This year AWI will head south for a dynamic in-person Spring Leadership Conference, March 13-15, 2022, in Naples, FL. New pandemic restrictions necessitated moving from the former date and conference site of Seattle, WA. The conference at the Naples Grande Resort will be a joyous occasion for AWI Members to assemble as a family under this year’s annual theme: AWI Together in 2022 United in Excellence.

We are excited to offer a special Emerging Leader discounted rate this year. AWI would like to encourage membership to bring along someone in your organization whom you view as an Emerging Leader. This individual is someone whom you feel has what it takes to be an integral part of your leadership team and could help drive your company. Do you have someone whom you think could help you raise the bar and push your company to the next level?

AWI Board Extends Product Testing Benefit in 2022

THE AWI BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVED A RENEWED BUDGET FOR 2022 TO CONTINUE WITH THE AWS2 MEMBER BENEFIT PRODUCT TESTING OPTION. CHECK OUT THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY!

As an AWI Manufacturing Member, if you build a cabinet that is 100% compliant with the Architectural Woodwork Standards, 2nd Edition (AWS2), you may qualify for testing at no cost PLUS AWI will cover the cost of shipping. This is a limited time offer on a first-come, first-serve basis (approval of AWS2 compliant construction and drawings of a method not previously tested) that expires when the funds approved by the AWI board for shipping costs are depleted. Under this option, the results of the Duty Level achieved and the construction details used will be added to the online AWI Construction Library for member use.

• Under this option, your casework will be tested to Duty Level 3.
• Under this option, your casework will be installed using the AWI Installation Guidelines and methods.
• Under the option, your company’s information will be kept confidential and excluded from the drawings posted to the library.

Contact AWI Technical Director Hunter Morrison at hunter@awinet.org for details and to explore the value of this AWI Standards Testing program for your company.

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AWI NewsBriefs | AWI’s monthly newsletter is published as a service for members to help them improve operations and grow their businesses. NewsBriefs is also a resource for news and information about AWI’s products, programs and publications and other membership benefits and services.

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LEADERSHIP IN TRANSFORMATIONAL TIMES

Gain inspiration and motivation to build exceptional teams while sustaining a culture of excellence in changing environments from Mike “Wizard” McCabe who oversaw some of the deepest technological shifts and changes at the U.S. Navy. The leadership consultant is slated as AWI’s Feature Presenter focusing on “Leadership in Transformational Times.”

Mike is a highly decorated, experienced leader, former Admiral and corporate CEO, who teaches others to lead and teams to reach their potential. He is dedicated to translating his experience for use in varied and unique organizations. He was largely responsible for the current generation of naval aviation technology, aircraft and aircraft carriers.

When he became Director of Air Warfare at the Pentagon, Mike McCabe oversaw mega budgets of $31 billion per year in resources to support over 4,000 aircraft, 12,000 naval aviators, 60,000 personnel, and of course, 12 full-size aircraft carriers. Mike’s passion for leadership took root during his term as an instructor at the renowned Navy Fighter Weapons School, aka TOPGUN. Following Navy retirement, he became the CEO/President of a large commercial charter airline, and grew the airline into a multi-hundreds of million-dollar business.

The Innovation Engine

How do you create new products and services when you are over capacity now? Having a solid, consistent source of research and development can help ensure a company’s sustainability and set the business apart from the mainstream.

On March 14, dive into this component of The Great Game of Business with co-author Steve Baker who will conduct a session, “The Innovation Engine: The Proven Tools & Method for Consistent Innovation.” In this workshop, discover a proven, time-tested discipline, proactive process and critical rhythm that ensures long-term innovation and business growth. Participants will learn to leverage a unique tool to identify, capture, rank, and prioritize innovative products, services, and business ideas.

Steve, who also co-authored Get in the Game, is Vice President of The Great Game of Business, Inc. Engaging and irreverent, Steve is a top-rated, sought-after speaker and coach on open-book management, strategy and execution, leadership, and employee engagement.

THANK YOU 2022 AWI PARTNERS

AWI thanks these members whose additional support helps to fund the association’s programs, publications and other services for members. AWI Manufacturing Members are encouraged to connect with these Suppliers anytime at www.awinet.org whenever a need arises for their services. To learn about the 2022 Partner Program for AWI members contact AWI Vice President of Membership & Marketing Katie Allen at kallen@awinet.org.
Keynote
The Spring Leadership Conference kicks off with a day of business forums on March 14 featuring Kevin West, a business advisor, executive coach and founder of Whippersnapper University / Emerging Leader Academy. Kevin will deliver the Opening Keynote, “Emerging Leader Essentials for Influence and Impact.”

