



International Titanium Association  
2655 West Midway Blvd., Suite 300  
Broomfield, Colorado 80020 USA

(303) 404-2221 Telephone  
(303) 404-9111 Facsimile  
[www.titanium.org](http://www.titanium.org)

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Contact: Jennifer Simpson, Executive Director  
1-303-404-2221 Telephone  
1-303-404-9111 Facsimile  
[conference@titanium.org](mailto:conference@titanium.org) Email

### **TITANIUM 2009 CONFERENCE PANEL TO EXAMINE MACHINING PROCESSES**

The International Titanium Association, sponsor of TITANIUM 2009, has announced it will devote one of the event's panels to machining processes for the metal. The industry's 25<sup>th</sup> annual conference is scheduled for September 13 – 16 in Kona, Hawaii.

This is the only symposium dedicated to the titanium industry and the sole time and place key executives from the world's leading titanium producers gather to present their insights on World Supply and Demand Trends. In addition, market-specific experts will examine key consuming industry segments. According to Mike Metz, Conference Chair, "The inside knowledge shared at TITANIUM 2009 should help companies involved on any level with the metal make long-term business and investment decisions during this time of global economic slowdown."

Using proper procedures, titanium can be machined with no more difficulty than 316 stainless steel. However, the same metallurgical characteristics that make the metal so versatile across a wide range of applications – high strength, low modulus of elasticity and high thermal conductivity, for example – must be taken into consideration. At TITANIUM 2009, those considerations and proper techniques will be discussed.

Although the basic machining properties of titanium cannot be altered, their effects can be greatly minimized and safety enhanced by decreasing temperatures at the tool face and cutting edge with the right speeds and feeds and proper amount of cutting fluids. One presenter will examine the safety aspects of titanium machining, as well as the use of fire suppression systems.

Since titanium's low thermal conductivity and high modulus of elasticity, combined with its strength, can make it a difficult material to cut, another panelist will present information on the proper grades of cutting tools to meet the challenge.

While torque and dynamic stiffness may not be as important for machining composites and aluminum, they are very important for machining titanium, especially Ti5553. A third panelist will discuss the need for matching machine tools that have proper coatings with the correct heavy-duty machines.

The Machining panel of TITANIUM 2009 is just one of the conference highlights. In addition to the World Supply and Demand Trends panels, more than 70 experts from across the supply chain will examine consuming industries including aerospace, medical, consumer and automotive. New and established manufacturing methods, as well as powder technology will also be discussed.

The event last year drew more than 1000 delegates and 70 exhibitors from 34 countries. "The number and diversity of attendees makes this a very cost-effective and efficient networking venue. Delegates can meet with a wide variety of customers and vendors, hear from leading industry executives and attend market-specific forums, all in one trip," said Metz.

Because TITANIUM 2009 will be held in Hawaii, in recognition of the significant growth of the Asian titanium industry, "We expect a delegation from Japan and participants from China, Korea and other Pacific Rim countries," Metz commented. As always, there should be strong European and Russian participation.

TITANIUM 2009 registrations are running ahead of last year's pace. To register or get more information, visit [www.titanium.org](http://www.titanium.org).

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