



THE MANUFACTURING ADVOCATE

BCA's Manufacturing Advocacy Council Visits the NAM, Briefs Congressional Delegation



By Nancy Wall Hewston

The BCA's Manufacturing Advocacy Council traveled to Washington D.C. this past October to discuss issues and concerns specific to Alabama's manufacturers with members of the state's congressional delegation.

The MAC spent time with top policy and advocacy experts from the National Association of Manufacturers where they heard policy briefings from several NAM experts in the fields of government relations, economics, tax and domestic economic policy, energy and resources, human resources and infrastructure, legal and regulatory policy.

The MAC is comprised of a cross-section of Alabama's manufacturing community, manufacturers who are members

of BCA, BCA's board of directors and BCA's regional advisory committees.

In addition, MAC serves as a national model for the NAM and reinforces the strong, exclusive partnership of BCA with the NAM to strengthen our message of supporting manufacturing and the need to compete in a global marketplace.

The 2011 Manufacturing Advocacy Council Washington Briefing also was an opportunity for House Speaker Mike Hubbard to present Jay Timmons, president and CEO of the NAM, with BCA's 2011 Gov. Bob Riley "Building a Better Alabama" award.

"I know the BCA is very proud to be your partner in Alabama," Hubbard said, "and I want you to know that the National

Association of Manufacturers has no greater friend than the Alabama Legislature when it comes to creating jobs, especially in the manufacturing sector, and when it comes to building a pro-business environment where the free enterprise system can flourish."

Hubbard also presented the Speaker's Commission on Job Creation report to the NAM as well as the Alabama congressional delegation. For more information on the MAC, visit bcatoday.org/manufacturing.

Proud Member



The NAM's President and CEO Jay Timmons speaks to BCA's Manufacturing Advocacy Council members after receiving the BCA's 2011 "Building a Better Alabama" award, which was presented by House Speaker Mike Hubbard. BCA 2nd Vice Chair Carl Jamison, BCA Federal Affairs Committee Chair Suzanne Respass and MAC member Denson Henry look on.



Leading the Charge for Manufacturing in Alabama

By Jay Timmons, president and CEO, National Association of Manufacturers



Alabama manufacturers are fortunate to have a strong advocate—and the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) a strong ally—in the Business Council of Alabama (BCA). The BCA leadership and staff are doing an excellent job leading the charge for manufacturing in Alabama.

Effective advocacy on behalf of manufacturing requires leadership at both the federal and state levels, and the NAM and the BCA have a strong partnership. That partnership was reaffirmed this past October when members of the BCA's Manufacturing Advocacy Council visited Washington. The NAM staff and I had an informative exchange of ideas with the visiting delegation, and we hope to welcome MAC to our headquarters again.

Cooperation between the NAM and our state allies is critical to advancing manufacturing in this country. We are stronger when we are united, and we need to use that strength to promote policies that make this country more competitive in the global economy, especially when it is 20 percent more expensive to manufacture in this country than it is in other industrial nations.

The National Association of Manufacturers recently released *A Manufacturing Renaissance: Four Goals for Economic Growth*, a comprehensive policy agenda to advance policies that are important to manufacturers.

This blueprint for competitiveness is guided by four goals:

- **The United States will be the best place in the world to manufacture and to attract direct foreign investment.**
- **The United States will expand access to global markets to enable manufacturers to reach the 95 percent of consumers who live outside our borders.**
- **Manufacturers in the United States will have the workforce that the 21st century economy requires.**
- **Manufacturers in the United States will be the world's leading innovators.**

Along with each of these goals, the plan outlines the policies needed to achieve them. These policies will reduce the cost of business in the United States and get manufacturers growing and hiring again.

I encourage members of the BCA to review the NAM's plan and share it far and wide. You can find it on the NAM's website: www.nam.org.



After he was presented the 2011 Gov. Bob Riley "Building a Better Alabama" award, the NAM's president and CEO Jay Timmons (center) was joined by (from left) BCA 2nd Vice Chairman Carl Jamison, BCA 1st Vice Chairman Terry Kellogg, House Speaker Mike Hubbard, and BCA President and CEO William J. Canary.

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The Manufacturing Advocate is published by the Business Council of Alabama, Alabama's foremost voice for business. The BCA is a non-partisan statewide business association representing the interests and concerns of three-quarters of a million working Alabamians through its member companies, and is Alabama's exclusive representative to the National Association of Manufacturers and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Send all submissions to Lenore R. Vickrey, Business Council of Alabama, 2 N Jackson St., Montgomery, AL 36104. Call (334)240-8740 or lenorev@bcatoday.org. For information on becoming a member of BCA, contact Elaine Fincannon, 334-240-8749, or elaine@bcatoday.org

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(From left) Ronnie Boles, Ray Perez, Carl Jamison, Speaker Mike Hubbard and Denson Henry visit with U.S. Rep. Martha Roby in the U.S. Capitol.



U.S. Rep. Terri Sewell met with members of the MAC in the U.S. Capitol. Pictured (l to r) are: Congresswoman Sewell, MAC co-chair Ronnie Boles, Sewell's chief of staff, Nichole Reynolds, and BCA Senior Vice President for Intergovernmental Affairs, Advocacy and Communications/Legal Advisor Anita L. Archie.



Jim Proctor, Speaker Mike Hubbard, Terry Kellogg, Carl Jamison, Suzanne Respass, Dick Anderson, and U.S. Reps. Robert Aderholt and Martha Roby listen as U.S. Rep. Jo Bonner updates MAC members on what is happening in Congress.



BCA President and CEO William J. Canary and MAC member Denson Henry listen as U.S. Sen. Jeff Sessions visits with BCA's MAC members in the U.S. Capitol.



U.S. Reps. Mike Rogers and Jo Bonner briefed the MAC delegation. Also pictured from left: Mike Sharp, legislative director for Bonner, Stephen Davis, National Security Advisor for U.S. Rep. Mo Brooks, and Suzanne Respass, chair of BCA's Federal Affairs Committee.



TOP LEFT: MAC co-chair Doug Mannion of Rheem Water Heating in Montgomery chats with BCA Senior Vice President for Intergovernmental Affairs, Advocacy and Communications/Legal Advisor Anita L. Archie.

TOP RIGHT: BCA President and CEO William J. Canary visits with Jay Timmons, president and CEO of the NAM in Washington.



RIGHT: Right: U.S. Reps. Robert Aderholt and Martha Roby as well as U.S. Sen. Jeff Sessions visit with members of the MAC in the U.S. Capitol.



BOTTOM LEFT: BCA 2nd Vice Chair Carl Jamison (left) and MAC member Dick Anderson listen to policy briefings by several NAM experts at their headquarters in Washington D.C.

MIDDLE LEFT: Jay Timmons, president and CEO of the NAM, talks with Ronnie Boles, MAC co-chair and board member of the NAM.

BCA's Manufacturing Advocacy Council

Ronnie Boles, co-chairman
General & Automotive Machine Shop
Huntsville

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