a few top issues, 63% of voters rated the economy as not good or poor. So, the economy and how voters felt financially played a large part in this election. 70% of voters said the country was on the wrong track and wanted a change in leadership and direction. One other top issue is immigration. The border states are no longer Texas, New Mexico and California, because due to the massive amount of people that have crossed the border and are now spread out to every sanctuary state and city, the entire nation is now a border state. This amount of immigration is straining city and state budgets, putting a strain on schools, healthcare and social systems. So, the Trump message of economy, inflation and immigration swayed more voters to his cause. Several swing states also voted in favor of Trump.

In light of the election results, several policies will be up for change and review in the new administration. A list of those are:

- **REGULATIONS** like the Congressional Review Act, Overtime Rule Exemption Level, OSHA Third party worker walkaround, OSHA indoor, outdoor workplace proposed heat rule, FTC/NLRB Noncompete, NDA rule, NLRB "Fair Choice" union election rule will be reviewed and revised as the new administration take office in January 2025.
- ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT will be part of the new administration's agenda. Looking at the Inflation Reduction Act partial repeal, Fossil Fuel Expansion
- expand production, LNG Exports, Electric Vehiclesreverse ICE efficiency standards, Climate Change
- Possible withdrawal from Paris Climate Agreement.
- WORKFORCE EDUCATION Registered Apprenticeships redefining awards to registered unions, Emphasize Registered Apprenticeships in Contracts Exec Order, De-emphasize DEI, Funding to States, Student Loan Forgiveness, Industry-specific workforce emphasis.
- TAX POLICY Overall Tax Code Lowering 21% C-Corporate Rate, Expiring 199a pass through deduction, R&D Expensing; 100% Depreciation retroactive to 2022 or 2023 with 100% expensing, Debt Ceiling, Deficit Spending will be addressed, Trump Campaign Promise No tax on Overtime, No Tax on Tips.
- TRADE & TARIFFS Possible tariffs on Mexico and Canada, U.S.-Canada-Mexico Agreement (USMCA) renegotiation during the Trump term July 1, 2026, review of agreement will likely result in changes; focus



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• GEOPOLITICS - A stronger, more independent EU, Decrease reliance on U.S. defense industrial base, Increased use of tariffs overseas. Potential retaliatory tariffs from EU on USA for the 232 tariffs. Review of global trade agreements/pacts.

U.S. Congress Results and Policy

The Senate results show that Republicans took control of the Senate with 53 Republican seats to 47 Democrat seats. There were many significant wins/ losses on both sides of the aisle. With Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin being significant wins and losses that will have significance to manufacturing across the United States. With the Republicans having the majority they will control the appropriations, armed services, commercescience- & transportation, energy & natural resources, finance, health-education-labor-pensions.

US House of Representatives

The Republicans in the House of Representatives, at the time of this writing maintain a slim majority of 219 Republican seats to 213 Democrat seats. There are still 3 races that need to be called. With the Republicans having the majority they will control the appropriations, armed services, education & workforce, energy & commerce, ways & means and the "China Committee".

When Congress Returns...

Congress returned back in November where new member freshman orientation has begun to take place. By the time of this article's delivery to readers, federal funding will have expired on December 20, 2024. Lame duck priorities include what to do with that expiration date (perhaps an extension into 2025), defense policy (NDAA), farm bill, with robust tax and trade provisions less likely to be discussed/decided.

Heat Rule is Coming

Heat rule is, as many of us know, already an emphasis program. These include items such as: a written heat injury and illness prevention program (HIIPP), identifying heat hazards for employees. monitoring, engineering controls, provisions for drinking water and breaks to rest from the heat, a designated "cool down area", training of supervisors and employees and a designated individual to oversee and implemeent the HIIPP. Of note is the "rule of 20 percent" for building heat tolerance. New employees are to work only 20 percent of the normal day on their first day, and increase by 20 on subsequent days until the employee is working a normal (100%) schedule. This is to acclimatize new employees to hot environments.

There are 5 Small Business Advocacy Review Panels (SBAR Panels) involved, including: foundries, roofers, cemeteries, restaurants, line workers, landscapers, water parks, and more. The most commen statment being given is that "we are already addressing these issues - do not create a blanket rule". The report is currently being analyzed, with the best guess of some results by March or April of 2025.

Macro-Economics & Manufacturing

There are many issues and considerations in the coming years as we move into a new administration in the United States. As technology advances, so must we. Here are some points to consider as we move into 2025 and beyond:

1. Embracing the Potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Automation, and Technology

Technological advancements are exciting, and it is wise to experiment. But, as you integrate new technology into your business operations, aim to preserve the human touch and find ways to stand out among the sea of robots.

2. Protecting Your Business from Cyberattacks

Be proactive. Don't wait until something terrible happens to address cybersecurity. Educate yourself on best practices and available resources, invest in firewalls and encryption, and train employees to avoid phishing scams and data breaches. Performing regular security audits and building partnerships with cybersecurity firms can also help you protect sensitive customer and employee information.

3. Attracting and Retaining Talent Amid Evolving **Expectations**

Strategic human resource management is not optional. It is necessary for any business hoping to gain a competitive edge in the talent marketplace. Companies that wish to grow and scale must consider the type of organization needed and how it might evolve. Only then can you craft strategies for hiring the people you need and supporting them.

4. Upskilling and Reskilling the Workforce

Aging workforce, retirements, lack of training has created a skills gap in many industries. By 2025, upskilling and reskilling will be central to business

Forward-thinking organizations will prioritize learning and development programs, partnering with educational institutions and leveraging online platforms to create accessible, ongoing training opportunities for employees.

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5. Protecting Your Business from Economic and **Environmental Volatility**

These concerns affect big and small companies alike, but smaller businesses are typically more agile and creative and can use this opportunity to gain an edge.

6. Managing the Effects of Political Uncertainty &

Staying compliant will require agility and foresight, especially for those engaged with or dependent upon major tech ecosystems. Track regulations and policies closely and prepare to adjust as circumstances change.

7. Remote & Hybrid Work Models Become Standard

Hybrid and remote work models will be normalized across industries. Organizations will be focused on creating flexible work environments, emphasizing employee well-being, and providing resources for remote productivity.

8. Rise of the Circular Economy

A circular approach emphasizes reducing waste by reusing, repairing, and recycling products and materials.

9. Reshoring

In 2025, there will be a stronger push toward reshoring, with companies investing in local manufacturing to reduce dependence on overseas suppliers. Reshoring allows for faster response times, reduced environmental impact, and resilience against global shocks.

Industries that rely on critical components or have high shipping costs will particularly benefit from a localized approach. This trend will be complemented by advancements in 3D printing and automation, which allow for cost-effective local production at scale.

Economic Challenges

Under the Biden administration, the U.S. manufacturing sector has faced a mix of challenges, many of which were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and global supply chain disruptions. While the administration has prioritized reviving American manufacturing through initiatives like the "Buy American" executive orders and efforts to boost domestic production of critical technologies, issues such as rising material costs, labor shortages, and logistical bottlenecks have persisted. Additionally, manufacturers are grappling with the pressures of transitioning to greener and more sustainable production processes in line with the administration's climate goals, which often require significant investment. Tariffs and trade tensions, particularly with China, have also created uncertainty in global supply chains, making it harder for

manufacturers to secure materials and components. Despite efforts to foster innovation and infrastructure improvements, the sector continues to struggle with competitiveness in an increasingly complex global market, highlighting the need for more targeted solutions to address both short-term disruptions and longterm structural changes.

Geopolitical Concerns

With the new administration, there are of course many things that can and will affect all of our economies around the world. These include the potential of tariffs on Canada, potential tariffs on Mexico, if there will be a resolution of the Ukraine/Russia conflict, climate related events like EV/ICE and Netzero, and more.

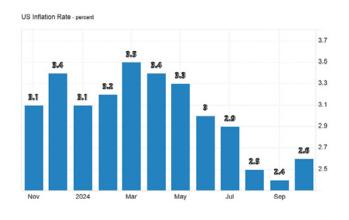


Figure 1 - US inflation rate up to and including October 2024.

The annual inflation rate in the US accelerated to 2.6% in October 2024, up from 2.4% in September which was the lowest rate since February 2021, and in line with market expectations. It marks the first increase in inflation in seven months, as energy costs declined less (-4.9% vs -6.8%), mainly due to gasoline (-12.2% vs -15.3%) and fuel oil (-20.8% vs -22.4%) while natural gas prices rose 2%, the same as in September. Also, inflation for shelter steadied at 4.9%. On the other hand, inflation slowed for food (2.1% vs 2.3%) and transportation (8.2% vs 8.5%) and prices continued to fall for new vehicles (-1.3% vs -1.3%) and used cars and trucks (-3.4% vs -5.1%). On a monthly basis, CPI rose by 0.2%, consistent with the previous three months, also matching forecasts. The index for shelter rose 0.4%, accounting for over half of the monthly increase. Meanwhile, core inflation remained steady at 3.3% as expected, with monthly core inflation also holding at 0.3%, the same as in September.



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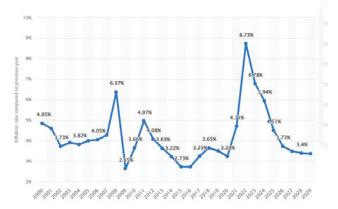


Figure 2 - Global inflation rate forecast to 2029.

