Cautious optimism is the watchword in the Manufacturing sector right now. The Administration focus on US jobs might provide opportunities for industry. Despite the amount of time being spent on healthcare reform and the investigation in Russian meddling in the elections, manufacturing issues are also on the table.

With economic indicators on the rise and the regulatory environment being scrutinized, things are definitely looking up. But some other factors are creating pressure. Most importantly, what will come of the Section 232 investigation of steel imports? How will any remedies for big steel impact the wire industry? Will the Administration take into consideration, the number of downstream steel jobs when it announces the next big steel trade policy measure? At the writing of these materials, we are waiting to hear announcements from the Department of Commerce and the Administration.

At this year’s meeting you will hear from experts on international trade, get an update on NAFTA renegotiation, and hear the latest about regulatory reform. Come to Washington, DC this September to network with colleagues and customers, and to speak to lawmakers to advocate for your company and for domestic steel wire manufacturing. There may never be a more important time to speak to your legislators about your industry’s issues. The AWPA will provide the tools, but YOU are the best ambassador for your company and your employees. Join your industry colleagues in DC this September and make your voice heard.

Combining Congressional advocacy, committee meetings, time for business, and two evening receptions for renewing relationships with colleagues and customers, the Government Affairs Conference should not be missed!
Program Information

**Committee & Board Meetings**
Committee meetings will be held Monday, September 25th and Wednesday, September 27th. The Executive Committee meeting, the Membership Committee meeting, and the Stainless, PC Strand and Rope Product Committee meetings will be held Monday afternoon. The Board of Directors meeting will take place on Wednesday morning. Please check the Schedule of Events for specific times.

**Opening Reception**
Monday evening will provide time dedicated to meeting old friends and checking in with your knowledgeable industry colleagues. The reception on Monday evening gives attendees an opportunity to mix and mingle, and begin discussing the issues on your personal agenda and AWPA’s government affairs agenda.

**GENERAL SESSION PROGRAM**

**International Trade Update**
Global trade is even more complicated than ever. With the US pulling out of the TPP, and a shift toward bi-lateral agreements, what can we expect going forward? Get the inside perspective on how the new Administration may handle this essential issue.

**NAFTA: Reform, not Withdrawal?**
The Administration officially began the process of renegotiating the NAFTA treaty in May. This trade deal could have a serious impact on the American economy. Get the latest information on the process and the elements of the treaty that may be affected.

**Regulatory Reform**
With the new Administration comes a new perspective on regulation from Executive branch agencies. Every day it seems that a regulation is either withdrawn or revised. Come hear from an expert on what rules are being changed, which ones are being revoked, and if these changes can last.

**Wire & Wire Products Caucus Briefing & Lunch and Congressional Visits**
On Tuesday ADVOCACY takes center stage. AWPA encourages all members to participate in the Caucus Briefing and Congressional Visits. The Caucus Briefing and Congressional Visits keep both AWPA members and our Congressional Representatives up-to-date on the current trade issues facing the steel wire industry. In order to have an impact, we must use this opportunity to communicate to our legislators about the industry and the issues we face, and encourage them to influence government policy on our behalf. Your participation is vital to ensuring the level of turnout that will make an impression on your legislators. With the current regulatory and legislative challenges facing the industry, the information you will provide is more important than ever. Tuesday afternoon begins on Capitol Hill with a lunch and Wire Caucus briefing on trade, and Congressional Visits will take place in the afternoon.

**Congressional Visits Debriefing Breakfast**
On Wednesday morning we will gather for breakfast and discuss the results of our congressional visits from Tuesday. Bring your scorecards, and let your fellow AWPA members know who you met with, and how they responded. Sharing this information is the important next step in our advocacy efforts – Janet Kopenhaver, AWPA’s Director of Government Relations, will use this information to focus efforts where they can make the most impact, and will provide follow-up information to Representatives and Senators after your meetings.
Meeting Registration
We urge attendees to register and make reservations early for the AWPA Government Affairs Conference. The early bird registration deadline is August 28. After this date the registration fee increases by $100.00. The registration fee covers all business and social functions sponsored by the Association.

