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Protolabs Selected to be Featured in National Manufacturing Tour

February 21, 2019

Protolabs' digital manufacturing facilities in North Carolina and Minnesota will be a part of annual National Association of Manufacturers event that showcases the industry's future

MAPLE PLAIN, Minn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Feb. 21, 2019-- Digital manufacturing leader [Protolabs](#) (NYSE: PRLB) will be showcased as part of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) State of Manufacturing Tour, which highlights manufacturing's digital transformation, the job opportunities created by this transformation, and the skills required now to work in the industry. The cross-country tour will run from February 19-28, stopping on Feb. 22 at Protolabs' U.S. 3D printing facility in Raleigh, NC, and the company's Minneapolis-area CNC machining and injection molding facilities on Feb. 25.

NAM's President and CEO Jay Timmons and Manufacturing Institute Executive Director Carolyn Lee will be a part of Protolabs' events, which will host students (at the Minnesota event) and include tours of the manufacturing facilities.

"This year's tour is about highlighting the 'next frontier' in manufacturing, and every day Protolabs deploys the type of advanced technologies that define modern manufacturing," said Timmons. "We are excited to tell Protolabs' story and the positive impact the company is having on communities across the country."

Timmons and Lee will also participate in roundtable discussions with Protolabs employees about the current state of manufacturing, workforce opportunities, and how to adapt to changes as the industry continues to evolve. In Minnesota, they will be joined by Jacob Frey, Minneapolis Mayor, and E.J. Daigle, Dean of Robotics & Manufacturing at Minneapolis' Dunwoody College of Technology.

"Protolabs is a pioneer in digital manufacturing," said Vicki Holt, President and CEO of Protolabs, who also serves as the Small and Medium Manufacturers Vice Chair on NAM's board of directors. "We're excited to be part of this event to provide an up-close view of what manufacturing looks like today, how this digital evolution benefits product developers, and how this tech-enabled manufacturing landscape is creating new opportunities for workers."

The NAM is the largest manufacturing association in the United States, representing small and large manufacturers in all 50 states. Manufacturing employs more than 12.8 million workers, contributes \$2.25 trillion to the U.S. economy annually, and accounts for more than three-quarters of all private-sector research and development in the country, according to NAM statistics. The Manufacturing Institute is the workforce and education partner of the NAM.

Event Details

The Feb. 22 Raleigh event starts with a tour at 4 p.m. (ET), followed by a roundtable discussion with NAM's Timmons and Lee and Protolabs employees. The 77,000 sq.-ft. Raleigh facility houses Protolabs' 3D printing services and is considered one of the largest additive manufacturing plants in the world.

The Feb. 25 Minnesota events start with a tour of the Plymouth plant at 9:30 a.m. (CT), followed by a tour of the Brooklyn Park facility at 10:30 a.m. At 11 a.m., also in Brooklyn Park, Timmons, Lee, Frey, Daigle, Protolabs employees, and area students will meet for a roundtable discussion of manufacturing workforce opportunities. Protolabs' 154,000 sq.-ft. Plymouth plant includes injection molding services, and its 215,000 sq.-ft. Brooklyn Park facility, which opened this past fall, houses CNC machining services.

About Protolabs

Protolabs is a leading digital manufacturing source for rapid prototyping and on-demand production. The company produces custom parts and assemblies in as fast as one day with automated 3D printing, CNC machining, sheet metal fabrication, and injection molding processes. Its digital approach to manufacturing enables accelerated time to market, reduces development and production costs, and minimizes risk throughout the product life cycle. Visit [protolabs.com](https://www.protolabs.com) for more information.

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