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The figure above shows the global inflation rate as forecast into the year 2029. The projection for 2025 is 4.51%. You can see the spike having happened in 2022 with the rates being predicted to fall in the coming years - all happening post-pandemic.

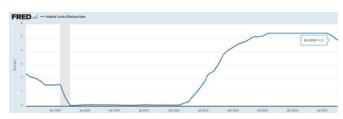


Figure 3 - Effective federal funds rate: January 2022 - .08% to October 2024 - 4.83%. Possible rate softening in 2025.

Most expect the Federal Open Market Committee to cut interest rates in 2025. However, the question remains how much and how fast. Fixed income market futures project that short-term interest rates could fall in 2025 perhaps as low as 3%. Alternatively given certain economic data, rates could remain relatively close to the current band of 4.5% to 4.75%.

If the jobs market were to weaken rapidly, causing recession fears to surface, then interest rates could end 2025 close to 3%. If the jobs market remained robust, the cuts are still probable, but rates will likely remain closer to 4% and more attention will be given to inflation trends. The path interest rates ultimately take will depend on incoming economic data. Still, it is most likely that interest rates continue to trend down from their current 4.% to 4.75% range, but the pace of that decline is in question for the year ahead.

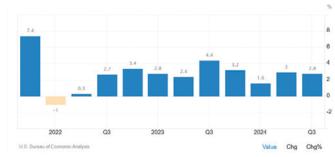
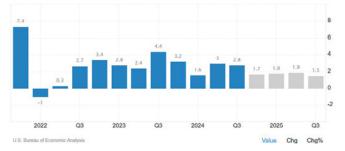


Figure 4 - US GDP growth rate - Q3 2024.



igure 5 - US GDP forecast.

The US economy expanded an annualized 2.8% in Q3 2024, below 3% in Q2 and forecasts of 3%, the advance estimate from the BEA showed. Personal spending increased at the fastest pace since Q1 2023 (3.7% vs 2.8% in Q2), boosted by a 6% surge in consumption of goods (6% vs 3%) and a robust spending on services (2.6% vs 2.7%), mostly prescription drugs, motor vehicles and parts, outpatient services and food services and accommodations.

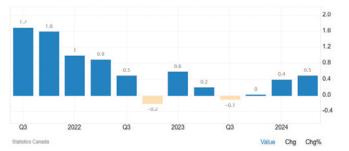


Figure 6 - Canada GDP growth rate.

The Canadian economy advanced by 0.5% in the second quarter of 2024, following a 0.4% rise in the previous period marking its second consecutive quarter of expansion. This growth was primarily driven by a 1.5% rise in government spending, fueled by higher wages, and a rebound in federal, provincial, and territorial government purchases of goods and services, which had previously declined. Business investment in machinery and equipment surged by 6.5%, led by increased spending on aircraft and transportation equipment. In contrast, household spending slowed to 0.2% in Q2, down from 0.9% in Q1, as higher spending on services (+0.5%) was offset by reduced purchases of goods (-0.2%). Exports and housing investment both declined, by 0.4% and 1.9% respectively.

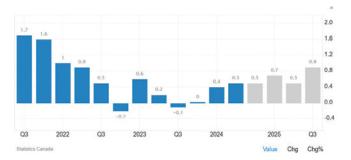
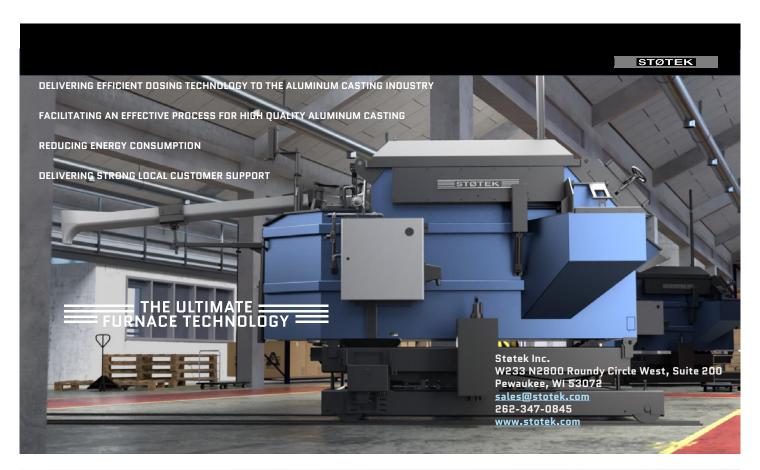


Figure 7 - Canada GDP forecast.







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The GDP in Canada expanded 0.50 percent in the second quarter of 2024 over the previous quarter. GDP growth rate in Canada is expected to be 0.50 percent by the end of this quarter, according to Trading Economics global macro models and analysts' expectations. In the long-term, the Canada GDP Growth Rate is projected to trend around 1.00 percent in 2025 and 0.80 percent in 2026, according to our econometric models.

Canada's economy is diversified and highly developed. Foreign trade is responsible for about 45 percent of the nation's GDP and the United States is by far the largest trade partner. On the expenditure side, household consumption is the main component of GDP and accounts for 58 percent of its total use. followed by gross fixed capital formation (22 percent) and government expenditure (19 percent). Exports of goods and services account for 32 percent of GDP while imports account for 33 percent, subtracting 1 percent of total GDP. Non-profit institutions serving households' final consumption expenditure and investment in inventories account for the remaining 2 percent.

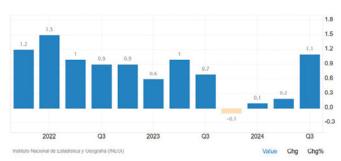


Figure 8 - Mexico GDP growth rate.

The Mexican GDP expanded by 1.1% from the previous guarter in the three months ending in September of 2024, accelerating sharply from the 0.2% increase in the earlier period and ahead of the preliminary estimate of 1%, surpassing the initial market expectations of a 0.8% rise. It was the sharpest pace of expansion since the first quarter of 2022, adding leeway for the Bank of Mexico to cut its interest rate at a moderate pace to maintain its fight against inflation.

Growth was led by the sharp rebound for primary activities (4.9% vs -0.2% in Q2). Additionally, output accelerated for both secondary (0.9% vs 0.3%) and tertiary (1.1% vs 0.1%) activities. From the previous year, the Mexican GDP expanded by 1.6%.

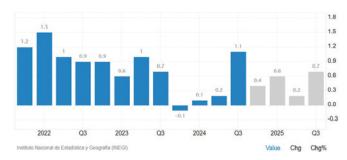


Figure 9 - Mexico GDP forecast.

third guarter of 2024 over the previous guarter. GDP Growth Rate in Mexico is expected to be 0.40 percent by the end of this quarter, according to Trading Economics global macro models and analysts' expectations. In the long-term, the Mexico GDP Growth Rate is projected to trend around 1.00 percent in 2025 and 0.80 percent in 2026, according to the econometric models.

In Mexico, services account for 62 percent of total GDP. The biggest segments within services are: wholesale and retail trade (16 percent); real estate (10 percent); transport, warehousing and communications (7 percent) and financial services and insurance (6 percent). Industry constitutes 18 percent of output and the largest segments within this sector are: automobile industry (4 percent of total GDP) and food industry (3.8 percent). The remaining share is divided by: construction, water, gas and electricity distribution (8 percent), mining (5 percent), government (4 percent) and agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (3 percent).

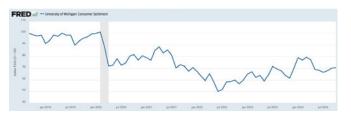


Figure 10 - Consumer sentiment -how optimistic consumers are with their nances and the overall state of the economy.

Consumer sentiment remains an issue. After a small rise around the early parts of 2024, sentiment shows another drop in the middle of 2024. It is struggling to return to pre-pandemic levels as can be seen in January 2020 on this chart.



Figure 11 - Personal consumption - what people in the United States are paying for items.

People in the United States have paid more for items in the post-pandemic world and the numbers continue to hover somewhere above the pre-pandemic levels.

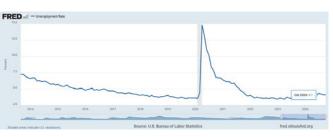


Figure 12 - October 2024 unemployment at 4.1%

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the threemonth low in the prior month, and aligned with market expectations. The number of unemployed individuals was broadly unchanged at 7 million. Among those without employment, permanent job losers rose slightly to 1.8 million, while temporary layoffs were little changed at 846 thousand. In turn, long-term unemployment was little changed from the previous month at 1.6 million. In the meantime, the labor force participation rate eased by 0.1 percentage points to 62.6%. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

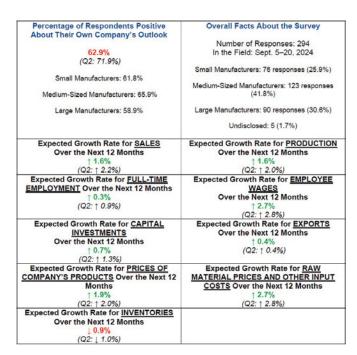


Figure 13 - NAM Outlook survey from the third quarter of 2024.

The chart above summarizes the manufacturers outlook for the coming year based on data from the National Association of Manufacturers. Of note is that costs and wages are expected to rise in the coming months and year.

