As part of his $1 Billion in Tax Cut Tour, Governor Rick Scott visited Monin, Inc. in Clearwater on Monday, November 9. Local business leaders, associations and news media attended the event for his press conference that followed the tour.

Governor Scott’s $1 billion tax cut package includes:

- Permanently Eliminating Income Tax on Manufacturing and Retail Businesses.
- Permanently Eliminating the Tax on Manufacturing Machinery and Equipment.
- Cutting the Tax on Commercial Leases.
- Extending the Sales Tax Exemption on College Textbooks.
- Saving for Families with Sales Tax Holidays.

Governor Scott said, “By eliminating the tax on business income for Florida manufacturers — big and small, and all Florida retailers, which include many small businesses all across the state — we are putting job creators on the road to success for years to come. I want Florida to be the small business capital of the world. Our state is already home to 500,000 small businesses. The more we can cut taxes — like the one on commercial lease — the more we can grow our small businesses in Florida and further diversify our economy to invest in our future.”

“Florida is on a roll. Our businesses have added almost one million new jobs over the last four years, but we have more work to do. We can’t only create jobs when the national economy is good. We must cut taxes and diversify our economy so Florida can grow even when the national economy is bad. Florida must compete with Texas, and diversify our economy to guard against another recession.”

The temporary sales tax exemption on manufacturing machinery and equipment was passed by the Florida Legislature in 2014 and will expire in 2017. BAMA applauds the House Finance and Tax Committee for including the permanent sales tax exemption on manufacturing machinery and equipment, along with a reduction in business rent tax, in the Committee’s proposed tax package.

Welcome new members!

Between Oct - Dec, we welcomed the following as new manufacturer members:
• Gulftech Enterprises
• Coppertail Brewing
• Bic Graphics
• Wings Aerospace
• Kincaid Plastics
• Mikros Systems Corp
• TRC-Southwire
• Hoffman Group

Left to Right: Mike Brewster, Monin; Becky Burton, BAMA; Mike Shaluly, Mastercut Tools; Governor Rick Scott; Jerry Custin, Upper Tampa Bay Chamber; Dru Wilson, USI Insurance; Rick Concotelli, Lockheed Martin.
Board Spotlight: Dru Wilson

Dru Wilson, a Property and Casualty Practice Leader with USI Insurance Services in Tampa has a passion for manufacturing that goes back a long way. It stems from his father who was in the manufacturing business. “The company that he was with manufactured airline interior panels. He traveled all around the world meeting with airlines to demonstrate their products. I’ve always been incredibly impressed by the entire manufacturing process. Taking raw materials and through an efficient process, having something that is useful.”

He started his commercial career writing roller coaster and amusement ride manufacturers’ products liability coverage. It was natural that he would want to become a member of a group that was focused on manufacturing, which he did in April 2012.

Two and a half years ago he joined the BAMA Board of Directors and became involved in the membership committee. He works with a team of fellow BAMA members, periodically visiting manufacturers around Tampa Bay to promote and educate them about the benefits of belonging to an association that has been around for more than 50 years.

When asked what he enjoys most about his participation with BAMA, he replied, “I have had such a great experience with the group. I particularly enjoy the tours, the people, and the giving back. The tours are great in that you get to see many different processes and have a better understand how things are made. I value the relationships and the people that I know. Also, I like what we do as an organization as it relates to building a deeper bench of manufacturing employees. I find that the ef-
Annual STEM Professional Assoc. Event featuring Middleton Robotics Presentation

Each year, BAMA supports the Middleton High School Robotics Team - middletonrobotics.com - with education and in their pursuit of a national championship.

The 6th Annual STEM Professional Association Event, highlighting the Middleton Robotics Team, will be held Thurs., March 24 from 5-7 PM, at Middleton High School, 4801 N. 22nd St, Tampa.

The guest speaker this year is Dr. Nancee Sorenson, President, Brandon Campus, Hillsborough Community College.

