

# IMTEX 2019 Offers Learning And Business Opportunities For Auto Component Industry

By P Ramadas

Technologies such as Industry 4.0 and additive manufacturing have revolutionised manufacturing.

Auto component industry needs to adopt these technologies for their shop floor activities to keep pace with the western world and other advanced nations. Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association (IMTMA) is celebrating 50 years of Indian Machine Tool Exhibition (IMTEX), South East Asia's largest exhibition on manufacturing and machine tool business. Commemorating the celebrations, IMTMA is organising two new technology shows on Industry 4.0 and Additive manufacturing in IMTEX 2019 at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC) from January 24 to 30. These technologies are expected to propel manufacturing in the years to come.

## Factory Of Future

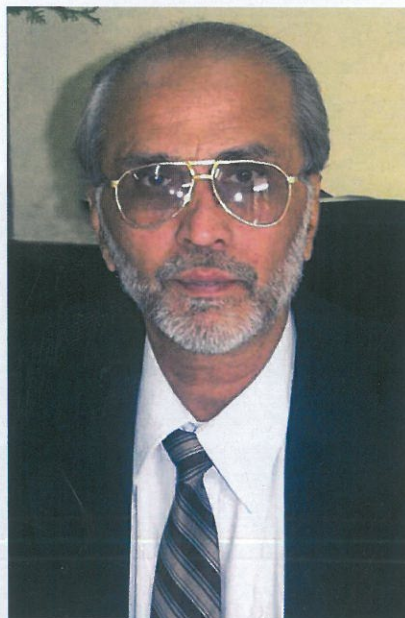
The pavilion on Industry 4.0 will showcase an amalgamation of various technologies which are essential for a productive environment. The use of Industry 4.0 makes it possible to gather and analyse data across machines, enables faster, flexible and efficient processes to produce higher quality goods at reduced costs. This enables increasing the productivity and fostering industrial growth. Industry 4.0 Expo will serve as a platform to see and experience all facets of implementation of Industry 4.0, including sensors, analytics, connectivity, automation, smart machines, digitization, internet of things, cyber security, and so on. The Department of Heavy Industry, Government of India, Fraunhofer, Siemens, Robert Bosch, Staubli Tec, HCL, ACE Group, Fanuc, and many more will be showcasing innovations in the Industry 4.0 pavilion.

Several automotive companies which see huge potential in Industry 4.0 are effectively leveraging it for benefits ranging from engineering speed to sales push. They use it to shorten development cycles, develop attractive products and efficient processes, respond to individual

customised solutions, optimise value chains and for productivity gains. As the automotive companies are global and many original equipment manufacturers and suppliers compete on the world stage, it is necessary for them to be on the forefront to adopt these cutting-edge technologies to set up new factories or to re-align existing plants.

## Additive Manufacturing Expo

The Expo on Additive Manufacturing will familiarise the manufacturing fraternity with its techno-commercial advantages. The pavilion will have zones focusing on various aspects such as innovation in product development, engineering and manufacturing, and products developed through additive manufacturing. Conventional techniques are capable of producing a broad range of shapes and designs but additive manufacturing will take production to the next level. Additive manufacturing acts as a design enabler which helps in validation of designs through prototyping. Companies such as Renishaw, EOS GmbH, Imaginarium, TRUMPF, Laser Technologies, and Altair, to name a few, will be showcasing their innovations at the Additive Manufacturing Expo.



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Advances in additive manufacturing (3D printing) have transformed the ways in which products are designed, developed, manufactured and distributed. For automotive industry the advances have opened doors for new designs, cleaner, lighter and safer products, and shorter lead times. Original equipment manufacturers and suppliers are known for using additive manufacturing for rapid prototyping. Moving forward, the auto component industry can also use additive manufacturing for product innovation and high-volume direct manufacturing.

**Highlights:** IMTEX and Tooltech 2019 will cover around 80,000 square metres in six exhibition halls in which participants from 20 countries, including seven country-groups, will showcase their innovations. There will be two Special Pavilions on 'Additive Manufacturing' and 'Industry 4.0.' 'Tooltech,' a concurrent fair, will present a range of cutting tools, tooling systems, machine tool accessories, metrology as well as CAD & CAM software. The 'Experience Zone,' will depict the 50-year journey of IMTEX. On 23rd January there will be an International Seminar on Machining Technologies focusing on advancements in machining technologies.

The other areas and events of significance are the i2 Academia Pavilion which will connect institutions with industry; Connect in which companies will join with students on a common platform to source talent for machine tool industry; Jagruti which will connect students from various cities with institutions; and Buyer-Seller meet to give a platform for companies to sell machines and explore mutual business opportunities.

IMTEX 2017 & Tooltech 2017 had attracted a footfall of 75,440 visitors and orders worth Rs 1,670 crore while enquiries worth Rs 18,989 crore were generated and this edition is expected to surpass that. **APA**

*P Ramadas is the President of IMTMA. Views expressed are personal.*