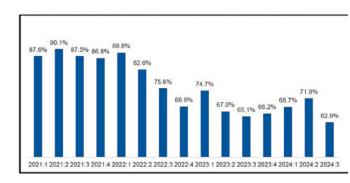


Figure 14 - NAM manufacturing CEO outlook, Q3 2024.

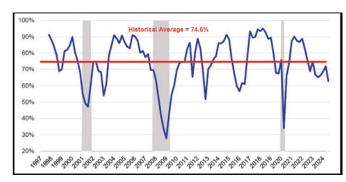


Figure 15 - Manufacturing business outlook by quarter - Q4 1997-Q3 2024. Revisions highlighted in gray. We are still below historic averages.

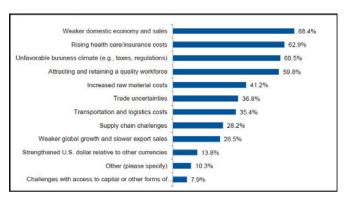


Figure 16 - Manufacturing CEO's rate challenges, Q3 2024. Primary current business challenges

As shown in figure 16, challenges rated by manufacturing CEOs are some of the same as we have seen for years. The top mentions being domestic economy and sales, rising healthcare and insurance costs, and an unfavorable business climate because of taxes, regulations and so on. Another issue we have seen is not only attracting but retaining a quality workforce.

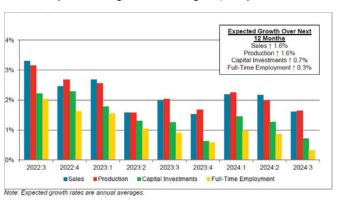


Figure 17 - Expected growth of manufacturing activity. The growth rates are

End Market Analysis

There are several markets served by die casting. For several years, end markets have included lawn and garden equipment, hand and power tools, telecommunication devices, computers and business equipment, plumbing, medical devices, sports and recreation equipment, aerospace, and others.

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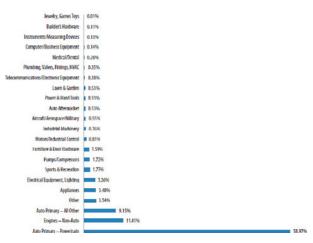


Figure 18 - Aluminum die casting markets. Automotive continue to be top market for die casting.

More recently, opportunities to serve the robotics and the renewable energy industries have increased. However, for several years, the top 2 markets, comprising about 75% of all shipments, have remained the automotive market and the housing market. At approximately 68% of the shipments, automotive is the top market for aluminum die casting followed by housing at approximately 9% of shipments.

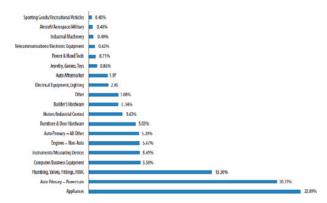


Figure 19 - Zinc die casting markets. Housing as the top market for zinc.

At approximately 45% of shipments, housing is the top market for zinc die casting followed by automotive at about 26% of the shipments. With automotive and housing comprising the bulk of all die casting shipments, the sales and sales forecast information below is focused on these two markets.



Figure 20 - Monthly SAAR light vehicle sales.

Labor-related plant shutdowns in the U.S. that covered the latter half of September and most of October negatively impacted deliveries in November. Combined sales of the vehicles impacted by shutdowns fell 15% year-over-year in November. If those vehicles had matched year-ago results, sales would have totaled 15.9 million-unit SAAR.

In 2024, the United States is expected to sell around 15.7 million light-duty vehicles. Here are some other insights into light vehicle sales in the US in 2024:

Factors affecting sales:

• Economic and political uncertainty, high interest rates, and high vehicle prices have all contributed to a dip in sales in the third quarter. However, affordability is improving, and some are optimistic about the outlook for the industry.

Electric Vehicle Sales

• Battery electric vehicle (BEV) sales are expected to increase by 8% compared to 2023. The BEV share of sales has been above 8% every month since June.

Automakers

• Honda and Ford are expected to post growth in 2024, while others such as Stellantis, Toyota, and BMW are predicted to face declines.

Inventory

• Inventory levels have been consistently rising in the fall over the past two years.

November Sales

• S&P Global Mobility expects light vehicle sales to be up 6% in November from a year ago. The share of battery electric vehicles is expected to reach 8.7% in November.

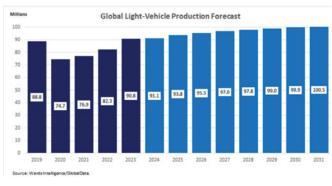


Figure 21 - Global light vehicle forecast all the way up to the year 2031.

After strong gains in the past three years, production growth will slow in 2024 as inventory rises faster than sales. A stronger global economy will boost demand, as well as production in 2025, but that will be followed with lukewarm annual growth in sales and output through 2031.



Figure 22 - Historical vehicle sales. Rates remain fairly consistent but below pre-pandemic levels.

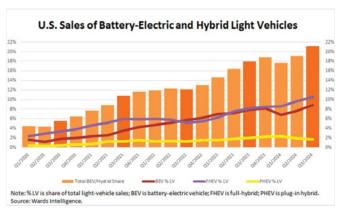


Figure 23 - EV sales through Q3 2024

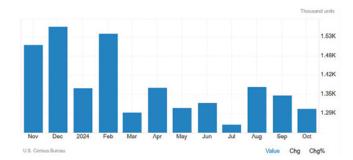


Figure 24 - Monthly SAAR new privately-owned housing starts.

Housing starts in the United States fell by 3.1% to 1.311 million in October 2024, compared to a downwardly revised 1.353 million in September and below forecasts of 1.33 million as construction activity fell sharply in the South due to hurricanes. Still, at the forefront of a broader trend, housing starts continue to face challenges amidst an increasing inventory of new homes for sale and mortgage rates nearing 7%. Starts of single-family homes plunged 6.9%, equivalent to an annualized rate of 0.97 million while starts for houses with five units or more were up by 9.8% to 0.326 million.

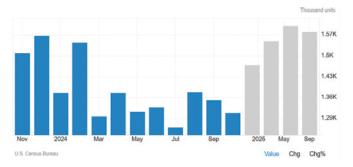


Figure 25 - Housing starts forecast.

Housing Starts in the United States decreased to 1311 Thousand units in October from 1353 Thousand units in September of 2024. Housing Starts in the United States is expected to be 1470.00 Thousand units by the end of this quarter, according to Trading Economics global macro models and analysts expectations.

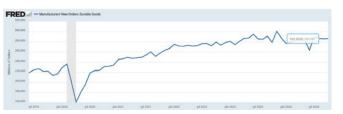


Figure 26 - Appliances tied to housing.

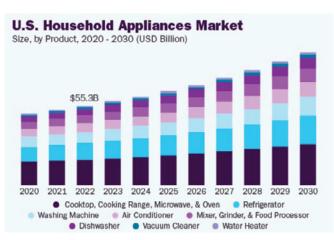


Figure 27 - Household appliances market with predictions for the future.

The market will grow due to various growth drivers such as an increase in single-person households, an increase in disposable income, an increase in the number of smart homes, an increase in the millennial population, an increase in online sales of small household appliances, an increase in the demand for smart sensors, an increase in the demand for energy optimization, and so on.

Trade and Supply Chains

Under the new administration, tariffs on China are expected to increase in 2025 and 2026 on certain goods. Electric vehicle tariffs are to increase to 100%. The alloy tool steel tariff is increasing to 25%.

There is a process happening regarding machine tariff exclusions. The office of the United States Trade Representative is establishing an exclusion process to suspend tariffs. US importers may request a temporary exclusion. Classified under chapters 84 and 85 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS), some exclusions have been proposed. If granted, they will be given out on a rolling basis only through May 31, 2025.

Increased Tariffs on China

This action comes in response to a 4-year review of Section 301 tariffs. On January 1, 2025 and January 1, 2026, tariffs increase on certain goods. As said earlier in the article, electric vehicles tariffs increase to 100% by September 27. Steel & aluminum tariff rates increase to 25% and the same is true for zinc, chromium, tungsten and cobalt ores up to 25%. Medical gloves and permanent magnets increase to 25% in the year 2026.

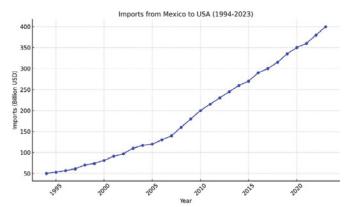


Figure 28 - Imports from Mexico are increasing.

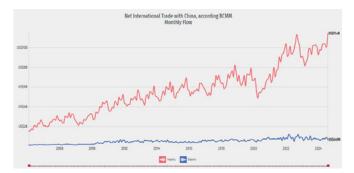


Figure 29 - Shipments from China to Mexico are on the rise.

Imports

There is growing concern over increased Chinese investment in Mexico. Transshipment is being used by China to Mexico in order to avoid tariffs. The United StatesMexico-Canada (USMCA) Trade Agreement will be under a six-year review coming in July 2026. Domestic consultations are already being held ahead of this review. These reviews could lead to changes in the agreement. While the entirety of the US plan has not yet been developed, initiatives that are being talked about in Washington include changes to the automotive industry rules of origin, changes in forced labor import prohibitions, new restrictions on Chinese companies in North America, and trying to resolve USMCA implementation disputes. The USTR is already

conducting a review of the automotive provisions. Parties involved could extend the USMCA for another 16 years or they may not agree, which would lead to an annual review of the USMCA.

