Please join Congressmen Randy Hultgren and Mike Kelly for a congressional roundtable discussion with CEOs of forging companies and suppliers to the forging industry about the forging industry and its views on tax reform, workforce development and trade.

What is forging? Forging is one of the oldest known metalworking processes where metal is pressed, pounded or squeezed under great pressure into high strength parts known as forgings. Forgings are found in the following industry sectors: aerospace, automotive, defense, oil & gas exploration, power generation, wind energy, mining, rail, medical, tools and sports.

FIA executives will be able to talk about the markets they serve and their positions on the following issues:

Tax Reform – The forging industry needs comprehensive tax reform that treats all manufacturers alike regardless of corporate structure; enhances U.S. manufacturers’ global competitiveness; and recognizes the global nature of U.S. manufacturing and supply chains. There will be executives from both C-Structure and Pass-Through entities.

Workforce Development – Like many in the manufacturing arena, the forging industry struggles with finding and retaining appropriately trained workers. Executives will discuss job training initiatives and programs that work in their states and how the business community can play a more direct role in establishing education policy at the K-12 and higher education levels, including career and technical education (CTE) programs, to help prepare students for the needs of the workforce and successful manufacturing careers.

Trade – The forging industry is a consumer of metal products and therefore the trade policies affecting global capacity of metals is important. The forging industry is also often unable to take advantage of the U.S. trade laws because of the inability to track imports. Executives will be able to discuss their views on trade with China and the rest of the world and how downstream industries are affected by U.S. trade laws.

Forging Industry CEOs attending the event include:
Gerald Bornman and David Silva, Aluminum Precision Products – California
Rick Creed, Weber Metals – California
Marc Fortin, Consolidated Industries – Connecticut
Ken Mathas, Cornell Forge Company – Illinois
Bill Hoban, Cleveland Harware & Forging Company – Illinois, Ohio & Wisconsin
Dan Cavanagh, MacLean-Fogg Metform Group – Illinois, North Carolina, New York & Pennsylvania
Jason Fowler and Mike Peroo, Bar Source – Illinois, Tennessee & Texas
Doug Brown, Inductoheat – Michigan
Mark Marcucci, Gerdau Specialty Bar – Michigan & Arkansas
Suzanne Tkach, Tkach Metalworking Consulting – Ohio
Hudson Smith, SIFCO - Ohio & California
Ben Huffman, The Ellwood Group – Pennsylvania, Ohio & Texas
Mike Kammkar, North American Forgemasters – Pennsylvania
George Currie, Erie Press – Pennsylvania
Matthew Troutman, Lenape Forge – Pennsylvania
David Hershbell, Lehight Heavy Forge – Pennsylvania
Kevin Crowley, Forged Products – Texas