The Premier Association for the American Bearing Industry
If something twists, turns or moves, it probably has a bearing in it. The $50 billion global bearing industry manufactures in more than 60 countries throughout the world. Domestically, the bearing industry is about $6 billion and employs more than 30,000 employees. The bearing industry is dynamic, innovative and in the constant charge to bring greater efficiencies to the supply chain and apply new technologies. But, you may ask, why are bearings important?

Bearings are highly engineered, precision-made components that enable machinery to move at extremely high speeds and carry remarkable loads with ease and efficiency. Bearings are found in applications ranging from automobiles to computers and construction equipment to ceiling fans. They are a key component of the global economy and everyone’s daily life.

Founded in 1917, the American Bearing Manufacturers Association (ABMA) has a long and rich history, which includes aiding in the production of bearings in World War I and fighting counterfeit bearings around the world. ABMA provides leadership, advocacy and education on issues impacting the global bearing industry.

ABMA’s members include manufacturers of bearings and finished components as well as suppliers to the bearing industry. Participants from member companies are CEOs and senior executives—the key decision-makers and the most successful and forward thinking leaders in the bearing industry. Engage with ABMA to gain access to membership opportunities, receive updates on industry news, attend courses, or become a key partner.
EXPANDING KNOWLEDGE AND SHARING RESOURCES

The American Bearing Manufacturers Association (ABMA) is dedicated to being the premier source of educational opportunities and information for the bearing industry.

Our continuing education program brings bearing theory and practical application together from essential basics to advanced technology with valuable reference materials, case studies and access to industry experts. The current course curriculum and schedule is available on the ABMA website.

ABMA members understand that industry trends and best-practice sharing are keys to creating growth opportunities for the industry. Committee engagement and member-hosted events enable the sharing of best practices on specific topics.

The association also produces industry standards for the bearing industry as well as member-only statistical reports on quarterly shipments, R&D and capital expenditures.

COMMUNICATING OUR MESSAGE

ABMA is the voice of the American Bearing Industry and effective communication is the key to ensuring that our members and bearing supply chain partners are aware of the major issues facing the industry today.

The association communicates through various avenues on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis:

- ABMA’s website is filled with many innovative features including a modern design, rotating banner, interactive online directory, live news feed, calendar of events, videos and much more.
- A monthly members-only e-newsletter and e-mail updates are vehicles for ABMA to effectively communicate the latest updates about association and industry activities.
- ABMA’s News in Motion is a highly informative weekly e-news brief providing a comprehensive overview of top news stories impacting our industry, member company news, and overall trends related to the bearing industry. This brief goes out to contacts from the entire bearing industry supply chain, as well as industry partners and key government agencies. Advertising opportunities are available for the brief.

Visit us now at www.americanbearings.org to subscribe to our weekly online news brief for free and to learn more about advertising opportunities.

“ABMA’s Education Program has added to my growing knowledge of bearings by incorporating top-notch instructors, comprehensive lectures and real-world group exercises.”

– Past Course Participant
ATTACKING COUNTERFEIT BEARINGS

The counterfeiting of bearings is the single most important issue facing the global bearing industry. For that reason, the industry has made eliminating counterfeit bearings and bringing awareness to this critical issue a top priority.

Domestically, ABMA is partnering with federal government agencies through the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Coordination Center to raise the awareness of counterfeit bearings. Through this partnership, ABMA has created a Customs education seminar that has educated Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Agents and Import Specialists, IPR Center Staff, Immigration and Customs Enforcement Officials and Criminal Research Specialists about the bearing industry and issues surrounding counterfeit bearings, which has led to more effective enforcement at the borders.

ABMA also works with key industry partners to bring awareness throughout the bearing supply chain, including the Power Transmission Distributors Association (PTDA) and the Bearing Specialists Association (BSA). Through our industry partners, ABMA is able to engage both distributors and OEMs to further our message and engage them in the fight against this important issue.

Globally, ABMA is a member of the World Bearing Association (WBA), which has made eradicating counterfeit bearings its top priority. This active program supports local law enforcement efforts against counterfeiters, hosts customs education seminars, maintains a global awareness campaign, and partners with Chinese Customs Authorities. Customs authorities in China have seized more than 850,000 counterfeit bearings at their borders en route to more than 37 countries worldwide including tens of thousands scheduled for arrival in the United States.

For more information on the global awareness campaign, please visit [www.stopfakebearings.com](http://www.stopfakebearings.com).

“ABMA's focus on counterfeiting and their partnership with U.S. Customs has had a positive impact on Timken’s ability to protect our brand, not only in America, but worldwide.”

– Clarke Van Dyke, Manager – Analytics & Counterfeit Response Team, Global Coordination, The Timken Company
NETWORKING: BUILDING A STRONGER INDUSTRY

A key component of ABMA membership is the networking opportunities available to share best practices and obtain key insights on industry trends. In addition, ABMA is the collective voice of the industry, creating access to key government agencies and providing a platform for members to influence policy.

The association also focuses on the unique relationship between our manufacturer and supplier members which is a critical component of the bearing supply chain. ABMA has made a conscious effort to provide opportunities to enhance and expand this relationship on many levels, including special focus at our meetings and engagement in our various committees and events, including supplier hosted plant tours and best-practice sharing sessions.

ABMA holds two annual meetings each year that offer members a venue to interact with key industry leaders as well as gain valuable insight on current industry trends. ABMA’s Annual Meeting is held in partnership with the American Gear Manufacturers Association (AGMA), providing a unique opportunity for key leaders from both industries to come together and hear from the foremost experts on critical topics impacting both industries. ABMA’s Fall Meeting focuses on topics that directly impact the bearing industry and its membership. The Fall Meeting is also a venue for manufacturers and suppliers to strengthen their relationships to support a profitable distribution network, and for suppliers to showcase their products.

"By engaging suppliers, ABMA has strengthened the entire membership—a win-win for current members and those who will now qualify for membership."

— Justin McCarthy, Executive VP, Sales and Marketing
Ajax Rolled Ring & Machine
“We are a member of ABMA for the industry-focused networking, education and targeted programs that we cannot get anywhere else.”

—Gary Yomantas, President and CEO, New Hampshire Ball Bearings