Conclusions

The U.S. economy in 2024 reflects a mix of resilience and challenges. While key indicators like employment rates and consumer spending suggest steady economic activity, consumer sentiment, persistent inflationary pressures, higher interest rates, and global economic uncertainty continue to weigh on growth. Policymakers are navigating a delicate balance between sustaining economic momentum and curbing inflation, while businesses and households adapt to tighter financial conditions. Looking ahead, the trajectory of the U.S. economy will depend on the effectiveness of monetary and fiscal policies, as well as external factors such as geopolitical stability and global trade dynamics. Overall, the outlook remains cautiously optimistic, with opportunities for innovation and investment driving long-term growth prospects.

Other issues that are of note for the coming administration include the following:

- Wars in Gaza, Israel, Lebanon and the Ukraine continue to be troubling and lead to instability in the EU and worldwide.
- Trade and tariffs are tools, and "weapons", that can and should be used prudently and judiciously.
- Our elected officials need to work for the common good of the American people and accomplish these tasks expeditiously. To be in office and not get much done is a waste of time and effort on both sides.
- Inflation and GDP forecasts of the United States, Canada and Mexico are favorable, and the three countries must work together to strengthen the USMCA for our mutual benefit.
- The trend of nearshoring in Mexico has to be dealt with. Asian countries are continuing to look to circumvent the trade barriers and need to manufacture in Mexico for North America.

The coming months and next years when the new administration comes in will have a lot on their plate to work for the common good of the American people. Let us hope that there are actions taken that work for our collective benefit, and are a net-positive for North America.



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Herman	Edmund	Creative Concepts Co, Inc.	Shelby Township	(586) 247-4360	edmundaherman@comcast.net
Herrmann	Rainer	Herco, LLC	Auburn Hills	(248) 778-5119	rainer.herrmann@hercocast.com
Hewett	Spenser	Auto Cast, Inc.	Grandville	(616) 534-4941	shewett@autocastinc.com
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Hildreth	Terry	Hildreth Manufacturing, LLC	Marion	(740) 375-5832	t.hildreth@hildrethmfg.com
Hill	Andrea	Cosma Casting Michigan, Cosma International, Magna International	Jackson	(269) 966-4900	andrea.hill@magna.com
Hoffman	Kris	BuhlerPrince, Inc.	Holland	(616) 394-8248	kristopher.hoffman@buhlergroup.com
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King	Larry	TAC Manufacturing Incorporated	Jackson	(517) 789-7000	Iking@tramgroup.com
Kirkman	Jonathan	Die Therm Engineering, LLC Grand Rapids, MI	Ada	(616) 822-4016	skirkman@dietherm.com
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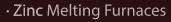


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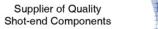
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Surch	Brian	Smart Coast	Muskegon		briansurch@thesmartcoast.com
Sutter	Jason	Parker Hannifin Corporation Pneumatic Division NA	Richland	(269) 629-2464	jason.sutter@parker.com
Tagliabue	Giorgio	Brondolin North America	Pinellas Park	(269) 208-3867	william.tagliabue@brondolin.it
Terhune	Mitch	The Oilgear Company	Traverse City	(231) 929-1660	mterhune@oilgear.com
Terry	Chris	ACE Precision International, LLC	Saint Joseph	(641) 753-6520	cterry@intl-ace.com
Thavis	Matthew	Chem-Trend, LP	Park Ridge	(517) 546-4520	mthavis@chemtrend.com
Thomas	Tim	Michigan Automotive Compressor, Inc.	Parma	517-622-7000	thomast@michauto.com
Thompson	Beth	DME Company	Madison Heights	(248) 544-5748	dme@dme.net
Torres	Enrique	BuhlerPrince, Inc.	Holland	(616) 394-8248	enrique.torres@buhlergroup.com
Torrey	Donald	Hill and Griffith Company	Saint Joseph	(513) 921-1075	dtorrey13@comcast.net
Tubergen	Michael	Signet Machine, Inc.	Grandville	(616) 261-2939	mike@signetmachine.com
Vance	James	General Die & Engineering, Inc.	Grand Rapids	(616) 698-6961	jvance@gendie.com
VanDyken	Chad	BuhlerPrince, Inc.	Holland	(616) 394-8248	chad.vandyken@buhlergroup.com
Veenstra	Jon	Castool Tooling Systems	Uxbridge	(905) 852-0121	jon.veenstra@castool.com
Viswanathan	Ezhil	FPT North America	Livonia		ezhil.viswanathan@fptindustrie.com

Last	First	Company	City	Phone	Email
Wallace	Randy	Ritchey Metals Company, Inc.	Angola	(260) 668-3407	randy.wallace@midwestmetalexchange.
Walters	Jeff	Frech USA	Michigan City	(219) 874-2812	jwalters@frechusa.com
Waltz	Shawn	Western Michigan University	Kalamazoo		shawn.t.waltz@wmich.edu
Wanders	Debra	Die Cast Press Manufacturing, Co.	Paw Paw	(269) 657-6060	debra@diecastpress.com
Warnick	Keith	JKW International, LLC	Ferndale	(248) 881-6836	keith@keithwarnick.com
Weich	Heath	Hanson International	Saint Joseph	(269) 429-5555	hweich@hansoninternational.com
Weiler	Jonathan	Meridian Lightweight Technologies Inc. Global Technology Center	Strathroy	(519) 246-9600	jweiler@meridian-mag.com
Weiss	Mark	Metropolitan Alloys Corporation	Detroit	(313) 366-4444 x212	mweiss@metroalloys.com
Westra	Chris	Frech USA	Michigan City	(219) 874-2812	cwestra@frechusa.com
Wheeler	Jeff	Nexthermal Corporation	Battle Creek	(269) 964-0271	j.wheeler@nexthermal.com
White	Steven	Metalworks Recycle-Reload, LLC	Bowling Green		swhite@metalworksrr.com
White	Mark	Shape Corporation	Grand Haven	(616) 403-0997	whitem@shapecorp.com
Wiegerink	Gerrit		Holland	(616) 994-2954	wiegerinkg@gmail.com
Wiegerink	Tanner		Holland		tannerwiegerink@gmail.com
Wilkerson	Emma		Ada		erwilkerson4@gmail.com
Williams	Gary	Centracore, LLC	Saint Clair	(586) 776-5500	gwilliams@centracore.com
Wilson	William	Mag-Tec Casting Corporation	Jackson	(517) 789-8505	bill@mag-teccasting.com
Withers	Christopher	LICON MT, LP	Dexter	(734) 426-2240	christopher.withers@licon.com
Woodrum	Ben	Cascade Die Casting Group Great Lakes	Sparta	(616) 887-1771	bwoodrum@cascade-cdc.com
Xu	Gordon	AAM - American Axle & Manufacturing	Detroit	(313) 758-2000	gordon.xu@aam.com
Yakim	Jeffery	Cosma Casting Michigan, Cosma International, Magna International	Battle Creek	(269) 966-4900	jeffery.yakim@magna.com
Young	Robert	Cascade Die Casting Group Great Lakes	Sparta	(616) 887-1771	ryoung@cascade-cdc.com
Zech	Gary	Oerlikon Balzers Coating USA, Inc.			gzech@dnfmold.com
Zecman	Kurt	Pegasus Industries, Inc.	Redford	(313) 937-3350	kurt@pegasustcs.com
Zerling	Georg	GF Casting Solutions	Grosse Pointe	(514) 331-7510	georg.zerling@georgfischer.com
Zheng	Li	Gil-Mar Mfg	Walled Lake	(517) 316-5299	Izheng@ltu.edu

3415 Roger B. Chaffee Memorial. Blvd -Suite 210 Wyoming, MI (Michigan) 49548 USA Phone: 616-475-0059 Cell: 616-292-2707 DaAliya@itothen.com www.itothen.com

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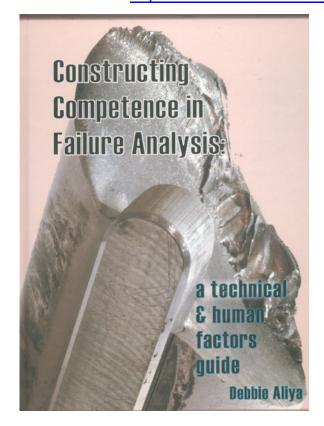
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SCHOLARSHIP

AWARD WINNERS

NADCA Chapter 3 is proud to announce the awarding of \$15,000 in scholarships to six outstanding students for the 2024/2025 academic year. These scholarships reflect our continued commitment to fostering the next generation of talent in the high pressure die casting industry.

Since I began serving as Scholarship Chair, we've had the opportunity to award 21 scholarships, totaling approximately \$45,000 in financial assistance. While many recipients have pursued engineering degrees, our support is not limited to that field we're proud to assist students from a variety of disciplines who are interested in contributing to the future of die casting. This continued support would not be possible without the generosity of our sponsors and the success of our key fundraising efforts, including the Chapter Directory and annual Golf Outing. We extend our sincere thanks to all who help make these programs possible.

In addition to the scholarships, we are continuing our support of the NADCA Chapter 3 Endowment at Western Michigan University, which is focused on assisting students with a demonstrated interest in high pressure die casting. We are also pleased to sponsor four high school students from our chapter to attend the WMU Die Casting Short Course - an initiative that introduces younger students to opportunities within our field.

