



*Life Saving Connections*

## **MINNESOTA WIRE HOSTS MANUFACTURERS' COALITION**

**St. Paul, 2/11/09** – Minnesota Wire today hosted the Minnesota Manufacturers' Coalition at its corporate headquarters in St. Paul. The Coalition, formed in April 2004, is a consortium of association leaders representing 26 associations from across Minnesota who serve the needs of manufacturers. Any functional or vertically focused association whose members include manufacturers is welcome to participate.

The Minnesota Manufacturers' Coalition meets periodically to discuss the issues and challenges affecting the state of manufacturing. The working meeting this week was proposed by Joan Thompson, Minnesota Wire's Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. The gathering began with a welcome by Minnesota Wire Chairman & CEO Paul Wagner, who introduced the Coalition's invited guest, Ward Einess, Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Revenue.

The Commissioner discussed Governor Tim Pawlenty's Minnesota Jobs Recovery Act, which contains a number of proposals designed to incentivize business growth, including converting the capital equipment sales tax refund to an upfront exemption. According to Einess, *"Our quality of life in Minnesota will falter if we don't incentivize the economy's real engine, small business generally, and manufacturers specifically. Our employers are the key to Minnesota's economic vitality."*

The Coalition discussed various pertinent subjects relevant to the state's budget crisis and the need to continue investing in a fertile business climate. The group of 25 then toured Minnesota Wire's development center at its St. Paul facility.

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**Minnesota Wire** is a vertically integrated, custom manufacturing and development house for wire, cable and interconnect assemblies to the Medical, Defense, Instrumentation and Telecommunications industries. The company is a market and R&D leader in: electrical signal integrity; mitigating triboelectric effects; radio-translucent wire; and innovative connections for wearable electronics, patient monitoring systems and leading-edge medical devices.