



Membership Information & Benefits

University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for Quick Response Manufacturing

What is Quick Response Manufacturing (QRM)?

A critical aspect of competition for today's manufacturing firms is speed—not only speed of delivery but also of concept, design, and production. Success hinges on the ability to respond quickly, giving the company flexibility and agility.

Quick Response Manufacturing (QRM) is a company-wide strategy to cut lead times in all phases of manufacturing and office operations. It can bring your products to market more quickly and secure your business prospects by helping you compete in a rapidly changing manufacturing arena.

QRM will not only make your firm more attractive to potential customers but also increase profitability by reducing non-value-added time, cutting inventory, and increasing return on investment.

Companies that have implemented QRM methods have achieved lead time reductions of 80% or more.

The Center for Quick Response Manufacturing was established in 1993 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as a forum to learn the theory and practice of QRM and to help in the transition from theoretical to practical applications. Over 300 companies have applied QRM. Of those, approximately 25, of various sizes, products, and locations, are current contributing partners. Center members have the opportunity not only to remain on the cutting edge of manufacturing but to create it.

What are the Benefits of Membership?

Basic Membership

Reduced Training Costs

Center members can train at significantly reduced rates for workshops and select courses.

Members-Only Events

A unique opportunity to participate in members-only events such as working group meetings, plant tours, webinars and more.

Networking

Interact with representatives of other member firms, helping you learn how they have successfully dealt with common QRM challenges.

Access to University of Wisconsin Faculty

Take advantage of direct access to faculty at UW-Madison, a leading institution in manufacturing research.

Student-Industry Project Presentations

Attend QRM project presentations by graduate student teams at the end of each spring semester.

Member Directory

You will receive a directory with details about who belongs to the QRM Center: company names and location(s).

QRM Executive

Committee Members can participate in our executive committee and help set the agenda and priorities of the Center.

For more information, visit the QRM website at qrm.engr.wisc.edu.

Expanded Membership

When you join at the expanded level, you can participate in applied research projects conducted by the QRM Center. These projects may include student team projects or graduate student independent study projects. All member companies participating under the Expanded Membership fee are encouraged to propose topics for longer-term research projects and offer their facilities as sources for empirical data. One or more UW faculty members will supervise all projects.

Applied research projects often include multiple student visits to the workplace over a 3 to 4-month period to investigate elements of QRM implementation at the member company. Using their classroom training, faculty guidance, and data analysis, the students make recommendations to improve QRM implementations in the industry.

How to Join

To apply for membership, call the QRM Center at (608) 262-4709 or visit our website at qrm.engr.wisc.edu.

Membership Fees

Basic annual membership is \$3,150 per company. **Expanded annual membership**, at \$12,900, allows participation in longer-term, in-depth student and faculty projects.