Together, these efforts reflect NADCA Chapter 3's ongoing dedication to education, innovation, and the future of high pressure die casting.

Thanks,

Steve Quirk

Chair of Scholarships



Erickson Carpenter

Erickson is from Grand Rapids, Michigan, and is a senior at Grand Valley State University pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Mathematics. He currently works as a mechanical engineering co-op at BühlerPrince, a leading manufacturer of die casting and injection molding equipment. Erickson contributes to the design and development of advanced manufacturing machinery, gaining hands-on experience in a field he is passionate about.

Erick is a 2nd time applicant & recipient of this scholarship.



Haley Hamstra

Haley is a Junior at Davenport University and is a member of the honors accountancy program there. She is on track to graduate in Spring of 2026 with a Bachelor's and Master's degree, and plans to sit for the CPA exams. She currently is an accounting intern at Die-Tech and Engineering, located in Wyoming, MI. Through a rigorous academic curriculum and hands-on experiences, she has developed a solid foundation in financial principles, business management, and accounting practices

Haley is a 1st time recipient of this scholarship.



Sam Riggs

Sam is a senior at Grand Valley State University, originally from Rockford, Michigan. He is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and is on expected to graduate in the Fall of 2025. Currently, Sam is gaining hands-on industry experience as an engineering intern at Cascade Die Casting Group, where he is involved in aluminum die cast injection molding, controls, automation, and has developed a strong foundation in Keyence Vision Systems.

> Sam is a 1st time recipient of this scholarship.

SCHOLARSHIP

AWARD WINNERS



Demitrios Cortez

Demitrios Cortez is a Mechanical Engineering student at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo MI. He is currently working on the "Die Casting in a Box 4.0" project led by Dr. Sam Ramrattan along with two other team members. He has previously worked for Dr. Robert Tuttle on researching hot tears in steel alloys. He plans on graduating in Fall 2025.

Demitrios is a 1nd time recipient of this scholarship.



Brennan Neitzel

Brennan is a student at Grand Valley State University, pursuing a degree in Electrical engineering. He is passionate about automation and controls engineering, Brennan has gained hands-on experience through coursework and internships, including work with die casting processes and related technologies. Brennan has been involved in projects ranging from schematic and software creation. writing scripts to automate everyday tasks, while demonstrating a strong interest in automation and precision engineering. He is grateful for the support of NADCA Chapter 3 over the last two years and looks forward to continuing to develop skills in die casting and manufacturing technology.

Brennan is a 2nd time recipient of this scholarship.

Andrew DeVries

Andrew, from Hudsonville, Michigan, is pursuing a Master of Science in Cybersecurity at Grand Valley State University, with an expected graduation in 2027. He works at Cascade Die Casting Group, Inc., where he supports die casting operations by ensuring the security and resilience of the company's computer infrastructure. His work focuses on maintaining the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of customer data.

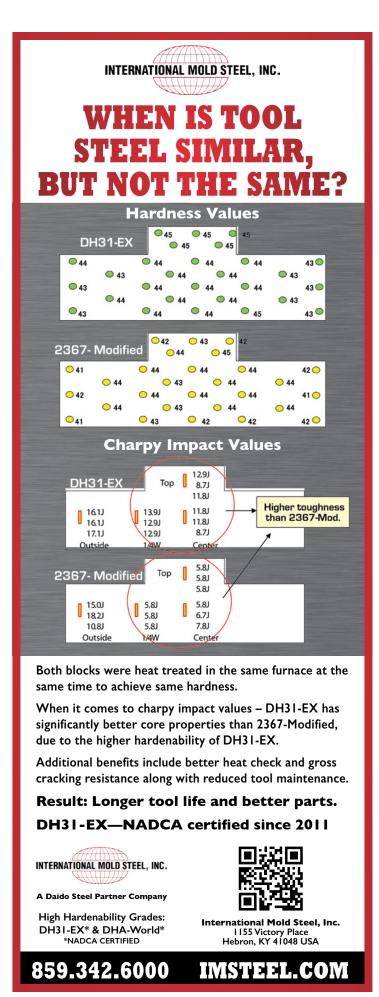
Andrew is a 1st time recipient of this scholarship.

For scholarship information or questions for any of the above programs, please email: Steve Quirk (Scholarship Chair) | quirk@cascade-cdc.com

CHAPTER 3 OBJECTIVES

The purpose and objectives of the Chapter shall be as follows:

- To advance the science of die casting and the utilization of die casting through education and research.
- To advance the knowledge and application of the science of die casting, and to institute and participate in projects for the attainment of the result.
- To support and stimulate the study and development of the theory and practice of die casting and related sciences, including engineering, metallurgy, physics, chemistry, and mechanics.
- To accumulate and disseminate authoritative scientific information relating to
 the development of die casting including
 the process, design, application, testing, and finishing as may be available
 through research, field experience, and
 special study.
- To provide, evaluate, and exchange information related to safety in the die casting industry, including its industrial hygience, physical, and mechanical aspects.
- Educate, train, and recruit young people into the discipline of die-casting.
- The Chapter can manifest these objectives through the presentation of speakers on subjects of interest to the membership, social events where technical persons may be drawn together, acting as a conduit for scholarship awards, the presentation of technical seminars, and other activities that may enhance the objectives of the North American Die Casting Association.

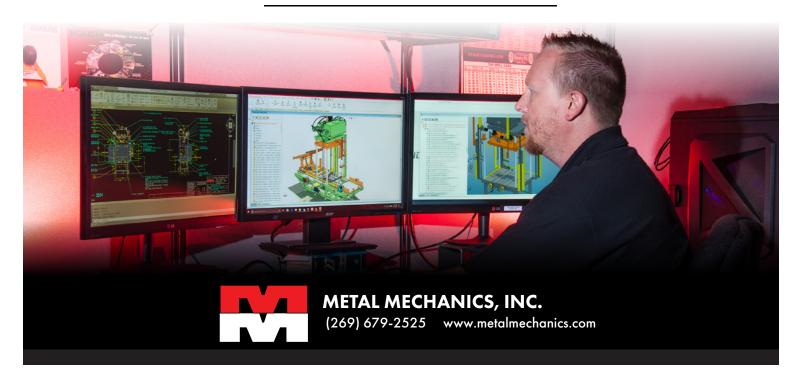


48 www.nadcachapter3.org



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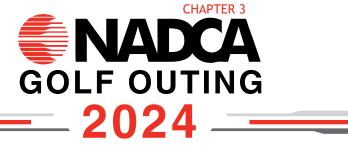












The Day

August 16 started with a bang! A thunderstorm rolled through and relocated registration, doughnuts, and coffee to the pavilion. The storm was gone by the time we teed off, and it was a great day! 192 people from all over came to West Michigan to help support our scholarship efforts. A parade of golf carts scattered around four of the five courses to our designated spots. Play began at 8:30. Mulligans and helpful tosses insured that everyone had a great time!

The Sponsors

From major event sponsors, to meal sponsors, keg sponsors, and the many companies that sponsored holes, we appreciate your dedication to supporting our Chapter specifically, and our Industry as a whole. This outing allows us to provide complimentary meals at our dinner meetings, as well as providing major scholarship assistance to students pursuing a career in Die Casting.

Please see our Nadca Chapter 3 website https:// nadcachapter3.org for specific details regarding our scholarship program, as well as a complete list of our many wonderful sponsors!

Looking Forward

In 2025 we continue to host our golf outing at Saskatoon Golf Club. This allows all our golfers to play at the same premium location.

We expect an even larger turnout this year, so sign up soon! We have many opportunities for sponsorship of various activities, and even offer a chance to rent a hole, so your company can advertise its product and have personnel running a hole-in-one contest or anything you want to do on your rented hole.

2025 Golf Outing Date:

August 15, 2025

Register your foursome at:

https://nadca-chapter-3-golfouting.perfectgolfevent.com/

2025 GOLF OUTING SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Due to your exceptionally generous support in the past outings, we would like to offer the following sponsorship opportunities to our die casting supporters.

Please remember, your donations allow our chapter to fully underwrite two to three NADCA classes every year for chapter members.

The List of Elite Sponsorship Opportunities are as follows:

Golf Towel Sponsor

\$4,000

- Company name on golf towels given to each golfer
- Includes foursome & tee box signs

Sponsorship limited to 2 Sponsors

Deadline: July 5th

NADCA Event Sponsor

\$3,000

- Logo on large welcoming banner displayed on the clubhouse
- · Contact information on all documents

Sponsorship limited to 2 Sponsors

Golf Ball Sponsor

\$2,750

 Company name on golf balls given to each golfer

Limited to 1 Sponsor

Beer Cart Sponsor

\$1.000

• Company logn on a sign on each beer cart

Sponsorship limited to 5 Sponsors

Vendor Night Sponsor

\$700

• Company logo on a large banner displayed at the venue

Sponsorship limited to 4 Sponsors

Dinner Sponsor

\$750

 Company logo on a large banner displayed in dining area & a tee box sign on each course

Sponsorship limited to 4 Sponsors

Hole Flag Sponsorship

- Company name on a hole flag (the flags will be yours to keep)
- Flags will be presented to sponsoring companies after dinner

Sponsorship limited to 18 Sponsors

Deadline: July 5th

"Keg at the Turn" Sponsor

• Company logo on a large banner displayed in dining area

Sponsorship limited to 18 Sponsors

Breakfast Sponsor

• Company logo on a large banner displayed in dining area

Sponsorship limited to 4 Sponsors

Hole Sponsor

\$250

· Company name on a tee box on each course

Range Ball Sponsor

\$250

• Company logo on a sign in the range area

Sponsorship limited to 4 Sponsors

Product Sponsor

 Donate products to be used as raffle prizes or in outing prize bags

Additional sponsorship opportunities available upon request.

