

PRESS RELEASE

IMTMA Announces the 9th International Seminar on Forming Technology (ISFT 2026): Powering Manufacturing Growth and Competitiveness

BENGALURU, India, 14 January 2026 – Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association (IMTMA) is pleased to announce the **9th International Seminar on Forming Technology (ISFT 2026)**. Scheduled for **22 - 23 January 2026** at Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), this premier event will run concurrently with **IMTEX FORMING 2026**, the Association's flagship exhibition on metal forming technologies.

“ISFT 2026 comes at a pivotal time for Indian manufacturing, when forming technologies are evolving at a rapid pace. The seminar will equip industry leaders with the insights, tools, and global perspectives needed to enhance competitiveness and accelerate growth across key sectors,” according to Ms. Mohini Kelkar, President, IMTMA.

Recognised as one of the most anticipated events on the manufacturing calendar, ISFT 2026 is expected to attract over 250 delegates from across manufacturing industries. The seminar serves as a critical convergence point for professionals from key sectors, including Automotive, Aerospace, Defence, and Die & Mould.

A Gathering of Industry Experts: The seminar is curated for high-level decision-makers and technical experts. This year's cohort will include Manufacturing and Production Heads, Plant Managers, Tooling and Die Professionals, Design and R&D Experts, and specialists in Quality, Metrology, and Process Improvement.

“With a strong focus on emerging technologies such as giga stamping, digital twins, advanced materials, and automation, ISFT 2026 is designed to bridge cutting-edge research with real-world manufacturing applications,” says Mr. Jibak Dasgupta, Director General & CEO, IMTMA.

Cutting-Edge Agenda: From Giga Stamping to Digital Twins, ISFT 2026 will feature a comprehensive program that addresses the most disruptive trends in metal forming. Delegates will witness in-depth sessions on:

- **Next-Gen Manufacturing:** High-Performance Presses for Aerospace and Defence Industries
- **Digital Transformation:** Agentic Digital Twins for Intelligent Sheet Metal Forming and Advanced Simulation Techniques
- **Material Science:** High-Strength Aluminium 7000 Series Sheetmetal: Analysing the Demand, Manufacturing Constraints, and Roadmap for Indigenous Production
- **Process Innovation:** Hot Stamping advances, Friction-assisted technology, and Additive Manufacturing in the Aerospace sector

- **Tooling:** Advancements in tool design for forming Ultra-High-Strength Steel (UHSS) parts

Key Takeaways for Attendees

The seminar offers a unique platform to:

- **Gain Strategic Insights:** Listen to keynote presentations from industry leaders and technology pioneers
- **Track Global Trends:** Understand the latest global developments in forming technology
- **Knowledge Networking:** Exchange ideas and concepts with peers, decision-makers, and OEMs

Exclusive Exhibition Access Seminar delegates will enjoy the added benefit of exclusive access to **IMTEX FORMING 2026 (21–25 January)**. This allows attendees to bridge the gap between theory and practice by witnessing the live machinery and technologies discussed during the sessions on the exhibition floor.

About IMTMA

Established in 1946, Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association (IMTMA) is the apex industry association for machine tool industry in India. IMTMA has a membership of more than 500 companies from public and private sectors, manufacturing a wide range of metal cutting and metal forming machines, accessories, cutting tools, and other related equipment. IMTMA plays an active role in the growth of the machine tool industry through policy advocacy, exhibitions, knowledge platforms, publications, research reports, training, and skill development. IMTMA has also developed a green exhibition facility called Bangalore International Exhibition Centre for organising exhibitions, conferences, and corporate events.