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For immediate release

### **Research Study Details How Covid-19 is Impacting the Manufacturing Industry**

Elbow Lake, MN (June 2020)-- Midwest Manufacturers' Association has released findings of a survey of manufacturers that examines the economic and operational impacts of COVID-19. MMA (representing three membership organizations: AMFA, CMMA, and TSMA) partnered with the research firm Diedrich RPM of Burnsville, MN, to conduct a survey with members to gauge how the global pandemic has impacted manufacturing businesses across the region.

Survey highlights include the following:

- 26% of manufacturers say they feel that their company has adapted poorly
- 67% of manufacturers say they had open positions; the effects of COVID-19 may cause 32% to reevaluate any hiring decisions
- 61% of manufacturers say their operating capacity has been negatively affected by COVID-19
- 59% of manufacturers say they have the financial strength to remain open for more than a year – while 41% said that they will not last a year
- 89% of manufacturers have applied for SBA PPP funding

“At MMA, we continue to stay committed to providing the ongoing support needed to maintain the vitality of our manufacturing communities,” said Sandy Kashmark, Executive Director, Midwest Manufacturers' Association. “We learned that many of our companies are challenged with lowered capacity and disruption to their businesses, and while navigating the new normal, some companies have implemented new ideas and processes.”

Some of the new processes and innovations respondents say they have implemented because of COVID-19 include:

- Adding new suppliers due to lack of availability of parts (China and the West Coast being too slow)
- Cross-training, split shifts, and online sales
- Warehousing more materials for later use

- New components and expanding revenue stream from existing tooling (rapid tooling of certain components)

Asked how supply chain disruptions have impacted business, respondents mentioned payment delays (60-90 days), more suppliers in the US and Canada in terms of sourcing, and the need for longer-than-normal lead times.

COVID-19 has caused significant disruptions in manufacturing across the world. As society and businesses across the globe slowly reopen, the pandemic will continue to have a lasting impact on economies, workflow, and day-to-day interactions everywhere.

To see a full white paper on the results of the research study, go [here](#).

**About MMA:** Midwest Manufacturers' Association is a nonprofit organization that fosters the creation, growth, and success of industry associations throughout the Midwest. MMA serves as the central office for [Arrowhead Fabricators and Manufacturers Association](#) (AMFA), [Central Minnesota Manufacturers Association](#) (CMMA) and [Tri-State Manufacturers' Association](#) (TSMA). For further information, please contact [Sandy Kashmark](#) at 800-654-5773.

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