

## Automation Federation Fact Sheet

### What is the Automation Federation?

The Automation Federation is a not-for-profit, umbrella organization. Under the Federation's leadership, associations and societies engaged in manufacturing and process automation activities can work more effectively to fulfill their missions. The Federation coordinates the work of member organizations engaged in advancement of the science and engineering of automation technologies and applications. With the Federation's support, the member organizations are able to work collaboratively to meet the needs of the marketplace; increase their individual efficiency, diversification, and growth; and better serve the end-user and customer through collective maximization.

### What is the mission of the Automation Federation?

The mission of the Automation Federation is to provide leadership and coordination of the global automation, operational technologies, and applications marketplace. The Automation Federation strives to serve as a one-stop clearinghouse to address industry challenges and issues.

### What are the objectives of the Automation Federation?

Many important initiatives that the Automation Federation is working on involve increasing the recognition and enhancing the image of the automation profession. The Federation's commercial leadership, government leadership, and technical expertise will help the organization to communicate the value of the profession to the rest of the world.

The Automation Federation will work closely with academia throughout the country to establish degree programs, scholarships, competitions, certifications, and other opportunities for students to become involved in the automation profession. America's aging workforce translates into a serious need for new automation professionals, and the Federation is committed to developing programs that serve that purpose.

Globalization is another key objective of the Federation in the coming years. Through the work of the member organizations, global standardization of processes will be possible. The Federation will work to improve technology transfer and cross pollination, develop international products and services, and launch education and training programs around the world.

### Who are the member organizations of the Automation Federation?

The charter members of The Automation Federation are OMAC, WBF, and WINA. ISA is the founding sponsor of The Federation.

Founded in 1945, ISA ([www.isa.org](http://www.isa.org)) is a leading, global, nonprofit organization that is setting the standard for automation by helping over 30,000 worldwide members and other professionals solve difficult technical problems, while enhancing their leadership and personal career capabilities. Based in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, ISA develops standards; certifies industry professionals; provides education and training; publishes books and technical articles; and hosts the largest conference and exhibition for automation professionals in the Western Hemisphere.

WBF ([www.wbf.org](http://www.wbf.org)) is dedicated to supporting the process automation and operations needs of the technical and management professionals in process manufacturing. WBF facilitates the interchange and development of information and knowledge to help its members succeed and exert a positive influence on industry.

OMAC, the Open Modular Architecture to Controls Users' Group ([www.omac.org](http://www.omac.org)), works to collectively derive common solutions for both technical and non-technical issues in the development, implementation, and commercialization of open, modular architecture control (OMAC) technologies, and to facilitate the accelerated development and convergence of industry and government developed OMAC technology guidelines to one set that satisfies common use requirements. OMAC has about 500 member representatives from end-user companies, OEM's and technology providers, and integrator companies. OMAC currently operates three Work Groups: Packaging Machinery, Manufacturing Infrastructure, and Machine Tool.

WINA, the Wireless Industrial Networking Alliance ([www.wina.org](http://www.wina.org)), is a coalition of industrial end-user companies, technology suppliers, industry organizations, software developers, system integrators, and others interested in the advancement of wireless solutions for industry.

## What events does the Automation Federation sponsor?

The Automation Federation sponsors the events of the member organizations. Upcoming events include:

- **October 14–16, 2008—ISA EXPO 2008**  
ISA EXPO is your source for in-depth technical coverage of topics critical to automation and control success. A technology intensive event that provides attendees a content-rich environment including peer-reviewed technical sessions, briefings on essential automation standards, topical and relevant forums, standards development meetings, and North America's largest automation and control exhibition. ISA EXPO is an unbiased platform for information exchange giving users unfettered access to all sides of the technology story.
- **December 3-4, 2008—OMAC Technical Symposium**  
The 2nd Annual OMAC Technical Symposium, hosted by Okuma Partners in the THINC Facility, will take place in Charlotte, North Carolina. The symposium, still in the early planning stages, will offer industry experts the opportunity to network with their peers and to participate in the sharing of ideas and concepts related to topics including emerging technologies, machine tools, packaging, and more. Last year's Technical Symposium sought to redefine OMAC as an organization and to bridge the gap between the process and discrete industries. For up-to-date information about the 2008 symposium, visit [www.omac.org](http://www.omac.org).
- **May 3-6, 2009—WBF 2009 North American Conference**  
With previous conference themes such as "Shaping the Future of Manufacturing" and "Mining for Gold—Discovering the Value of Standardized Process Automation," the WBF 2009 North American Conference will continue to bring industry experts together and provide leaders and industry professionals with a top notch forum designed to innovate, lead, and inspire through the sharing of knowledge and information. For up-to-date information about the 2009 event, visit [www.wbf.org](http://www.wbf.org).