Invites you to a seminar by

Kathy Saint
President, Schwerdtle Stamp Company

Friday, February 6, 2015
Institute of Materials Science Building, Room 20, at 9:05 a.m.
Refreshments will be served at 8:45 a.m.

“Materials Science – Is It Relevant to Small Manufacturers?”

Abstract: Schwerdtle Stamp is a small (20 employees), 135-year-old, 4th generation company, that started out as a manufacturer of steel stamps for marking on metal parts and rubber stamps. Most of the companies like Schwerdtle are gone and the few that are left are either large consolidations of little guys that were purchased over the years or tiny three-to-five employee shops that serve a mostly regional market. Schwerdtle had a fork in the road back in the 1960’s which led them to branch out into a national market by developing the technology to manufacture silicone hot stamps for decorating plastics, which was a booming market at the time. Currently, Kathy Saint is trying to take that technology and apply it to a new market – gripper fingers for automation – in the search for growth opportunities for the business. She will talk about how materials science applies to the various stages of the Schwerdtle business as well as other small manufacturers in the state and the problems that come up in a small business that are materials science related. She will also discuss a new product Schwerdtle is trying to develop that is 100% a material science issue.

Bio: Kathy Saint is President of Schwerdtle Stamp Co., a 135-year-old manufacturing firm located in Bridgeport. She is President of the Manufacturers Education and Training Alliance. She is a past president of Bridgeport Chamber of Commerce and continues to serve on the Board as well as chairing the Education Committee. Kathy Saint is a past board member for CBIA and serves on the Manufacturer’s Advisory Committee. She is currently serving on the Board of Advisors for the Materials Science and Engineering Department at UConn. Working with the New Haven Manufacturer’s Association and their Workforce Enhancement Committee, Kathy Saint is vocal in her advocacy for Education and particularly STEM skills with the Governor, state agencies and the legislature. She is on the Advanced Manufacturing Advisory Committee at Housatonic Community College. Kathy Saint has received numerous awards for her community service, including being named a finalist in the 2006 “Women of Innovation Award,” presented by the Connecticut Technology Council. She received Bridgeport Regional Business Council's “Impact Award” in 2005 for outstanding leadership; and the 2004 Connecticut Community Colleges “Award of Merit.” She was also the first recipient of the Women's Leadership Award from the Bridgeport Regional Business Council.

This seminar is mandatory for ALL MSE Full-time Graduate Students.