

# Fraunhofer invites you to

## 5<sup>th</sup> Executive Summit Current Trends and Challenges faced by American Automotive BIW-Metal-Forming

*Organized by Leading Insights*

**Location:** Troy, MI USA

**Dates:** September 24-26, 2025



## Preliminary Program

### Day 1: September 24<sup>th</sup>

9:00 Opening / Registration / Networking

9:30 **Welcome** | Dan Stewart (Automation Alley) & Christian Kovacs (Leading Insights SRL)

9:40 **Welcome and Overview** | Russell Zarras (Fraunhofer USA)

**Session 1:** Current Challenges In Americas Automotive Industry

10:00 **Navigating the Crossroads: Chances for German Companies, Challenges, and Investments in the US** | Britta Schneider (German-American Chamber of Commerce Midwest, Inc.)

10:20 **Keynote: How New Technologies And AI Are Transforming Automotive Manufacturing** | Frank Schieck (Fraunhofer IWU)

10:40 **Tariffs and Investment Outlook for the US Automotive Industry** | Jennifer Smith-Veluz (BUTZEL Consulting)

11:00 Coffee Break

**Session 2:** Material, Engineering, And Process Innovations

11:30 **Integration Challenges With Press Hardened Steels And Gen 3 Steels In BIW Structures** | Sarah Tedesco (GM Motor Company)

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## Day 1: September 24<sup>th</sup> CONTINUED

11:50 **Arcelormittal's New Generation Press Hardened Steel & Serial Applications** | Patel Parth (ArcelorMittal Dofasco G.P)

12:10 **The Need For Improved Metal Forming Simulation Material Cards** | Daniel Schaeffler (Engineering Quality Solutions)

12:30 **HFQ Simulation Fidelity: Methodologies And Applications** | Mohamed Mohamed (HFQ Technology Associates)

12:50 **Lunch**

### **Session 3:** Quality Assurance And Assembly

2:10 **Assembly In The Digital Process Chain** | Bob Judkins (AutoForm Engineering USA Inc.)

2:30 **Adaptive Inline Monitoring Grants Efficiency For Your Production** | Michael Selent (SELMATEC Systems)

2:50 **Intelligent Sensor & Data Systems For The Forming Industry** | Christian Conrad & Thorsten Müller (Fraunhofer IZFP)

3:10 **Characterization And Prediction Of PHS1800 Formability In Industrially-Representative Conditions** | Clifford Butcher (University of Waterloo / Forming and Crash Lab)

3:30 Coffee Break

### **Session 4:** Machines & Equipment

4:00 **Precision Under Pressure: Hot Stamping Technologies For Large Automotive Bodysides** | Paul Thom (ANDRITZ, Schuler Pressen)

4:20 **Increasing Local Part Ductility Of Press Hardening Steel Grades Using The Thermal-inline-Printer** | Pascal Oesterreich (Schwartz Inc.)

4:40 **Improved OEE Through Coated Roller Technology In Furnaces Of PHS Lines** | Susan Rozak (Saint-Gobain Performance Ceramics & Refractories)

5:00 **End of Day 1**

6:00 **Networking Reception @ Royal Park Hotel, Rochester, MI, USA**

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## Day 2: September 25<sup>th</sup>

9:00 **Opening / Registration / Networking**

**Session 5:** Trends In Parts Manufacturing

9:30 **Today's Automotive Industry - How Did We Get Here And How Should We Move Forward?** | Austin Biskner (Plante Moran)

9:50 **Reviving The Skill Trades - The Rebuilding Of Skill Trades Reimagined** | Hassan Saadat (Telos Global)

10:10 **Gigastampings To Reduce Complexity & Costs** | Paul Belanger (Gestamp BIW R&D North America)

10:30 **Market Overview And Industry Challenges** | Ryan Warpup (Magna – Vehma Engineering)

10:50 **Coffee Break**

**Session 6:** Tools, Automation, and Support

11:20 **Monitoring Metal Stamping Process Through The Gas Springs** | Mikel Rodriguez (Azolgas)

11:40 **Boosting Tool Life And Process Stability In Dry Metal Forming: Practical Approaches With Diamond-Like Carbon Coatings And Surface Finish Modifications** | Lars Haubold (Fraunhofer USA Center Midwest)

12:00 **Robotic Assistance Systems** | Christopher Bajek (Fronius USA LLC)

12:20 **Lunch**

**Session 7:** Workshops

2:00 **Live Presentation On The Handling Of PH-Inspector / PH-Analyzer And Remote Calibration Unit** | Michael Selent (SELMATEC Systems)

2:30 **Technology In Application** | Frank Schieck (Fraunhofer IWU, Chemnitz, Germany)

3:00 **Conclusions** | Frank Schieck & Christian Kovacs

# 5th Executive Summit

## Company Visits

### Day 3: September 26<sup>th</sup>

#### ANDRITZ Schuler USA, Canton, MI

Michigan Ave., Canton, MI 48187

- 8:45 **Registration / Arrival**
- 9:00 **Company Presentation** | Kevin McAllister / Telvi Zanin
- 9:20 **Service & Modernizations** | Andy Osborn
- 9:40 **Automation & Digitalization** | Mathias Wildermuth
- 10:00 **Press Shop of the Future** | Tiago Vasconcellos / Uwe Kreth
- 10:30 **Shopfloor Tour** | Peter Pfund / Robert Moeller / Daniel Naegele
- 10:45 Travel to New Location

#### ANDRITZ Schuler USA, Canton, MI

7145 Commerce Blvd., Canton, MI 48187

- 11:00 **Hydroforming Introduction** | Klaus Hertell
- 11:20 **Hydroforming** | Chris McMahon
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:30 Wrap-up and Goodbye
- 12:45 End of Andritz Schuler Company Visit

# 5th Executive Summit

## Company Visits

### Day 3: September 26<sup>th</sup> CONTINUED

#### ABB Inc. Robotics

1250 Brown Rd., Auburn Hills, MI 48326

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 1:00 | <b>Registration / Arrival</b> - Innovation Room                    |
| 1:15 | <b>Presentation and Q&amp;A</b>   Ed Marchese                      |
| 1:45 | <b>3 Goups rotating each stage</b> - 1. Customer Experience Center |
|      | <b>3 Goups rotating each stage</b> - 2. Training Lab               |
|      | <b>3 Goups rotating each stage</b> - 3. Factory tour               |
| 2:15 | Wrap-up and Goodbye - Innovation Room                              |
| 2:30 | End of ABB Inc. Company Visit                                      |