

Columbus Gear Expo—In the Heart of Manufacturing World



AGMA's Gear Expo 2003 is recognized as the worldwide gear event!

October 5–8, 2003

Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, OH

Buyers and sellers of gears, machine tools, cutting tools, services and other suppliers to the gear industry congregate in Columbus!

• 135 Exhibitors • 38,000 Square Feet • www.gearexpo.com

Photo courtesy of Randall Schieber (provided by GCCC).

HOTELS

Gear Expo exhibitors and attendees can take advantage of special AGMA rates, but only by booking before September 9, 2003. Published rates are for single/double occupancy. Mention reservation codes indicated below to take advantage of the discount!

Hyatt Regency Columbus Convention Center—\$130

350 N. High St., Columbus OH 43215

Telephone: (614) 463-1234

Fax: (614) 280-3034

Code: AGMA

The full-service, 600-room hotel is directly connected to the convention center.

For more information, visit

www.columbus.hyatt.com.

Crowne Plaza Downtown—\$129

33 Nationwide Blvd., Columbus OH 43215

Telephone: (614) 461-4100

Fax: (614) 461-2679

Code: AGMA

Also connected to the convention center, it has 400 rooms and suites. For more info, visit

www.cmh-downtown.crowneplaza.com.

Hampton Inn & Suites—\$115

501 N. High St., Columbus OH 43215

Telephone: (614) 559-2000, (800) 426-7866

Fax: (614) 559-2001

Code: AGM

Select-service hotel located directly across the street from the convention center. For more information, visit www.hamptoninn.com/hi/columbus-downtown.

Courtyard by Marriott Downtown—\$110

35 W. Spring St., Columbus OH 43215

Telephone: (614) 228-3200, (800) 321-2211

Fax: (614) 228-3266

Code: AGMN

Located three blocks south of convention center, but within walking distance of several restaurants. For more info, visit www.courtyard.com/cmhcy.

Red Roof Inn Downtown—\$100

111 E. Nationwide Blvd., Columbus OH

43215

Telephone: (614) 224-6539, (800) 733-7663

Fax: (614) 228-4037

Code: AGMA

Situated across the street from the convention center. This select-service hotel has 150 sleeping rooms and suites. Visit www.redroof.com for more information.

Drury Inn & Suites Convention Center—\$99

88 E. Nationwide Blvd., Columbus OH 43215

(614) 221-7008, (800) 378-7946

Code: 545068

Connected to the convention center, the hotel has 180 rooms and suites. For more information, visit the web site at www.druryhotels.com.

AGMA officials hope to sell companies on attending Gear Expo based on three factors—location, location, location.

The bi-annual trade show will be held Oct. 5–8, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, OH. Detroit, MI, has traditionally been the guaranteed venue for half of the Gear Expos because of its reputation as the automotive capital of the world. Alternating shows rotate between other Midwestern cities. Gear Expo '01 was held in Detroit and Gear Expo '99 in Nashville, TN.

According to AGMA vice president Kurt Medert, the Columbus location should prove to be an ideal choice because of its centralized location. While Nashville was too far south for many companies to send representatives, Columbus is within driving distance of the world's gear manufacturing centers.

"The city that constantly does well is Detroit," he says. "But with Columbus, 60% of our audience lives within 500 miles."

Numerous manufacturing companies are located within the Columbus metropolitan area itself and can make a day trip of Gear Expo. For example, Honda Motor

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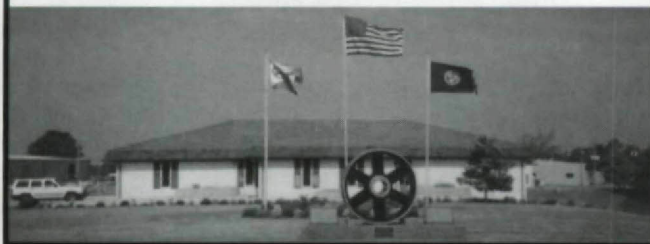
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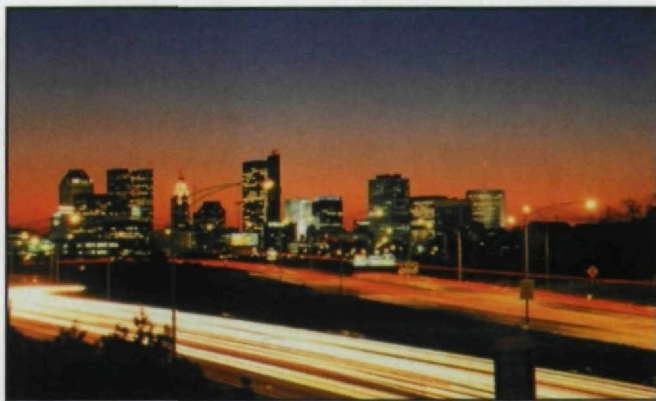
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GEAR EXPO 2003



Columbus by night skyline, as viewed from the highway. Courtesy of the Greater Columbus Convention & Visitors Bureau. Photo by Rod Berry.

Co. Ltd. has several plants in the area, and Columbus is close enough for Kentucky companies to drive up for the day.

In the current economy, closeness can be an asset because it would enable attendees who live in the Midwestern or some of the Eastern states to drive to Gear Expo. Columbus is approximately seven hours driving distance from Chicago, three hours from Pittsburgh, and 12 from Des Moines. Show goers who are in a greater hurry can take advantage of the summer air fares or late booking rates. Cheaper airfares are expected closer to the show date, and AGMA has set aside a block of hotel rooms at special rates (see box). Hotels are all approximately a ten-minute drive from the airport and cab fare should run less than \$15.

Regardless of how they get there, Medert expects Gear Expo attendees to be impressed with the show's facilities.

The Greater Columbus Convention Center was recently expanded with unlimited floor load restrictions, which is another reason it was the site selected. (Because of the heavy equipment normally brought to the show, Gear Expo cannot be held at facilities with restrictions of less than 350 pounds per square inch.)

Also, there are 30 restaurants within five to 10 minutes' distance of the show. ⚙

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