

William A. McCourt

Executive Director – Rhode Island Manufacturers Association
And Rhode Island Manufacturing Institute (aka makeRI)



Bill McCourt is Executive Director of the Rhode Island Manufacturers Association (RIMA) as well as the Rhode Island Manufacturing Institute (aka makeRI), and a vocal advocate for the manufacturing industry. His primary focus is ensuring the public has the proper understanding of 21st Century manufacturing -- the economic and social contributions it makes; the prosperity it can generate; and, the rewarding career opportunities available.

Bill is a graduate from Bryant University with a BS in Business Administration where he majored in accounting and was a CPA. The first part of his professional career was spent in public accounting; working as a business advisor to owners and managers of small to mid-sized companies in the New England area. After 15 years he transitioned into the private sector, working as Chief Financial Officer for two Rhode Island manufacturers – Freedom Yachts and Soluol Chemical, before becoming Chief Operating Officer of a Boston-area manufacturer of engineered composites (Globe Composite Solutions). Now in the ‘third’ segment of his professional career, in early 2012 Bill took over the reins of RIMA, a group he helped organize in the late 1990s to promote and support manufacturing in Rhode Island.

Coming from a family of educators, Bill also understands the need for all kids to have a sound knowledge base that will help ensure a successful future regardless of the path they take. He is very active in developing connections between our youth and career opportunities in manufacturing. Bill was one of the community leaders that pushed for a reform/re-design of Rhode Island’s career and tech education system and serves on a board working with RIDE, the CTE Directors and other stakeholders to reshape the image and effectiveness of CTE, and elicit business support and involvement. He serves as co-chair of the Manufacturing Industry Partnership for the Governors Workforce Board of RI and is a member of an advisory board to Davies Career & Technical High School and Providence Career & Technical Academy. He also serves on a number of ad hoc boards and committees developing career pathways.

