



Contact Lisa Yordy
802-674-5781

American Precision Museum
PO Box 679
196 Main Street
Windsor VT 05089
www.americanprecision.org
802-674-5781

For Immediate Release

American Precision Museum Appoints Steve Dalessio as New Executive Director

Windsor, VT, September 12, 2019. . . The American Precision Museum’s Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the appointment of Steve Dalessio as its new Executive Director. He succeeds Ann Lawless, who retired in 2018 after serving as director for 15 years. Dalessio will implement the museum’s mission and goals in innovative and creative ways, overseeing the daily operations, budget, and fundraising, in addition to refining the museum’s long-range strategy and interpretative plan.

Dalessio brings to the position over 40 years of experience in the machine tool industry and the non-profit sector. Prior to his appointment as Executive Director, he chaired the museum’s board of trustees. In addition to his extensive manufacturing and business experience, he is an active member of his community, serving as an elected official and volunteering his time and expertise to both youth and adult organizations.

“The American Precision Museum provides the foundation for the story of American manufacturing,” said Dalessio recently. “Its significant machine tool collection and the story it tells about how manufacturing transformed our country needs to be preserved and expanded. I am excited to work with the staff and board in developing and telling this story.”

The American Precision Museum preserves the heritage of the mechanical arts, celebrates the ingenuity of our mechanical forebears, and explores the effects of their work on our everyday lives. Housed in the original 1846 Robbins & Lawrence Armory in Windsor, Vermont, the museum holds the largest collection of historically significant machine tools in the nation and features dynamic exhibits and hands-on activities, as well as year-round educational programming.

-continued-

Search Committee Chair Eric Gilbertson said: “Steve has demonstrated strong leadership as chair of the museum’s board of trustees for the past several years. He brings a deep understanding of APM as a museum and a non-profit organization and decades of experience operating machine tools and connecting with the machine tool industry, an important audience and supporter of the museum. We look forward to working with Steve as he directs the museum’s transformation plan.”

ABOUT THE AMERICAN PRECISION MUSEUM

The American Precision Museum is located in the 1846 Robbins & Lawrence Armory, a National Historic Landmark, and traces the beginnings of manufacturing to modern technology through exhibits and interactive programs. The museum is open daily, Memorial Day Weekend through October 31, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and offers educational programs year-round.

The American Precision Museum owes its existence to the foresight of its founder, Edwin Albert Battison. In 1966, as he was nearing retirement from the Smithsonian, he learned that the Robbins & Lawrence Armory, an outstanding example of mid-19th century factory architecture, was in danger of demolition. Understanding the significance of this building, he enlisted the help of U.S. Senator Ralph Flanders and persuaded the owner, Central Vermont Public Service, to sell it for a future museum for the sum of one dollar. Battison became the museum's first director, a position he held until 1991.

The tools and processes that made mass production possible were pioneered at the Robbins & Lawrence Armory. Using precision metal and wood cutting machines and high standards of accuracy, Robbins & Lawrence proved the effectiveness of a new type of manufacturing that became known as the “American System.” A powerful machine tool industry grew up across the country, flourishing especially in New England and the northern mid-west. Today, even in the age of plastics and microprocessors, the concept of precision manufacturing provides the foundation for modern industry around the world.

###

American Precision Museum
196 Main Street (Route 5)
Windsor, VT 05089
802-674-5781
www.americanprecision.org