Middleton’s Electrathon Car will be on display. It was designed and built by students and is powered only by commercial rechargeable batteries weighing no more than 73 pounds. A robotics demonstration will be conducted by Middleton High School robotics club students, winners of the 2012 World FTC Robotics Championship and 2012, 2013 and 2014 Florida State FTC Robotics Championships.

This STEM event will take place in the Media Center, located on the second floor of Administration Building 100.

Guests are encouraged to bring their family members for this awesome Science, Technology, Engineering and Math event! Click here to register.
Know someone who is mechanically inclined, able to work independently with precision, accuracy, and craftsmanship? Well, the Industrial Machinery Maintenance program is now available at Brewster Tech in Tampa. This 14-month program provides hands-on activities, creativity and problem solving in machinery maintenance and repair. Students will also learn basic piece parts machining using manual machine tools and Computerized Numerical Control (CNC) programming.

If you’d like more information, contact: Vangie Goldwire, vangie.goldwire@sdhc.k12.fl.us, 813-276-5464, x274, www.brewster.edu

Wear your BAMA support proudly!

BAMA shirts are now for sale and can be purchased at events, by emailing becky@bama-fl.org, or by filling out the form on the website*. www.bama-fl.org/shirts

We have the following:

**Men’s $35**
Sport-Tek Black
Nike Golf Royal Blue

And also...

**Women’s $30**
Port Authority Raspberry
Nike Golf Royal Blue

We also have backpacks for $50

*Shipping charges may apply

CareerSource Offers Lean Courses

CareerSource Pinellas and CareerSource Tampa Bay understand the importance for employee training and skill upgrades. Innovation and technological advances are rapidly transforming U.S. manufacturing.

Their Lean Six Sigma series of courses are not just training your staff but directs them towards projects that provide real measurable returns. They provide training classes at locations in St. Petersburg and Tampa or on-site.

To find out more, contact: Judi Dorcy at 813-397-2045 or dorcyj@careersourcetampabay.com

Industrial Machinery Maintenance

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Do you need a 2016 sticker for your BAMA membership plaque?

Or do you not have a plaque?

If you need a 2016 sticker for your BAMA member plaque, or if you haven’t received one, please email Becky and I’ll see what we can do to get that rectified.

becky@bama-fl.org
Job Openings?

Did you know you can post manufacturing jobs on the BAMA website?

To post a job, log into the BAMA website (located on the bottom of the website) and go to bama-fl.org/jobpostings. If you are unable to log in, send the job to Becky.

The jobs you post are not only viewable to the public, they are shared with the local colleges.

If the job has any specific certifications or criteria; or if you give hiring preferences to individuals with certifications, please state that along with the contact person or how someone can apply for the job. There is no cost for this service.

Interns?

Do you have a place in your facility for an intern, apprentice or a job shadow program? If yes, or if you already have one in place, I’d like to hear about it.

If you’d like to start one but not sure how, I will be happy to connect you with someone who can help.

If you have a program that is successful, contact Becky with the details - you could be a featured in an upcoming newsletter.

ApprenticeshipUSA Training

The Employment and Training Administration and the Office of Apprenticeship are excited to announce the release of Training and Employment Notice (TEN) 20-15, titled, ApprenticeshipUSA Information and New Technical Assistance Resources for Starting and Enhancing Registered Apprenticeship Programs. This important guidance is a great resource intended to support the expansion of Apprenticeships across the country.

Within the TEN you’ll find information related to the launch of the ApprenticeshipUSA initiative and the Dept. of Labor Apprenticeship portal at: http://www.dol.gov/featured/apprenticeship.

Calling all golfers!

And those who just want to have fun

BAMA’s 25th Annual Scholarship for Manufacturing Education Kelly Murphy Memorial Golf Tournament

Monday, April 11

We need donations of gift cards, hotel vouchers, golf items, wine and “schwag”. If you can help in any way, please email becky@bama-fl.org.

Individual golfers are also welcome!

