Hello,

Many of you already know me and for those that don't My name is Dan Wheeler, your new MDNA President, proudly representing Wheeler Machinery and the West Coast Chapter.

Before I go any further, a few heartfelt thank "yous" are in order: First and foremost, I thank God—for my life, for the countless blessings, and for never abandoning me. For giving me strength when I had none left, and for always showing me the way forward.

To my incredible wife, Gina, my dad and mama and to my amazing children—Gracie, Garrett, and Sara. I love you more than I could ever express.

And finally, to the MDNA membership, MDNA Board, officers, and to Mark Robinson thank you. Thank you for believing in me, for encouraging me, and for trusting me with this responsibility. This association has poured incredible value into our family business and my personal journey. I wouldn't be standing here without you. I look forward to working with our new committee chairs and board members. Congratulations to Doris for being our first female AMEA President. And to Carl Davis the new President of Locator Services.

My journey with MDNA took off when President Kim Khoury asked me to step in as Membership Chair during a period of change. I had no idea what I was doing, but I said yes. And that "yes" became the start of something much bigger. At the end of that three-year chapter, I was diagnosed with cancer. I still made it to our board meeting in Tucson, but as treatment progressed, I grew sicker, unsure if I could continue. For a time, the illness robbed me of my strength—and my spirit. I spiraled. Recovery was slow, both physically and mentally. Then the nominating committee asked if I'd serve as Treasurer. I remember saying, "Have you seen me lately? I can barely walk or breathe." But Paul Lashin, Ron Shuster, Michael Feinstein, and Kim Khory didn't flinch. They said, "We'll wait. As long as it takes. We want you." That moment will forever live in my heart. Thank you for that act of belief. It changed me.

My vision for this great association is simple but powerful—start from the ground up. Strong chapters make a strong association. With the support of our officer team and board, we will refocus on chapter-level events and engagement. When our members see leadership show up locally, they get inspired. That's how we grow. Not just in numbers—but in heart. We're not just passing along knowledge—we're passing on a legacy. Like the generations before us, we must lead with purpose, adapt with courage, and welcome change. Communication will be a cornerstone of my presidency. We'll sharpen how we connect—with calls, Zooms, newsletters, and social media. Leadership roles

should feel like an opportunity, not an obligation. We owe it to our members to deliver value, every time. Our website will be upgraded. Our content will stay relevant. Our finances are strong, and our focus is clear. We're making real progress—and we're not done yet. As we look to the future, let us remember: we must leave it better than we found it. We need to mentor, train, and eventually hand off this legacy to the next generation—intact, strong, and future-ready. The younger members are not just the future—they're the bridge to everything ahead. Let's listen to them, lean into innovation, and stay humble enough to grow. I am incredibly honored to be your President. I serve you—your families, your businesses, your futures. This association has shaped me as a man, a father, and a business leader. The debt I owe MDNA is repaid in service, gladly given. If you're part of this association, enjoy it. Show up. Dive in. Make the most of it. Build relationships that last a lifetime. Thank you for this incredible honor. I will do everything in my power to make MDNA shine brighter than ever. Thank you.