Every organization has emerging leaders who want to grow their influence and make a difference. In this session we will break down the essential frameworks, strategies and behaviors that will position an emerging leader to bring value added impact to the organization and set a path for future growth and opportunities.

Background
Kevin is the Founder and CEO of Invisible Insights Inc., and is a contributor on Forbes.com and a Member of the Forbes Coaches Council. He works to provide insight and results-based development for his clients by mentoring them to see “Invisibles,” the unseen frameworks behind organizational and professional success. You can follow Kevin on Instagram at kevinwestinsights and Kevin West Invisible Insights on LinkedIn. His website is kevinwestinsights.com.

EVERY ORGANIZATION HAS EMERGING LEADERS WHO WANT TO GROW THEIR INFLUENCE AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Lead Like a Coach
Getting to know your team members as people will improve your leadership style and drive stellar results. But how do you do that successfully when you spend at least 65% of your time dealing with people issues.

Closing Keynote
Learn from Dean Savoca, a board-certified coach and Certified Speaking Professional, who will deliver the Closing Keynote, “Lead Like a Coach: How to Develop and Lead a Rock Star Team,” on March 15. Dean is a 25-year veteran of the performance improvement industry.

A coaching approach to leadership, which leads to more cohesiveness, innovation, creativity and problem solving – will give you some of that 65% of your time back to focus on other things. Employees who clearly understand expectations — and know they’re accountable — enjoy a higher level of job satisfaction, stay longer, and produce better results.

Take-Aways
• Explore how to transform yourself from a manager to a coach.
• Discover the key skills to becoming an effective coach.
• Learn the six steps required for a successful coaching conversation.

AWI Spring Leadership Conference
March 13-15, 2022
Naples Grande Resort • Naples, FL
Information/Registration
www.awinet.org

Photo courtesy of Naples Marco Island Everglades CVB
Insight Sessions & Roundtable Round Out Conference

3 more sessions add more meat to the Spring Leadership Conference program, March 13-15.

Roundtable
Continuing with the leadership theme, the Roundtable session on March 14 will focus on “Developing Leaders Based on Business Types.” The Roundtable will feature perspectives on how emerging leaders have been developed in different business ownership structures. We will be focusing on the three main types of organizations—multi generational family owned, original owner and purchased an existing business. With the continuing expectation that labor will be an issue we want to explore how successful companies within our industry are identifying and promoting next level talent.

Insight Session I
There’s no doubt that most businesses have been impacted by disruptions to their supply chain as a result of the pandemic. As company leaders you are challenged to secure essential materials to build products that meet your client’s needs and budget and on time.

Economist Dr. Chris Kuehl will dive into the complexities of Supply Chain issues and how you can steer your business through the chaotic trends affecting the economy.

Chris is co-founder of Armada, a half think tank and half strategy office. The company provides economic forecasts, industry analysis, corporate intelligence and market assessment for clients in a variety of industries. Clients include freight and other logistics firms, fabricators, manufacturers and others. Chris specializes in corporate and competitive intelligence, strategy development, international market analysis and market development, and economic trending.

Insight Session II
We will be providing an overview of this year’s Education Committee goals and projects. With one of the largest education committees we have had, we want to highlight the programs we will be working on to enhance membership training and information through educational content.

AWI NEWS

New AWI Members

MANUFACTURERS

ARIS DESIGNS, INC.
CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

CUMMINGS CREATIVE WOODWORKING, LLC
WICHITA FALLS, TX

INTEGRATED MANUFACTURING, INC.
PITI, GUAM

PREMIER ARCHITECTURAL PRODUCTS
MONTGOMERY, IL

S&W CABINETS, INC.
CHAFFEE, MO

SUPPLIERS

AL DREES INDUSTRIAL & TRADING COMPANY (ALITCO)
AL RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA

AMKRAFT CORPORATION
CALEDONIA, IL

LX HAUSYS AMERICA, INC.
ATLANTA, GA

NOTE: THESE NEW MEMBERS JOINED AWI IN DECEMBER 2021.

Use the online Directory of AWI Manufacturing, Industry and Supplier Members at www.awinet.org for contact information and access to the websites of these and other AWI members. The resource is open 24/7.

DID YOU KNOW?
Making connections with AWI Member Manufacturers and Suppliers is one of the intangible, yet valuable aspects of attending AWI Events. Forming relationships, cementing connections with Suppliers, and making new friends within the industry can even lead to lucrative partnerships. Apart from sharing tips and techniques and recommending resources, the camaraderie among the AWI family is a value-added benefit of membership. The upcoming AWI Spring Leadership Conference in March is an opportunity for networking. Take advantage of all it offers apart from education. Participation is well worth your time.