At The Forest Course at The Eagles
16101 Nine Eagles Drive, Odessa, Fla. 33556
More information at www.bama-fl.org/golf

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On January 1, 2016 Ven-Tel Plastics Corporation of Largo was purchased by National Molding, LLC headquartered in Miami Lakes, Florida. National Molding is a well-established injection molding company founded over 60 years ago, and now has 4 facilities, Miami Lakes / Largo Florida, Ambridge Pennsylvania and Shanghai China. National Molding supplies products for the automotive, military, law enforcement and commercial markets.

The acquisition of Ven-Tel Plastics adds Medical Device Manufacturing and commercial business to National Moldings current capabilities. The new name for the Largo facility is “National Molding Medical Division” and will continue to manufacture both medical and commercial products.

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NASA lab installs Advanced Vacuum plasma system

NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) recently installed an Apex SLR™ plasma etching system at its Microdevices Laboratory in Pasadena, California. Apex SLR™ systems are made by the Advanced Vacuum subsidiary of Plasma-Therm of St. Petersburg. A total of six of the companies’ plasma tools are used at JPL for processing components such as cosmic radiation detectors, solid-state lasers to detect gases on Earth and other planets, and infrared sensors for terrestrial and extraterrestrial imaging. The Apex SLR’s ability to process a variety of materials, including dielectrics, metals, polymers, compound semiconductors, and superconductors, is especially well suited to R&D labs such as JPL’s, which typically fabricate advanced devices in small numbers. Plasma processing is also a key technology in large-scale manufacturing of computer chips, as well as micro- and nano-scale photonic and electro-mechanical devices such as miniature sensors, radios, and lenses, which are used in everything from cars to smart phones to satellites.

Coppertail Brewing Company in Tampa recently expanded distribution from the Tampa Bay area, to include bars, restaurants and stores in Sarasota, Orlando, Miami and Palm Beach. They hope to bring their Tampa brewed beer to the entire state by the end of the year. In 2015 their distribution volume went from 100 barrels per month to 500 barrels per month. Additionally, they just hired two additional brewers and will be looking for sales people in Orlando and Jacksonville in the coming months.

Seaboard Manufacturing saw a 275% growth in 2015 over 2014, adding 2 machines, including a Bridgemill with a 50” x 100” x 16” on Z axis. They increased staff and currently have another CNC machinist position open. They are encouraging job seekers to send in their resumes, even if it is for a different position. At the rate of growth they will be hiring again soon! Email: Jackie@seaboardmfg.com

LogohQ Promotional Products, a full-service Promotional Products Distributor with in-house Embroidery, Screen Printing and Creative Services, recently moved into a newly renovated and larger facility in Gateway Lakes Business Park located at 1-275 & Roosevelt Blvd in St. Petersburg. LogohQ and the St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce will host a Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting on Wed., March 9 from 4-8pm with great food, craft beer and wine, along with raffles, awesome giveaways and special guests.

Buyers, Procurement and Marketing Managers who utilize the products and services LogohQ offers (along with our existing customers) are invited. The crew at LogohQ produces branded, logoed promotional items and apparel for businesses, organizations & events (both locally & nationally since 1994).

For more info, Text or Call Faith Ruzicka at 727-641-7664 or send an e-mail to faith.ruzicka@mylogohq.com

Do you have news to share or would you like your manufacturing facility to be highlighted in a future newsletter? Email: Becky at becky@bama-fl.org
Upcoming Job Fairs

St. Pete College
Wed., March 23
SPC EpiCenter, Clearwater

Hillsborough Cmty College
Thurs., April 7
HCC, Brandon Campus

Employers wanting to participate, please register online at www.bama-fl.org/event-2100975

Employers wanting to participate, please contact Kirsten at kmiller18@hccfl.edu

What’s Happening at St. Pete College

St. Pete College is gauging manufacturer interest in getting Solidworks training over the course of the next year or so. If you can help or have any input, here is a survey you can complete to help them make a decision. http://web.spcollege.edu/survey/20480

A manufacturing and supply chain job fair will be held at the EpiCenter on Wed., March 23. If you have jobs to be filled, please register online at bama-fl.org/event-2100975

What’s Happening at St. Pete College

St. Petersburg College Workforce & Professional Development can manage all your training and development for as many employees as you'd like. Choose from a broad base of programs or let us develop a customized curriculum to meet your business needs.

