## **Staying Alive in 2025: Elevate Your Supply Chain Strategy** **February 17-18, 2025 | Starkville, Mississippi**

**Day 1: Monday, February 17, 2025**

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Exhibitor Setup

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM Lunch on your own

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Registration & Networking with Exhibitors

1:00 PM - 1:15 PM Welcome Remarks

1:15 PM - 2:00 PM **Keynote Presentation**  
"Navigating the Future: The Supply Chain in 2025"  
**Speaker: Harry Moser, Reshoring Initiative**An inspiring opening keynote on the state of the global supply chain, future challenges, and opportunities for manufacturers.

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM **Additive Manufacturing in Supply Chain “The Wonderful Disruptor”**

This session will highlight how additive manufacturing / 3D printing and Industry 4.0 technologies change the supply chain by making it more resilient and less wasteful. We will provide examples of how major companies use this to their advantage. In addition, we will highlight how 3D printing and digital inventory are lowering inventory taxes, getting needed parts into the customer's hands faster & cheaper, and how technologies are bringing high-paying jobs back to our country.

Panelists:

* Jace Dugas, Louisiana Additive Manufacturing Association
* Troy Falgout, Baker Hughes
* Christopher Beeson, ExxonMobil

Moderator: Chris Toepfer, Louisiana Additive Manufacturing Association

2:45 PM - 3:15 PM **Break & Networking with Exhibitors**

3:15 PM – 4:00 PM **James Leiman, Greenhouse South, LLC**

**Staying Resilient: Transforming Southeast Manufacturing Supply Chains for 2025**

This session will focus on strategies for overcoming supply chain disruptions and strengthening local manufacturing ecosystems in the Southeast. Leveraging insights from two decades of leadership and economic development expertise, Dr. James Leiman will share actionable solutions to address regional vulnerabilities, optimize supplier networks, and integrate emerging technologies. The discussion will explore strategies for mitigating risk and overcoming supply chain bottlenecks, building robust partnerships with local suppliers to enhance resilience, and leveraging digital tools and predictive analytics to streamline operations. Attendees will leave with a comprehensive understanding of how to prepare their supply chains to thrive in 2025 and beyond, with an emphasis on the unique dynamics of the Southeast manufacturing landscape.

4:00 PM – 4:45 PM **Strengthening Regional Supply Chains: MEP Solutions and Assessment Tools for Manufacturers**

* **Alabama,** Joey Massey, Whitney Barlow
* **Louisiana,** Dayna Blanchard**,** Baxter Saucier
* **Mississippi,** Sandy Crist, Tonya McCall, Martin Konrad
* **Tennessee,** Dwaine Raper,Misty DePriest

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM **Reception and Networking with Exhibitors**

**Day 2: Tuesday, February 18, 2025**

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Breakfast & Networking with Exhibitors

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM Announcements, Sponsors

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM **Navigating the Future of Logistics and Distribution**

The logistics and distribution landscape is evolving rapidly, shaped by global disruptions, capacity constraints, and the growing demand for efficiency and sustainability. This panel brings together industry experts to discuss the most pressing challenges in transportation, freight management, warehousing, and supply chain resilience. Panelists will explore strategies for managing rising costs, optimizing transportation modes, and leveraging technology to enhance visibility and automation. Additionally, the discussion will highlight sustainable logistics practices, the impact of nearshoring and offshoring, and the future of freight movement across air, sea, rail, and road networks, while also examining key federal policies, regulatory updates, and government initiatives shaping the logistics sector.

Panelists:

* Eric Holbik, Alabama State Port Authority
* Stuart McAvoy, VersoriumIQ
* Rashard Howard, CSX Transportation

Moderator: Mary Martha Henson, Jackson County Economic Development Foundation

9:30 AM - 10:15 AM **Session: Google X's Supply Chain Visibility Solution - Chorus Technology**

Join **Frank Woods** for an exclusive look into cutting-edge technology developed by Google's Moonshot Factory "X". Chorus aims to radically transform how we make, move, and manage the world’s goods. Google has developed new sensors, software, machine-learning, and AI tools to provide real-time data and actionable insights and interventions on the state and location of goods no matter where it is in the supply chain. Our goal is to dramatically improve the orchestration and movement of the world’s goods, enabling businesses to make informed decisions, reduce waste, and use their assets more efficiently and effectively.

Attendees will gain insights into real-world use cases, exploring how Chorus is addressing complex logistics challenges. The discussion will also cover key features and functions of Chorus Technology at a high level, providing a glimpse into its transformative potential.

10:15 AM – 10: 45 AM **Break & Networking with Exhibitors**

10:45 AM - 11:30 AM **Panel Session: Strengthening Supply Chains Through OEM Collaboration**

As supply chains become more complex and interconnected, Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) play a crucial role in ensuring stability, efficiency, and innovation. This panel will explore the biggest challenges facing today’s supply chains, from supplier development and risk mitigation to increasing transparency and leveraging technology. Industry leaders will discuss best practices for fostering strong supplier relationships, improving resilience, and adapting to shifting market demands. Attendees will gain valuable insights into how OEMs are addressing supply chain disruptions, the role of digital transformation in optimization, and opportunities for manufacturers to align with OEM expectations for long-term success.

Panelists:

* Johannes Dienemann, Trey Miller, Airbus Helicopters
* Lesia Toney, Jerrol Sullivan, Raytheon
* Lindsay Cline, U.S. Navy Maritime Industrial Base

Moderator: Dr. Courtney Taylor, Executive Director, AccelerateMS

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM **Lunch**

Speakers:

**Nathan Ginty, National Institute for Standards & Technology (NIST)**

**Mark Baxa***,* **Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals (CSCMP)**

1:00 PM – 1:15 PM Closing Remarks & Event Conclusion