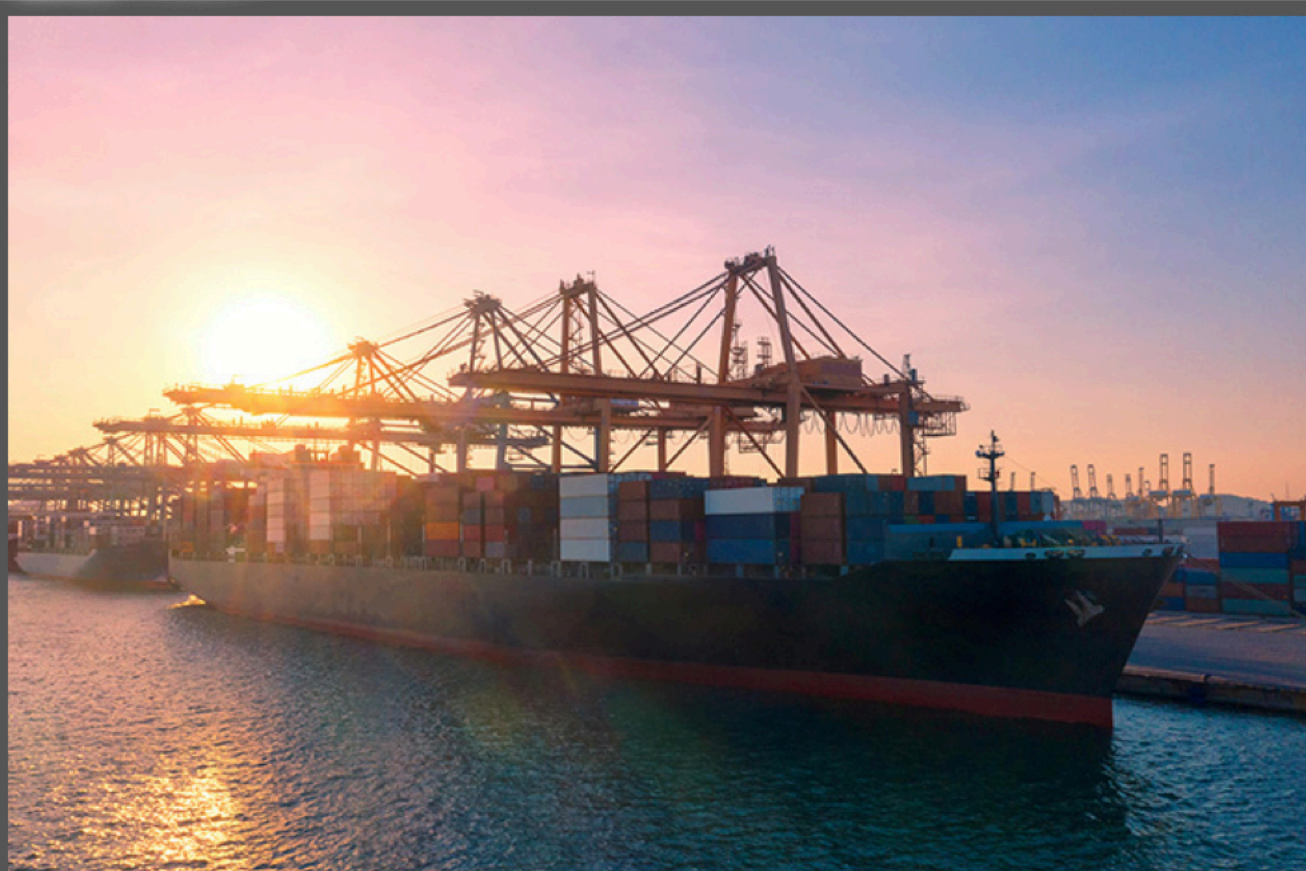


Manufacturing's Weekly Insights

Editor's Spotlight

1 Seema



Manufacturing's New Momentum Comes with a Warning Sign

U.S. manufacturing is showing renewed strength, but this recovery may be driven more by caution than confidence. April marked the fourth consecutive month of expansion for the manufacturing sector, with the **ISM Manufacturing PMI** rising to 52.7%, signaling continued growth in factory activity. Production, new orders and inventory levels all climbed as manufacturers accelerated purchasing and output.

But beneath the headline optimism, another story is unfolding: companies are stockpiling materials and components in anticipation of higher costs, supply chain disruptions and ongoing trade uncertainty. Input prices rose at the fastest pace in two years, while delivery times lengthened and manufacturing employment remained sluggish. The result is a manufacturing economy that looks active on paper but remains defensive in strategy.

For industry leaders, this creates a critical question: Is manufacturing entering a sustainable growth cycle or simply preparing for another period of volatility?

The answer will shape investment decisions across automation, sourcing, workforce planning and reshoring initiatives throughout the second half of 2026. For now, manufacturers appear focused less on aggressive expansion and more on building resilience in an increasingly unpredictable global market.

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Stop Waiting for Stability Volatility is Here to Stay

The 25% of revenue most CFOs are still ignoring, and why that has to change.

[Get the Details](#)

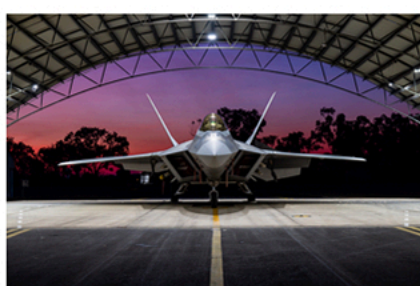


SCOTUS Last-Mile Case May Weaken Arbitration

A SCOTUS case on last-mile delivery could limit manufacturers' ability to enforce worker arbitration agreements.

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Fighting Data Inefficiency in Manufacturing

Manufacturers utility lean principled to drive efficiency. But lean has a blind spot: data inefficiency. It's time to change that.

[Accelerate Digital Transformation](#)



From Factory Floor to Firewall: Manufacturing Security

New trends for manufacturers to prepare their enterprises for convergence, as it becomes an operational reality.

[See the Trends](#)



LEEAA Sets Date for Global Lifting Awareness Day 2026

The Lifting Equipment Engineers Association (LEEAA) has scheduled the latest Global Lifting Awareness Day (GLAD) for Thursday 2 July 2026. This year's theme is: 'Not all lifting equipment is created equal.'

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