All sponsors are also mentioned on the rule sheet, sponsor sheet on each table at dinner, and noted on the chapter website.

Please specify sponsorship requested and fill in the amount on your sign-up sheet, on our website, or send in with your check before July 31, 2025 to allow us time to print all necessary signage.

For More Details or to Make a Donation

www.nadcachapter3.org | www.nadcagolfouting.com



2024

DIE CASTING AWARD WINNERS

For the last 50 years NADCA has sponsored its International Die Casting Design Competition to showcase outstanding die cast designs, while acknowledging the continuous contribution die casters provide to the manufacturing industry.

Die casters continue to improve the die casting process and quality. This in turn improves the customer's end product and expands the market potential for die castings. The 2024 International Die Casting Competition saw among the winning castings a magnesium die casting replace what is traditionally a cast iron part, aluminum die castings for structural applications (small and large), and the use of additively manufactured dies for conformal cooling. Winning castings utilized the advantages of the die casting process to provide a solution for their customer; often reducing the cost of the end product.

Categories in the competition are grouped by material and include aluminum, magnesium, zinc and other alloy families, including aluminum and magnesium structural die casting. Both custom and captive casters are eligible. For each category, there are four equally weighted criteria: ingenuity of casting and/or product design, overall quality, cost savings as compared to other manufacturing processes, and the part's contribution to expanding the market for die castings. A panel of independent judges, acknowledged experts, with no ties to eligible casters, choose the winners.

NADCA will honor this year's award winners at its 2024 Die Casting Industry Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, October 1 at 12:15 - 2:00 pm EDT during the Die Casting Congress & Exposition in Indianapolis, IN. The luncheon is an exceptional opportunity to meet this year's winners and learn more about their innovations.

TO COMPETE IN 2025

Innovative die casting design entries may be entered in the 2025 Die Casting Design Competition. All award-winning castings will be displayed next year at NADCA's Die Casting Congress & Tabletop, October 7-9 in Milwaukee, WI.

The competition is open to die castings from aluminum, magnesium, zinc, semisolid & squeeze, and other alloy families. Within each category, there are more specific levels: aluminum under 1 pound; aluminum 1-to-10 pounds; aluminum over 10 pounds; aluminum structural; aluminum any size with decorative finish; zinc under 6 ounces/non-electroplated; zinc over 6 ounces/non-electroplated; zinc any size with decorative finish; magnesium over 0.5 pound; and magnesium under 0.5 pound.

Any number of die castings may be entered in the awards competition. Complete and submit a separate entry form for each casting or assembly of castings. As-cast entries are required (post trimming). The metal surface cannot be improved or concealed by tumbling, shot blasting, coating or other surface treatments. NADCA encourages sending secondary processed samples, but these must be in addition to the as-

Castings submitted for the competition MUST have approval in writing from the customer allowing NADCA to use the casting(s) in exhibitions and magazine articles. When possible, information and photographs describing the design process will be published in Die Casting Engineer magazine, but because of proprietary reasons, not all information can be shared. Such exceptions should be noted on your entry form.

More information and electronic entry form can be found at www.diecasting. org/castings/competition. All entries must be submitted by June 23, 2025. For more information, contact: Beau Glim at glim@diecasting.org.

Send sample casting(s) to: NADCA - 2025 Casting Competition 3250 N. Arlington Heights Rd., Ste. 101 Arlington Heights, IL 60004

ALUMINUM - UNDER 1 LBS

GENERAL DIE CASTERS, INC.

PART: Glass Stow Latch Assembly

MATERIAL: 383

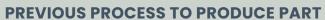
WEIGHT: 0.8 lbs (0.36 kg) **END MARKET: Automotive** **CASTER AWARD NOMINEES:** John Quitter & Tim Tennant

CUSTOMER: Flex N Gate



FUNCTION OF PART

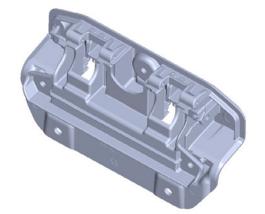
Secures rear window glass on truck midgate to allow 5.9' bed to extend to 9 feet.



Injection molding and investment castings.

ADVANTAGES GAINED

Injection molding failed to secure windows during crash testing. Investment castings used short term, but were not a cost effective alternative.



General Die Casters, Inc. 2150 Highland Rd.

Twinsburg, OH 44087 USA

ALUMINUM - 1-10 LBS

BENDA TOOL & MODEL WORKS

PART: Enclosure MT3100

MATERIAL: 304

Winner

Award

WEIGHT: 7.3 lbs (3.3 kg)

END MARKET:

Electronic Communication

CASTER AWARD NOMINEES: Ryszard Urbaniak, Dan Jacks, & Ricardo Paniagua CUSTOMER:

Datron World Communications, Inc



FUNCTION OF PART

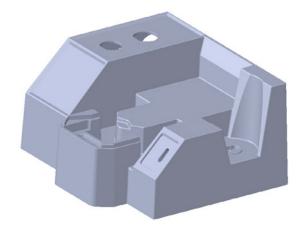
Communication device housing.



ADVANTAGES GAINED

Able to produce consistent dimensional specifications on features and meet weight requirements without requiring extensive post-machine that was required in sand casting. Cost savings was nearly 50%.





Benda Tool & Model Works

900 Alfred Nobel Dr. Hercules, CA 94547 USA

ALUMINUM – STRUCTURAL UNDER 10 LBS

PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN IKD CO., DN **AUTOMOTIVE, & GENERAL MOTORS**

PART: Electric Drive Unit Mounting Bracket MATERIAL: A356-T6 Swirled Enthalpy Equilibration Device (SEED) **WEIGHT:** 2.15 lbs (1.0 kg)

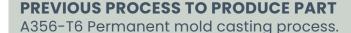
END MARKET: Automotive

CASTER AWARD NOMINEES: Xiaokang Liang (IKD), Hugh Leitch (DN Automotive), Sam Jomaa, Wojtek Suchta, & Frank Risko (General Motors) **CUSTOMER:** General Motors



FUNCTION OF PART

Locate and support rear electric drive unit.





ADVANTAGES GAINED

Significantly improved material mechanical and physical properties resulting in mass savings while meeting all functional requirements with tight tolerances.



IKD Co.

588 Jinshan Rd., Jiangbei District Ningbo, Zhejiang 315033 China

DN Automotive

1807 E. Maple Rd. Troy, MI 48083 USA

General Motors

29360 William Durant Boulevard Warren, MI 48092 USA



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ALUMINUM - STRUCTURAL OVER 10 LBS

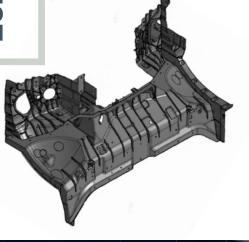
PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN XPENG INC., ALCOA CORP. AND CSMET

PART: XPENG G6 Front Cabin Mega Casting

MATERIAL: Alcoa EZCAST-plus C611N (Alcoa), Zhang YueBo (CSMET)

WEIGHT: 119 lbs (54 kg) **END MARKET: Automotive**

CASTER AWARD NOMINEES: Luo WenZhi (XPENG), Xinyan Yan **CUSTOMER:** XPENG Inc.





XPENG Inc

No. 8 Songgong Rd, Changxing St. Cencun, Tianhe District Guangzhou, Guangdong 510640 China

Alcoa Corporation

201 Isabella Street Suite 500 Pittsburgh, PA 15212-5858

CSMET New Materials Group Co., Ltd 699 Zhenyan Road, Zhangyan Town Jinshan District, Shanghai 201514 China

FUNCTION OF PART

The front cabin megacasting combines safety, weight savings, and structural integrity, making it a key feature in this electric SUV.

PREVIOUS PROCESS TO PRODUCE PART

Traditional assembly methods were used to join more than 50 high strength steel stamping components by welding and riveting. The single-piece megacasting not only simplifies assembly, but also enhances the structural integrity and reduces the weight of the vehicles.

ADVANTAGES GAINED

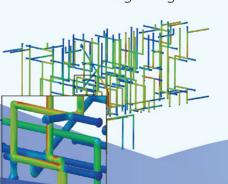
- 1. Alcoa EZCAST-plus C611N alloy was used in this application. The alloy can achieve more than 10% elongation and >120MPa yield strength in as-casting condition. The alloy eliminates the dedicated heat treat, and thus prevents the distortion of the megacasting (significant cost saving).
- The front cabin casting helps protect occupants and the battery in case of a crash by directing impacting forces away from the cabin and battery.
- 3. The front and rear mega castings and CIB battery integration technology produce body rigidity up to 41600N-m, 83% greater than traditional designs.
- 4. The front cabin megacasting allows XPENG to replace >50 separate components with a single cast piece. This not only eliminates complexity, but also lightens the vehicle by approximately 33 lbs (15 kg).

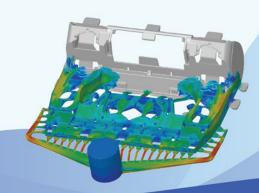
The efficiency in the production process directly translates into a lighter, more structurally sound vehicle.





