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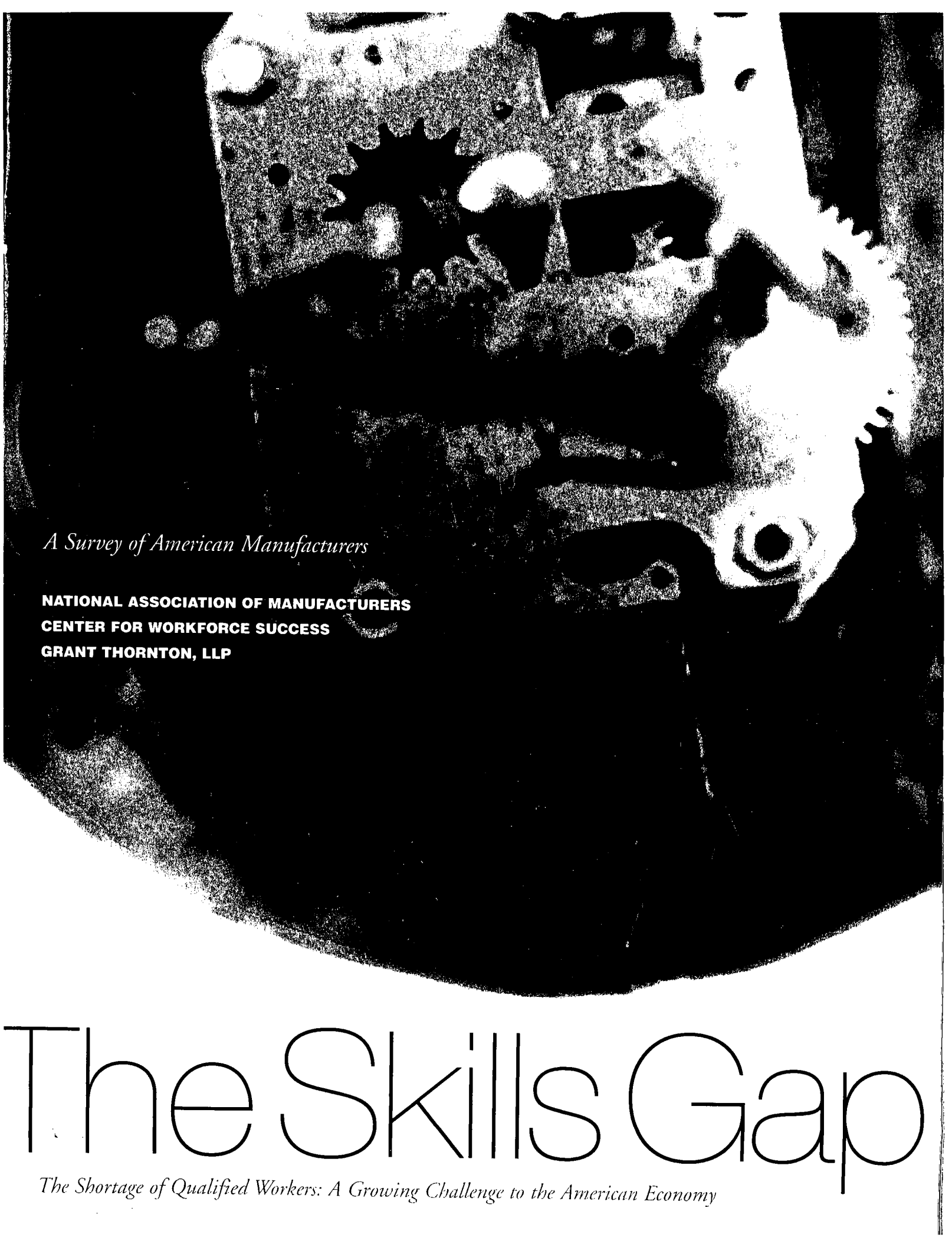


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A Survey of American Manufacturers

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS
CENTER FOR WORKFORCE SUCCESS
GRANT THORNTON, LLP**

The Skills Gap

The Shortage of Qualified Workers: A Growing Challenge to the American Economy



The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) is the nation's oldest and largest broad-based industrial trade association. Its 14,000 member companies and subsidiaries, including approximately 10,000 small and medium manufacturers, are in every state and produce about 85 percent of American manufactured goods. Through its member companies and affiliated associations, the NAM represents every industrial sector and more than 18 million employees.



The Center for Workforce Success, the training and educational affiliate of the National Association of Manufacturers, provides workforce-development leadership to American manufacturing. The center's mission is to help bridge the skills gap by finding workforce solutions for the jobs of today and tomorrow. The center strives to provide the best, most up-to-date information on successful and innovative workforce-development practices. The center informs and advises educators, policy-makers and the media on the changes and challenges being faced by both manufacturing employers and their employees.



Grant Thornton LLP, founded in 1924, is a leading accounting and management consulting firm serving the manufacturing industry. Grant Thornton offers a wide array of assurance, tax and management consulting services through its 50 offices in the United States. Worldwide, clients are served by Grant Thornton International, an association of leading accounting firms with more than 650 offices in 93 countries. Grant Thornton believes that Thinking in the Future Tense™ is imperative to reach its company goal — helping clients grow faster by providing business services that deliver measurable value.

We hope this survey, which focuses on the very important issue of the skills gap, will help manufacturing companies assure their future.