



North America's Largest Metal Forming, Fabricating, Welding and Finishing Event

October 10, 2013

Dear Ms. Ryan,

On behalf of SME and our **FABTECH** partners— we invite you to make opening remarks at our inaugural Women in Manufacturing reception taking place on Tuesday, November 19, 2013, at McCormick Place, Chicago, Ill. As North America's largest metal forming, fabricating, welding and finishing event, the show will feature products being made right on the show floor, and the event will draw more than 32,000 manufacturing professionals assembled to advance manufacturing in the United States.

Ryan Industries has not only been honored by Chrysler for its service to the industry, but it is also a Women Business Enterprise. As President and Owner of an organization committed to delivering leading-edge services to the nation's manufacturers, we believe your invaluable experience and expertise would be of great interest to our attendees. The purpose of this invitation-only reception is to talk directly to manufacturers about the business case for hiring and retaining more women in manufacturing. With highly skilled manufacturing jobs being left open nationwide, we need to think of the entire working population, male and female, as the solution to our labor shortage. We would be pleased and honored if you would agree to make the opening remarks on **Tuesday, November 19, from 4:30-6:00 p.m.** and discuss challenges and opportunities for filling today's manufacturing jobs.

Included in the day's activities is an afternoon session of leading manufacturing associations that may be of interest to you and you are invited to attend both the luncheon and the roundtable. Following that and before the reception, we will be hosting guided tours of the show floor to view manufacturing technologies and equipment.

The FABTECH event has been growing in stature and in numbers. With a focus on bringing innovative manufacturing processes to the forefront through cutting edge educational sessions, 1,200 leading technology providers and numerous networking events, FABTECH delivers manufacturers answers to their short- and long-term challenges. Should you choose to accept our speaking invitation, you will see a vast collection of private sector small and medium-sized businesses all working together and defying the downward manufacturing trend.

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The FABTECH cosponsors, volunteer leaders and combined membership, exceeding **100,000 practitioners**, would be honored to have you attend the Women in Manufacturing reception and give the opening remarks. We are united and committed to manufacturing for the future.

We look forward to hearing from you in the very near future. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Pam Hurt at (313) 425 3270 or phurt@sme.org.

Sincerely,

Mark Tomlinson
CEO and Executive Director, SME

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