

MEDIA CONTACT

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10TH ANNUAL 'VALLEY MADE' MANUFACTURING SUMMIT UNITES INDUSTRY LEADERS TO FORGE THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN MANUFACTURING

Oren Cass, renowned economist and author, to headline milestone event at the Fresno Convention Center

FRESNO, California - October 22, 2025 - The San Joaquin Valley Manufacturing Alliance (SJVMA) will host its 10th Annual "Valley Made" Manufacturing Summit on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Fresno Convention Center Exhibit Hall.

This milestone year celebrates a decade of uniting industry leaders, educators, workforce partners, and policymakers to strengthen and grow manufacturing in the Central Valley. The 2025 theme, "Forging the Future: Uniting Industry, Education, and Innovation for Manufacturing Excellence," highlights the collaboration needed to secure America's economic future, strengthen domestic supply chains, and develop a highly skilled workforce.

This year's keynote speaker is Oren Cass, founder and chief economist of American Compass and author of *The Once and Future Worker: A Vision for the Renewal of Work in America*. Cass is a nationally recognized voice in economic and workforce policy, a contributing opinion writer for the *Financial Times* and *The New York Times*, and a leading advocate for revitalizing American industry and labor.

"Oren Cass brings a powerful and timely message to our manufacturing community and beyond. His insights into the intersection of industry, workforce, and public policy align perfectly with our mission to position the San Joaquin Valley as a national leader in modern manufacturing," said Genelle Taylor Kumpe, CEO of SJVMA and the Fresno Business Council.

The Valley Made Manufacturing Summit is designed as both a workshop and a resource expo, celebrating the Valley's history of innovation while equipping local employers with tools, ideas, and connections to advance the next decade of manufacturing excellence.

Attendees can look forward to a full day of breakout sessions, an engaging keynote, interactive exhibits, and the FFB Bank Power Hour - a high-energy networking experience on the Expo

Floor and in the VIP Lounge. The Power Hour encourages attendees to make meaningful B2B connections, explore local sourcing opportunities, and enjoy local bites and specialty drinks.

With over 900 attendees expected, the event brings together CEOs, technology leaders, HR professionals, educators, and workforce partners to share knowledge, build connections, and shape the future of manufacturing in the Central Valley.

For more information about the summit and to get tickets, visit sivma.org/summit.

VISUALS

- Video from last year's event is <u>HERE</u>
- Photos from last year's event <u>HERE</u>
- Photo of keynote speaker is <u>HERE</u>

ABOUT SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY MANUFACTURING ALLIANCE

The San Joaquin Valley Manufacturing Alliance (SJVMA) is a pivotal organization dedicated to advancing the manufacturing industry within California's San Joaquin Valley. Founded with a mission to foster innovation, enhance workforce development, and promote economic growth, SJVMA serves as a dynamic platform for manufacturers, industry partners, and educational institutions to collaborate and drive the region's manufacturing sector forward. Through strategic initiatives, networking events, and comprehensive training programs, SJVMA addresses the unique challenges faced by manufacturers in the region. The Alliance is committed to equipping the local workforce with cutting-edge skills, advocating for policy changes that benefit the manufacturing community, and supporting technological advancements to ensure competitive edge in a global market. SJVMA's membership includes a diverse array of manufacturers from various sectors, reflecting the rich industrial landscape of the San Joaquin Valley. By providing resources, facilitating partnerships, and fostering a collaborative environment, SJVMA is instrumental in shaping the future of manufacturing in the region, ensuring its members thrive and contribute to the sustainable economic prosperity of the Valley. To learn more, visit sivma.org/.

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