



## Registration opens for 6th “Valley Made” Manufacturing Summit

- *Set for April 21, 2020 in Fresno*
- *Features keynote speaker John Shegerian*

The 6<sup>th</sup> annual “Valley Made” Manufacturing Summit is scheduled for April 21, 2020 in Fresno, say the sponsors, the San Joaquin Valley Manufacturing Alliance and the Fresno Business Council. It is scheduled to feature keynote speaker John Shegerian, co-founder and executive chairman of Fresno-based ERI.

More than 1,000 representatives from the manufacturing industry are expected for the day-long event at the Fresno Convention Center Exhibit Hall.

Registration is open by visiting [www.sjvma.org](http://www.sjvma.org). Also sponsorships and exhibit space are available by contacting Genelle Taylor Kumpe via email ([genelle@sjvma.org](mailto:genelle@sjvma.org)) or calling 559.214.0140.

The event is designed as a workshop and resource expo that celebrates the Valley's history of innovation in manufacturing while providing resources and networking opportunities that continue to build a well-trained, outstanding workforce.

“The goal ... is to provide manufacturers with the needed resources and workforce connections to upscale and train existing employees for today's automated technologies, and to attract the next generation workforce to grow the industry and region for a brighter future,” says Troy Brandt, chairman of the board for the San Joaquin Valley Manufacturing Alliance and general manager at Hydratech.

Mr. Shegerian is scheduled to talk about how to attract and retain effective employees and clients through good times and bad.

As an entrepreneur, Mr. Shegerian co-founded several organizations built on his philosophies of making the world a better place one business at a time, and of providing a second chance to those who are most in need. His philosophies have led him to run the largest electronic recycling company in the U.S., among other ventures.

“The convention center will be filled with the leading lights of the Central Valley's manufacturing industry and many of my fellow local business leaders, so I'm excited to have

the opportunity to share useful takeaways regarding positive culture team building and how to balance best employee retention practices and effective operations with growing a profitable enterprise,” says Mr. Shegerian.

The San Joaquin Valley’s manufacturing industry is responsible for nearly \$15 billion of the Valley’s gross domestic product and employs more than 105,000 people. Nationally, it is estimated that over the next decade, almost 3.5 million U.S. manufacturing jobs will need to be filled due to baby-boomer retirements.