



FUTURE INC.  
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# SFI FAX UPDATE

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## MEGA Program Passes Senate ...on to the House of Representatives

The Senate unanimously passed four bills reauthorizing the Michigan Economic Growth Authority (MEGA) program. The legislation extends the sunset provision through December 31, 2009, when the Single Business Tax is set to expire.

The bills make other modifications in the program, including a third way to qualify for a retention MEGA. New modifications also make it easier to qualify for a high-tech MEGA. Now requirements call for either the 25% research and development investment or the job creation requirement instead of both.

Also a new section to define "business" and the allowance for employees working for a contracted payroll company to be counted as "full time" jobs will make MEGA qualification easier. The legislation also designates the director of the Department of Labor and Economic Growth as chairperson of the MEGA Board.

The four bills now go to the Michigan House of Representatives for consideration.

## Technology Forum - COMING IN DECEMBER

The Central Michigan Research Alliance (CMRA) presents "The Future of Fuel Cells." CMRA will hold the second of a series of technology forums designed to facilitate new partnerships between regional start-ups and larger, technology-oriented enterprises.

**The Future of Fuel Cells**  
CMRA Technology Forum  
Thursday, December 4, 2003  
9:00 am to 3:30 pm  
Saginaw Valley State University  
Curtiss Hall  
7400 Bay Road Saginaw, MI  
\$49 per participant (includes lunch)

The agenda includes numerous alternative energy experts along with a government perspective on how to implement this cutting edge technology.

To register, or for additional information, contact Linda Haas at 989-964-7015.

## Manufacturing Matters!

- **Grows the Economy.** Every \$1 in manufactured goods generates an additional \$1.43 worth of economic activity—more than any other economic sector.
- **Invents the Future.** Manufacturers are responsible for almost two-thirds of all private sector research and development.
- **Generates Productivity Increases.** Manufacturing productivity gains are historically higher than those of any other economic sector. These gains enable Americans to do more with less, increase our ability to compete and facilitate higher wages for all employees.
- **Provides More Rewarding Employment.** Manufacturing salaries and benefits are among the highest in the private sector and manufacturers are leaders in employee training.
- **Pays the Taxes.** Manufacturing has been an important contributor to economic growth and tax receipts at all levels of government, contributing one-third of all taxes collected by state and local governments.

Source: National Association of Manufacturers

## New Delta College Complex - Sneak Preview

Delta College will be hosting a sneak preview of its new Technical, Trades, and Manufacturing Complex for area manufacturers and suppliers.

**Delta College Sneak Preview**  
**Technical, Trades, and Manufacturing Complex**  
Thursday, January 22, 2004  
4:00 pm to 7:00 pm  
Delta College - Main Campus M Wing  
1961 Delta Road - University Center, MI

Delta, in conjunction with the Bay Economic Development Corporation, Midland Economic Development Council, Saginaw Future Inc. and Saginaw Valley Manufacturers' Association, will offer demonstrations and tours of the new complex, followed by a reception.

To RSVP, or for additional info, please fax your company name, names of those attending, phone number and/or your questions to Delta College Corporate Services at 989-754-1213.