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**Manufacturing Technologies Association appoints new Committee Chair and Board Member**

[The Manufacturing Technologies Association](http://www.mta.org.uk/) **(MTA) has appointed a new Chair for its Exhibition Committee, which oversees the organisation of MACH, the UK’s premier manufacturing technologies event. Chris Pockett, Head of Communications at** [global engineering company Renishaw](http://www.renishaw.com/en/renishaw-enhancing-efficiency-in-manufacturing-and-healthcare--1030)**, who has been a committee member for eight years, was appointed Chair of the Exhibition Committee due to his extensive knowledge and experience of international trade shows and event management. The new position also sees Pockett join the Board of the MTA where he will contribute his additional knowledge of communications and international marketing.**

**The MTA is a trade association that represents the UK’s engineering-based manufacturing sector including companies involved in machine tools, cutting tools, metrology and CAD/CAM software. It is also the organiser of the biennial MACH exhibition, the UK’s largest manufacturing technologies event, which is being held from April 9th to 13th, 2018, at the NEC in Birmingham. The Exhibition Committee consists of MTA staff and industry representatives from exhibiting member companies of the association and is responsible for overseeing decisions concerning the exhibition.**

**Chris Pockett brings a wealth of experience of global exhibitions from his role as Head of Communications at Renishaw. He was involved with Renishaw’s first stand in China in 1993 and has organised and taken part in trade shows across all continents. He has been an MTA Exhibition Committee member since 2008, serving the association through a number of MACH events. As part of his new role, Pockett will be responsible for overseeing MACH 2018, the first event to be located in the NEC’s newer Atrium halls.**

“We are delighted that such an experienced communicator as Chris has agreed to take up the Chairmanship of the Exhibition Committee,” explained James Selka, CEO of the MTA. “Chris has made a huge contribution during his time on the Committee and I’m looking forward to working with him to make sure that MACH builds on its position as the UK’s leading manufacturing technologies exhibition and becomes an even more important date in the manufacturing calendar.”

**“MACH 2016 saw an almost ten per cent increase in visitors from 2014, giving us confidence that the exhibition and the advanced engineering sector are moving in the right direction,” explained Chris Pockett. “We aim to increase engagement in the event further in order to highlight new opportunities that are impacting the sector, including additive manufacturing and Industry 4.0.”**

**Pockett joins Stewart Lane, Renishaw’s Group Sales Development Director, who is also a board member of the MTA, where he is responsible for learning and development. Renishaw is committed to supporting the wider industry through active membership of trade bodies, advisory panels and professional groups.**

**To find out more about Renishaw, visit** [www.renishaw.com](http://www.renishaw.com)**.**

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Notes to editors

UK-based Renishaw is a world leading engineering technologies company, supplying products used for applications as diverse as jet engine and wind turbine manufacture, through to dentistry and brain surgery. It has over 4,000 employees located in the 35 countries where it has wholly owned subsidiary operations.

For the year ended June 2016 Renishaw recorded sales of £436.6 million of which 95% was due to exports. The company’s largest markets are China, the USA, Japan and Germany.

Throughout its history Renishaw has made a significant commitment to research and development, with historically between 14 and 18% of annual sales invested in R&D and engineering. The majority of this R&D and manufacturing of the company’s products is carried out in the UK.

The Company’s success has been recognised with numerous international awards, including eighteen Queen’s Awards recognising achievements in technology, export and innovation.

Renishaw is listed on the London Stock Exchange (LSE:RSW) where it is a constituent of the FTSE 250, with a current valuation of around £1.8 billion.

Further information at [www.renishaw.com](http://www.renishaw.com)

The Manufacturing Technologies Association

The MTA exists to promote the interests, and be the voice, of the manufacturing technologies sector in the UK.

The Manufacturing Technologies Association is the UK’s trade association for companies in the manufacturing technology sector.  MTA members design, manufacture and supply the advanced machinery, equipment and intellectual property that enable the creation of the products we rely on from day to day and that drive our economy.

Key aspects of manufacturing technology include; machine tools, cutting tools, metrology (measuring) equipment, additive manufacturing (3D printing), surface finishing, robotics and computer aided design and manufacturing products (CAD/CAM), as well as the technology which is enabling the digitisation of manufacturing – the fourth industrial revolution. These combine to make up complete systems - increasingly automated and adaptive - that manufacturers deploy, making the sector fundamental to the prosperity, health and defence of the nation.

The MTA delivers: marketing support and networking opportunities; specific and relevant economic and technical information; representation to Government and other stakeholders; help for exporters; and support for learning and development within member companies and beyond.

The MTA owns and runs MACH, the UK’s premier event to showcase manufacturing technologies. The biennial exhibition, held at the NEC, attracts over 25,000 visitors, over 600 exhibitors and the last edition, MACH 2016, saw over £150,000,000 of business attributed to it.

Established in 1919 the MTA has been at the core of the UK’s engineering based manufacturing economy for almost a century.

For more information on the MTA contact Thomas Lane on tlane@mta.org.uk