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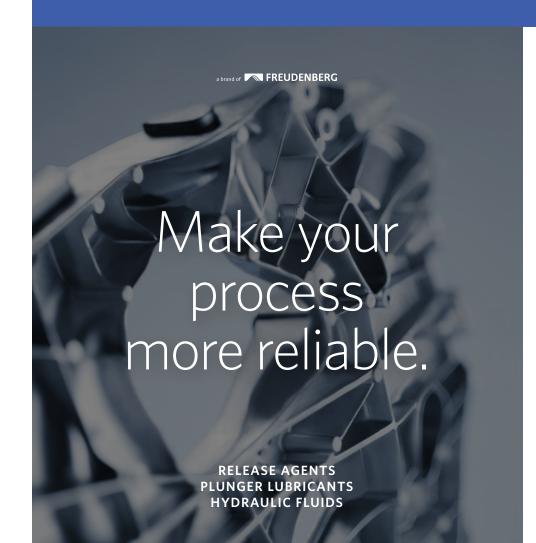




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Email:info@diecastpress.com

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- and models
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Award Winner

2024

ALUMINUM – INNOVATIVE TOOLING BENDA TOOL & MODEL WORKS

PART: Divot Tool / Bottle Opener MATERIAL: 383

WEIGHT: 0.1 lbs (45 g)

END MARKET: Sports and Leisure

CASTER AWARD NOMINEES:
Collin Elmer & Broderick Gillard
TOOL BUILDER: Mantle
CUSTOMER:

Benda Tool & Model Works / A&B Die Casting Division



2024 NADCA DIE CASTING COMPETITION 2024 NADCA DIE CASTING COMPETITION



FUNCTION OF PART

Repair golf divots and open beer bottles.

PREVIOUS PROCESS TO PRODUCE PART

Part is new to the die casting process. Chosen to prove the concept of using 3D printed H13 in the die casting industry.

ADVANTAGES GAINED

Research and development project to prove the concept of using 3D printed tooling. Worked with a San Francisco based company (Mantle) that traditionally builds 3D printed tooling for injection molding cavity inserts. Tooling company had no experience with high pressure die casting, but agreed to produce a small set of H13 steel inserts that could be run in exchange for tool life data. The divot tool was chosen for its size and shape and was designed to easily fit into the current working envelope of the supplier's equipment. 3D printing of the tool allows for rapid production of small die cavities. If the tool steel can acceptable withstand the high pressure die casting process more 3D printed tools will be produced in the future.

> 900 Alfred Nobel Dr. Hercules, CA 94547

> > USA

EXECUTIVE

CONFERENCE



NADCA recently held the annual Executive Conference at Marco Island, Florida. Nearly 130 participants were in attendance and enjoyed the sun, networking, and fantastic presentations. Chad Hymas was the Keynote speaker, and from his personal experiences, he relayed how to be resilient and overcome challenges in workplaces and personal lives.

Omar Nashashibi gave an extremely informative presentation about what is occurring in Washington DC, relating to tariffs, executive orders, and countless other actions. There were also presentations on the US Economy (with a specific focus on Die Casting), rising insurance costs, a financial update, a roundtable on automation, and we closed the conference with presentations on Al and NADCA's Research and Development Activities.

NADCA relies on feedback from the attendees and received a tremendous number of responses. Overall, the event received high reviews, including the venue, the presentations, the food, golf and shelling activities, and of course the Tuesday Night Casino Event! The NADCA Executive Conference continues to be a preferred destination and ranks highly amongst all industry events.

One Survey Respondent Stated:

"This event was flawless. Don't miss it! After attending S&P Platts, Harbor, Aluminum Association, and ISRI/ReMA Events, this was by far the most professional, informative, motivational, and enjoyable. The attention to detail was very evident. The attendees and the presentations, along with the entire flow of the event was perfect. I would strongly recommend anyone in the industry attend. A perfect 10 out of 10!"

2026 EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE

The NADCA 2026 Executive Conference will be held next year from March 1-4 at the Sandpearl Resort in Clearwater Beach, Florida. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending this fantastic event!









MAGNESIUM - OVER .5 LBS

MERIDIAN LIGHTWEIGHT TECHNOLOGIES

PART: HPDC AZ91D Magnesium Oil

Filer Housing

Winner

Award

2024

MATERIAL: AZ91D WEIGHT: 1.04 lbs (0.47 kg) **END MARKET:** Heavy Machinery

CUSTOMER:

Advanced Filtration Systems, Inc.



FUNCTION OF PART

Leak proof shelter for oil filter.



previously used.



ADVANTAGES GAINED

Switching to a magnesium die casting resulted in a 61% weight savings, a 50% cost-saving. The die casting process was also able to incorporate machined threads for easy installation and removal. Part and process design supported thin-wall cylinder casting integrity and efficient two-cavity casting die with advanced venting design.

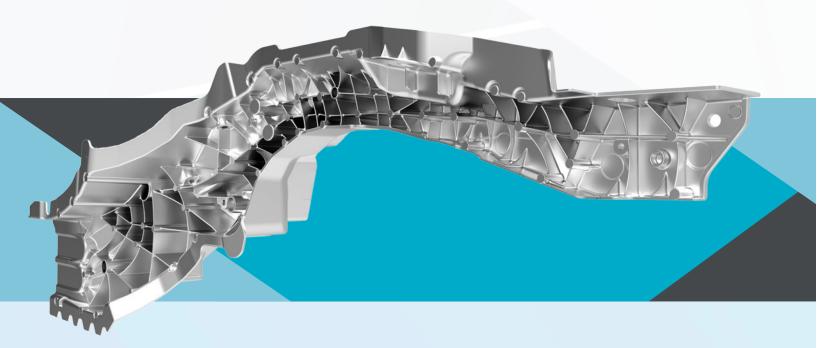


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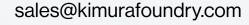
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Winne Award

2024

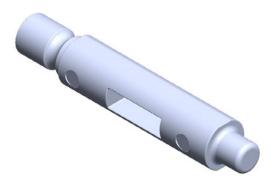
ZINC - UNDER 6 OZ

LAKESIDE CASTING SOLUTIONS

PART: 496 Regulator Valve Stem MATERIAL: Zamak 3 WEIGHT: 0.325 oz (9.2 a) **END MARKET: Energy Equipment**

CASTER AWARD NOMINEES: Dennis Lehenbauer **CUSTOMER: Utility Solutions Group**





FUNCTION OF PART

The valve stem traverses in a linear motion actuating an inlet valve, regulating the flow of pressurized gas in the system.

PREVIOUS PROCESS TO PRODUCE PART

Past part was machined from aluminum bar stock.

ADVANTAGES GAINED

Lakeside Casting Solutions (LCS) worked with Utility Solutions Group (USG) to develop a casting part print that met the need of the current part, plus add an additional feature for product safety. Once the geometry was agreed upon and a model was generated, LCS was allowed to complete a thermal / flow analysis that aided in assuring a sound casting. A die was built to fit into a multi slide Zinc press with a hydraulic shot end. The as cast part met dimensional and casting quality requirements. LCS was able to save USG over \$4.25 per unit.

> **Lakeside Casting Solutions** 2 Lakeside Dr. Monroe City, MO 63456 USA

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Bob McClintic, Owner/Consultant 523 Lincoln Lawns Dr NW Grand Rapids, Michigan 49534

Cell: 616-292-0454

E-mail: RMcClintic@DrDieCast.com



LinkedIn Profile: http://www.linkedin.com/in/bobmcclintic/



2025 - 2026

BOARD MEMBER INFORMATION

Position	Name/Company	Phone/Cell	Email
Chairperson Elected 1/25 thru 2025 BOG Rep	Todd Ikerd Auto Cast, Inc.	616-534-4941	tikerd@autocastinc.com
Vice Chairperson Elected 1/25 thru 2025 Advertising Team Co-Golf Chairperson	Steve Rikkers Allied Mineral	c: 616-291-6912	steve.rikkers@alliedmin.com
Treasurer Elected 1/24 thru 2025	Phil Rozema BuhlerPrince, Inc.	616-394-8202 c: 616-520-5115	phil.rozema@buhlergroup.com
Secretary, Advertising Team Elected 1/25 thru 2025	Rob McInerney RJMII, LLC	c: 616-251-8923	robmcinerney@chartermi.net
Education Chairperson	Don Torrey Hill and Griffith	c: 269-208-5770	dtorrey@hillandgriffith.com dtorrey13@comcast.net
Scholarship Chairperson Program Chairperson	Steve Quirk Cascade Die Casting	616-887-1771 c: 815-529-6362	squirk@cascade-cdc.com
Membership Chairperson	Mike Martin IHI Hauzer Techno Coating, LLC	c: 248-520-6581	michaelmartinmm@comcast.net
Co-Golf Chairperson	Steve Barendse	c: 231-288-7081	s.barendse0731@gmail.com
Trustee BOG Rep	Bill Berry DTE	616-530-9030	w.berry@dietech-gr.com
Trustee Advertising Team	Tyler Kroes Kimura Foundry America	c: 586-846-0993	tyler.kroes@gmail.com
Trustee	Bob McClintic Bob McClintic & Associates	616-288-5169 c: 616-292-0454	drdiecast@drdiecast.com
Trustee	Bob Worthy The Worthy Company	c: 517-204-6430	bob@worthycompany.com
Trustee	Jon Burns Martinrea International US, Inc.	c: 248-260-0243	jonathan.burns@martinrea.com
Trustee	Allen Farley Cascade Die Casting	c: 616-755-5006	afarley@cascade-cdc.com
Trustee	Jeremy DeHoff Cascade Die Casting	c: 231-638-7843	jdehoff@cascade-cdc.com
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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THEME FOR THE YEAR, "DRIVING CHANGE"