Specializing in areas such as:
- Business and Finance
- Conflict Resolution and
- Change Management
- Customer Service
- Diversity/Cultural Competency
- Healthcare
- Innovation
- IT Certifications
- Leadership Development
- Program
- Lean/Six Sigma
- Logistics
- Management Skills
- Manufacturing, Quality & Process Improvement
- Microsoft Applications and Mitigation
- Project Management
- Sustainability
- Team Building
- Business and Finance
- Conflict Resolution and Change Management

For more information please contact Ariel Boone at Boone.Ariel@spcollege.edu

St. Petersburg College is hosting its 2nd Annual Middle School and High School Robotics Camps.

In summer 2015, the Engineering Technology department’s 3D modeling and rapid prototyping instructor, Greg Lewis (along with several volunteers), started a STEM outreach program for middle and high school students. The purpose was to engage more students in 3D modeling, prototyping, and robotics.

St. Pete College students in the SolidWorks Advanced Applications class will use the techniques they learn in class to help create the robotic parts for the middle and high school students. SPC Engineering Technology students and AA-Engineering transfer students will be volunteers during the camp to mentor the middle and high school students and to assist with robot assembly and racing.

Integrating the outreach project into the SolidWorks Advanced Applications class increases the relevancy of material taught and creates an environment of innovation, creativity, and teamwork. These are the same skills we are encouraging in the middle and high school students the SPC student volunteers will help nurture and support those skills.

They received a grant from the College, but need additional funds to purchase vehicles parts, 3D printing material, and camp T-shirts. The department is also seeking funds to offer ten $250.00 scholarships (5 middle school, 5 high school).

Sponsors will be placed on the camp T-shirt and all advertising material. If you are interested in being a sponsor, please contact the Program Director, Lara Sharp, at 727-398-8256 or sharp.lara@spcollege.edu.
forts that we as a collective whole have with the scholarships for grade school students as well as adult students is rewarding. The total experience brings together personal, business, and philanthropic aspects that I’m not sure that other organizations can provide.”

Dru sees BAMA’s future as incredibly bright. “As we continue to add manufacturing members, we have a number of things in progress to further bring value to the membership. I would like to see more involvement from the membership as a whole and encourage their comments on what we can do to further make BAMA the manufacturers association.”

Dru thinks that most people have a fairly decent understanding of what BAMA offers but he doesn’t think that other members know how deep a bank of knowledge that our group harnesses as a collective. “From the most sophisticated manufacturing processes down to the local startup, from the associates that are involved in legal, insurance, etc., we have professionals that can answer any question that your business may be struggling with or researching.” If you’re not a BAMA member and would like to speak to Dru about the benefits of being a member, he can be reached at dru.wilson@usi.biz.

State of Manufacturing Comes to Tampa

As part of a national tour, NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons, stopped by Port Tampa Bay on Friday, Jan. 29 to give the organization’s annual State of Manufacturing address: “When manufacturing is strong, America is strong”.

Timmons’ visit to the Tampa Bay area included a speech at the University of South Florida and tours of Sun Hydraulics in Sarasota and Bristol-Myers Squibb in Tampa.

BAMA board members, Jim Long and Ann Paxton served on the Roundtable panel to discuss the state of manufacturing in Tampa Bay. A reception was held afterwards.

Also attending the Port Tampa Bay event was former U.S. Rep. Tom Feeney, current president and CEO of Associated Industries of Florida (AIF); Rick Homans, president and CEO of the Tampa Bay Partnership; and Paul Anderson, president and CEO of Port Tampa Bay.

According to industry estimates, the manufacturing sector supports nearly 336,200 jobs in Florida, adding about $2.17 trillion to the U.S. economy.