



Presents:

## **STRATEGIES TO MANAGE GROWTH AND CHANGE**

The Kansas City Manufacturing Network will present a panel discussion and breakfast hosted by Dr. Chris Kuehl of Armada Corporate Intelligence, featuring three regional companies who will share strategies for managing growth and change in an uncertain economic landscape.

*Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at 7:30AM  
The Hilton Garden Inn  
520 Minnesota Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas*

*Dr. Chris Kuehl* – *Armada Corporate Intelligence* Dr. Kuehl, our panel discussion leader, is an accomplished and recognized economist, author and speaker. He advises clients such as YRC Worldwide and Hallmark International, and serves as the Chief Economist for the Fabricators and Manufacturers Association.

The panel discussion will feature 3 company leaders who will share their strategies with the group. Their leadership and innovation have helped them overcome obstacles, manage growth and thrive despite numerous challenges.

- *Scott Nuckols – Continuous Improvement Specialist at American Airlines*
- *Brad Gaddy – Vice President of Operations at Marlen Research*
- *Jeff Givens – President/CEO of Mobile Hydraulic Equipment Company, LLC*

Our founding sponsors, the Mid-America Manufacturing Technology Center ([www.mamtc.com](http://www.mamtc.com)) and Missouri Enterprise, ([www.missourienterprise.org](http://www.missourienterprise.org)) will be our sponsors for this event.

The event is open to area manufacturers and their suppliers. We invite you to join with us to make KCMN the premier resource for manufacturers. To register for the May 13 event, please respond to [donna@kcmn.org](mailto:donna@kcmn.org) or call 816-304-7958. Registration is \$15 for KCMN members, or \$25 for guests. You may register as a guest for up to 2 events before membership is required. For questions or comments, please contact Donna Gordon at 816-304-7958

**Kansas City Manufacturing Network . [www.kcmn.org](http://www.kcmn.org) . 816-304-7958**

## **SPEAKER PROFILES**

### ***Dr. Chris Kuehl – Armada Corporate Intelligence***

Chris is the Co-Founder and Managing Director of Armada Corporate Intelligence, which provides strategy foundation, competitive intelligence, business analysis and economic forecasting for clients including YRC Worldwide, TranSystems, Spencer Fane Britt and Browne, KPMG, Hallmark International, and Weitz Industrial among others. Chris is a frequent commentator for the media – he is a regular economic/business analyst for KMBZ radio and KSHB-TV (local NBC affiliate) and has been extensively quoted in national newspapers, magazines and trade publications. He holds a Masters Degree in Soviet and East European Studies, a Masters in East Asian Studies and a Ph.D. in Political Economics from the University of Kansas. He has been on the faculty of universities in the US, Hungary, Estonia, Russia, Singapore and Taiwan.

### ***Scott Nuckols – American Airlines***

Scott is a Continuous Improvement Specialist at American Airlines and has 20 years experience in the aviation industry. American's Kansas City Overhaul Facility is one of three major facilities operated by American Airlines to service AA and other client airline aircraft. The facility recently completed an aircraft cabin interior modification program on AA's 767 fleet. The team is currently installing fuel saving winglets on 757 aircraft and will be the first in the industry to install them on a 767. They are currently in the process of adding internet and cell phone use capability to their aircraft. At the upcoming Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul conference, the team will be marketing AA's maintenance capability on a new level.

### ***Brad Gaddy – Marlen Research***

Brad has learned the business from the ground up in his 18 years with Marlen Research, and is currently the Vice President of Operations. Marlen Research Corporation was started in 1950 to develop and engineer solutions for the food processing industry starting with the Vienna sausage canner. Today, Marlen is an innovative worldwide organization that designs and builds food processing equipment for many markets including meat, poultry, fish, vegetables, fruit, bakery, confectionaries, snacks and dairy goods. Marlen is an industry leader in food pumps, portioners, grinders, formers, extruders, smokehouses and blast chillers. Brad was champion of many changes during tough economic times faced in 2006, and helped launch initiatives that put the company on a continued path of growth and improved operations.

### ***Jeff Givens – Mobile Hydraulic Equipment Company, LLC (MHE)***

Jeff retired from the US Army in 1998 after serving our nation for 24 years as an Infantry Officer. He purchased MHE in 1999 and is the President/CEO. MHE, a hydraulic systems company, developed and manufactures a proprietary line of equipment called HIPPO Multipower Systems. The product line provides air, hydraulic, and electric power to a worksite using a single engine as the power source instead of multiple engines. High power hand held tools can be operated from a single machine with only one engine running at the worksite. Concrete saws, jack hammers, pumps, core drills, lights, etc are samples of tool types being used. Customers are the US Army Combat Engineers, City Public Works, Railroads, Subways, Sanitation Systems, & rental companies. MHE buys, services and supplies from 37 small businesses in Missouri and Kansas.

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