Registration is available online at www.awpa.org. Click on the button on the upper right corner of the website. Your User Name is your email address and if you have forgotten your password, you will need to use the “Forgot Password” link on the Log In page. If you have attended an AWPA meeting in the past, or receive regular emails from AWPA, you already have an 'account' in the database. Please do not create a new account. If you have trouble accessing your account, please contact Heather for assistance at houthuse@awpa.org.

To register for the meeting, click the link in the home page banner “Register Now.” Next you will choose to register yourself, or someone else from your company, by using the “Add Me” or “Add Someone Else” buttons. You can register as many people from your company as you would like. If you are bringing a spouse or companion to the meeting, be sure to check the Spouse Registration box. Follow the directions and be sure to mark the Caucus Briefing and Congressional Visits. You are ENCOURAGED to participate in the Briefing and Visits that are so vital to AWPA's effectiveness on behalf of the industry. You may pay with Visa, MasterCard or American Express, and payment is required at the time of registration. When you complete your payment, you will receive an email confirmation, and also be able to view your registration details in the My Meetings section of the website.

Spouse/Companion Attendees
Your Spouse/Companion is welcome to attend the AWPA meeting, at no charge, but should be registered in advance.

FEES AND DATES

| Early Bird Registration | On or before Monday, August 28, 2017 | $460 |
| Late Registration       | After Monday, August 28, 2017        | $560 |

Cancellations
Meeting registrations cancelled in writing by August 28, 2017 are entitled to a full refund. Registrations cancelled after August 28 are non-refundable.

Save the Date!
2018 ANNUAL MEETING
February 19-21
The Westin Mission Hills Resort & Spa
Rancho Mirage, CA
Hotel Reservations

The Conference will be held at the Westin Alexandria, just across the Potomac River from Washington, DC.

This ideal location will allow you to maximize the effectiveness of your time in Washington, while providing easy access to many restaurants and all the attractions of our nation’s Capital, Congress, and Reagan National Airport.

AWPA members are responsible for making their own reservations by calling the hotel directly at 703.253.8600 or by making your reservation online at www.starwoodmeeting.com/events/start.action?id=1701051393&key=2FDB7C1C.

Identify yourself as an AWPA Government Affairs Conference attendee to receive the special group rate of $249/night plus taxes for single or double occupancy. The group rate is available two days prior and two days after the meeting dates, based on availability.

All rooms must be guaranteed by credit card at the time of reservation. Discounted rooms are available until August 28, or until the room block is full, whichever occurs first. **Reservations must be made on or before Monday, August 28, 2017.** To ensure these special rates and that rooms are available, make your reservation early. September is a particularly busy time in the nation’s capital and hotel rooms are at a premium. Your cooperation in making early reservations is greatly appreciated, and you will have a better experience if you are at the conference hotel! This deadline cannot be extended, so make your reservation early.

**Cancellations**

Hotel Reservations may be cancelled up to forty-eight hours prior to arrival, after which one night’s stay will be charged to your credit card.

**Restaurants**

Several websites offer good guides for making arrangements for dinners. OpenTable.com and Frommer’s both have useful Alexandria sites, and the hotel concierge, 703.253.8600, is another great resource for dining options.

**Transportation**

Local airports are Reagan National-DCA (15 minutes), Dulles International-IAD (40-60 minutes) and Baltimore Washington International-BWI (60 to 90 minutes). Taxis from Reagan are approximately $38 depending on traffic. Super Shuttle service is available for $20 per person, one-way from Reagan National. Reservations for Super Shuttle are available at www.supershuttle.com but are not required. Super Shuttle also serves Dulles Airport and BWI. All three airports have authorized Uber and Lyft pick-ups.

Register Today at www.awpa.org!
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2017 Government Affairs Conference

September 25-27 2017
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