Workforce Development Agenda

10:00am – **Introduction to NEMA’s Industry Promotion Toolkit, presented by Edge Factor**

12:30pm – Lunch, keynoted by a representative from the Career and Technical Association of Texas. The keynote will focus on best practices for business to approach and engage with education partners on workforce development.

2:00pm – **Introduction to NEMA’s Youth Apprenticeship Program in Industrial Maintenance, presented by Tooling U-SME**

4:00pm – **Discussion of future topics for NEMA engagement in Workforce Development and Human Resources**

4:30pm – **Adjournment**

**Speaker Bios**

**Jeremy Bout** (Edge Factor): Critically acclaimed storyteller, Jeremy Bout is the Founder and Host of Edge Factor and leads the team in creating cinematic media and turnkey resources. Providing regional solutions to national workforce development challenges, Edge Factor empowers community stakeholders with tools to inspire students to pursue career pathways, reach parents, and build bridges between industry and education.

**Robin Painovich** serves as the executive director for Career and Technical Association of Texas and leads advocacy efforts, training and supporting career and technical professionals responsible for preparing 1.4 million students for college and careers. Robin was named Chair of Texas’ P-TECH Council by the Lieutenant Governor in 2016 and facilitated the development of legislation to implement an early college high school model that includes work-based learning opportunities in addition to associate degrees. She was appointed in 2012 by the Commissioner of Education to the 21st Century Workforce Development Campus Distinction Criteria Committee to establish standards for designation. She also chaired Texas Education Agency’s CTE knowledge and skill review in 2008 which resulted in numerous CTE courses designated to satisfy math, science, and English graduation requirements.

**Mike Meroney** leads the Texas Workforce Coalition, a broad-based business coalition of 28 trade associations representing more than 300,000 businesses and nearly 7 million Texas jobs. The group advocates for policies that with strengthen and align the state’s education system with needs of the Texas workforce. He also currently serves on the 2017-18 Texas Accountability Policy Advisory Committee (APAC), which advises Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath on the state’s public
education accountability system. He also served on the Career & Technical Education (CTE) TEKS Review Committee, responsible for rewrite of Texas’ “essential knowledge and skills” for career and technical education curriculum.

**John Hindman** (Tooling U-SME): John Hindman is Tooling U-SME’s Director of Learning and Performance Improvement. John acts as a champion for applying best practices to developing performance-based workforce development strategies in today’s Manufacturing environments. He partners with manufacturing learning champions to develop tactics and business plans for the deployment of effective and efficient career pathway programs from onboarding to high performance progression levels. Learning and Development strategies are grounded through the development of work-based competency frameworks which produce measurable results that meet Human Capital challenges in employee engagement, growth and retention. A sample list of clients that John has worked with includes; Harley-Davidson, Lockheed Martin, Harris Corporation, Ford Motor Company and countless small and medium-sized manufacturers.