2025

January

- **16** Board Meeting Before Dinner Meeting
- **16** Dinner Meeting Peppino's
- **16** Innovation in Coating Technology & Surface Preparation Presented & Sponsored by Phygen

February

Publish Directory

- **20** Board Meeting Before Dinner Meeting
- Dinner Meeting Peppino's
- Innovation in Hot Runner Systems and Zink HPDC Presented & Sponsored by Frech
- **22-26** Executive Conference Marco Island

March

14 Board Meeting

April

- **17** Board Meeting Before Dinner Meeting
- 17 Dinner Meeting Peppino's
- 17 NADCA State of the Industry Mike Meyer - Sponsored by Buhler

May

- **Board Meeting**
 - Class

Golf Registration Open

June

13 Board Meeting

Kick Off Golf Outing

Western MI Short Course

July

11 Board Meeting DTE

August

- **Board Meeting** DTE
- Golf Vendor Night/Reception
- **15** Golf Outing

September

12 Board Meeting DTE

October

- 7-9 NADCA Congress & Tabletop Milwaukee
- **10** Board Meeting DTE

NADCA Class

November

- **14** Board Meeting DTE
 - 2026 Kickoff

December

12 Board Meeting DTE

> NADCA Board Elections 2026 Budget





CAPABILITIES

Dies/Molds for machines up to 4,400 ton press size

CNC Machining

Engineering

Mold Repair

Services

CMM Certification

Repairs/Reverse

Offshore Receiving

Polishing and Benching

- Die Cast Dies
- Coining/ Straightening Dies
- Trim Dies
- Plastic Injection Molds
- Thermoset Molds
- Aerospace Hot Form

OUR SERVICES



ENGINEERING

- **Project Engineering**
- CAD / Design



Reverse Engineering



MANUFACTURING

- **CNC Machining**
- EDM
- 40 Ton Crane Capacity
- Support Equipment



PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

- Part Design
- Rapid Prototyping
- Production Molds
- · Mold and Part CMM



VALIDATION

- Zeiss Model PSM Horizontal Arm Coordinate Measuring Machine
- Kreon Ace Measuring Arm with Skyline 3D Scanner



General Die and Engineering has been acquired by ArtiCast Tool and Manufacturing, LLC, a member of the ArtiFlex Manufacturing family of companies.

This strategic move will enhance ArtiFlex capabilities, expand product offerings, and strengthen its position in the market.



The ArtiFlex Edge signifies the core competencies of ArtiFlex and how they all work together to enable ArtiFlex as an innovative, problem-solving, partner.

Grand Rapids, MI - ArtiFlex is a leading provider of design & innovation, engineering, tooling, automation, and manufacturing solutions for metal stamping and assemblies in North America. With over 600 employees and nine locations in Michigan and Ohio, ArtiFlex is positioned to support the OEMs and large tier-ones with various innovative products and services, including Class-A surface stamping dies and production with a specialty in lowvolume niche products.

ArtiFlex CEO, Erin Hoffmann stated, "By joining forces, we're positioned to provide even greater value to our customers, especially with the ability to build die-cast dies for large high-pressure die-cast aluminum, magnesium, and molded structural parts. The structure of the vehicle of the future, both EV and Hybrid, is likely a combination of stamping and castings. We're excited to accelerate that transition and help OEMs drive innovation."





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C1	Die Tech & Engineering, Inc.	4620 Herman Avenue SW, Wyoming, MI 49509	616-530-9030	dietech-gr.com
1	Fill USA	44160 Plymouth Oaks Blvd, Plymouth, MI 48170	312-973-9486	fill.co.at
2	Lethiguel USA	14800 James Road, Rogers, MN 55374	763-428-4229	lethiguelusa.com
4	Pyrotek, Inc.	4447 E. Park 30 Dr. Columbia City, IN 46725-8872	866-797-6835	pyrotek.com
6	OEE Companies	855 Village Center Drive #336, North Oaks, MN 55127	612-440-5714	oeecompanies.com
8	Carpenter Brothers, Inc.	7100 W Donges Bay Road, Mequon, WI 53092	800-558-9244	carpenterbrothersinc.com
8	Imperial Group	1700 W Fulton Street, Chicago, IL 60612	312-226-7465	imperialgp.com
10	Allied Metal Company	4528 W Division Street, Chicago, IL 60651	312-225-2800	alliedmetalcompany.com
10	LaFrance Manufacturing	124 Millwell Dr, Maryland Heights, MO 63043	517-204-6430	lafrancemfg.com
12	Auto Cast, Inc.	4565 Spartan Industrial Drive SW, Grandville, MI 49418	616-534-4941	autocastinc.com
14	STØTEK, Inc.	W233 N2800 Roundy Cir W, Ste 200, Pewaukee, WI 53072	262-347-0845	stotek.com
14	Hill & Griffith Company	1085 Summer Street, Cincinnati, OH 45204	800-543-0425	hillandgriffith.com
16	Frech USA	6000 S. Ohio Street, Michigan City, IN 46360	219-874-2812	frechusa.com
21	Van Hydraulics	25 Gooding Road, Conklin, MI 49403	616-887-3337	vanhyd.com
21	Progressive Components	235 Industrial Dr, Wauconda, IL 60084	800-269-6653	procomps.com
22	Schad Refractory Construction Co.	15240 Castleton St, Detroit, MI 48227	800-581-7885	schadrefractory.com
24	Sinto America	150 Orchard Street, Grand Ledge, MI 48837	517-371-2460	sintoamerica.com
26	Martinrea International	603 E Church Avenue, Reed City, MI 49677	248-260-0243	martinrea.com
28	The Schaefer Group	1300 Grange Hall Road, Dayton, OH 45430-1013	937-253-3342	theschaefergroup.com
30	Century Sun Metal Treating	2411 West Aero Park Court, Traverse City, MI 49686	231-941-7800	century-sun.com
32	Onsite Machining, Inc.	11354 N Alger Rd, Alma, MI 48801	989-681-5958	onsitemachine.com
32	Hansen-Balk Steel Treating Co.	1230 Monroe Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49505	616-458-1414	hansenbalk.com



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34	Lindberg/MPH	3827 Riverside Road, Riverside, MI 49084	269-849-2700	lindbergmph.com
36	Richardson Sales, Ltd.	96 Imperial Drive, Gahanna, OH 43230	614-558-6888	
38	Regiopias	4063 Tabor Road, Sodus, MI 49126	269-428-1100	regloplas.com
40	Brach Machine Inc.	367 Paul Road, Rochester, NY 14624	585-343-9134	brachmachine.com
40	Swiss Steel USA	365 Village Drive, Carol Stream, IL 60188	800-323-1233	swisssteel-international.us
42	Industrial Innovations Inc.	2936 Dormax Street NW, Grandville, MI 49418	616-249-1525	industrialinnovations.com
46	Aliya Analytical, Inc.	3415 Roger B. Chaffee Memorial Blvd, Ste 210 Wyoming, MI 49548	616-475-0059	itothen.com
49	International Mold Steel, Inc.	1155 Victory Place, Hebron, KY 41048	859-342-6000	imsteel.com
50	Metal Mechanics, Inc.	350 S 14th St, Schoolcraft, MI 49087	269-679-2525	metalmechanics.com
57	Midland Industries, Inc.	1424 N Halsted St, Chicago, IL 60642	800-662-8228	zincbig.com
59	EKK, Inc.	29551 Greenfield Rd ste 209, Southfield, MI 48076	248-624-9957	ekkinc.com
59	Chem Trend, L.P.	1445 W. McPherson Park Drive, Howell, Michigan 48843	517-545-7980	chemtrend.com
60	Die Cast Press Mfg. Company Inc.	56480 Kasper Drive, Paw Paw, MI 49079	269-657-6060	diecastpress.com
64	Kimura Foundry America	789 Boomer Wy, Shelbyville, IN 46176	317-604-5158	kimurafoundry.com
66	Bob McClintic & Assoc. / Dr. Die Cast	523 Lincoln Lawns Drive NW, Walker, MI 49534	616-292-0454	drdiecast.com
68	IDRA North America	1510 Ann St, Kokomo, IN 46901	765-459-0085	idragroup.com
70- 71	General Die & Engineering	6500 Clay Avenue SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49548	616-698-6961	gendie.com
72	Norican Group	1606 Executive Drive, LaGrange, GA 30240	706-884-6884	noricangroup.com
75	Ad Solutions	375 N State Street, Sparta, MI 49345	616-887-4070	myadsolutions.com
76	B&L Information Systems Inc.	4707 Rambo Road, Bridgman, MI 49106	269-465-6207	blinfo.com
C4	voestalpine High Performance Metals	2505 Millennium Dr, Elgin, IL 60124	630) 883-3100	voestalpine.com
В	Buhler Group	670 Windcrest Drive, Holland, MI 49423	616-394-8248	buhlergroup.com

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