Gage manufacturers are as important to the quality profession as automobile manufacturers are to the commuting public. Without them, the world just wouldn’t run smoothly. Gage manufacturers are responsible for providing industry with a plethora of tools to help maintain quality control, including micrometers, thread gages, depth gages, digital indicators, height gages and dial indicators, to name a few.

Gages help keep all processes and instruments in check. They tell manufacturers which of their materials, instruments and tools are out of tolerance; they indicate whether a certain part should move on to the production line or be scrapped; and they measure the length of time a part is still usable. Essentially, gages are manufacturers’ fact-checkers.

Because of this hefty responsibility, it’s important for organizations to use the gages that will most benefit their company. The companies listed in the Gage Manufacturers Directory specialize in providing you with the right tool for the job. Not only can they supply your organization with the gages you need, but many of them also provide technical support, calibration services and on-site training to help you learn how to use the instruments.

To see these tools in action, you may want to consider attending a trade show or two, which occur frequently throughout the year. If unable to do so, many of these companies are willing to either host an online demonstration or come to your facility.

The Quality Sourcebook’s Gage Manufacturers Guide presents a wide assortment of gages from more than 220 manufacturers.

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This directory of gage manufacturers includes the company name, address, phone and fax numbers, and Web address. Also listed, if provided, are the types of gages each manufacturer provides.

As with all Quality Digest directories, the Gages Guide is in no way meant to endorse or exclude a particular organization. Rather, it’s meant to be used as the starting point in the data-gathering process. Readers are encouraged to contact the companies directly for more information and to ask for—and check—references.

Glossary
A2LA—American Association for Laboratory Accreditation
ACIL—American Council for Independent Laboratories
Accuracy—the deviation of a part or measuring system from a known standard
Actual value—the measured value of a feature
ANSI—American National Standards Institute
Comparator—a measuring component that compares workpiece characteristics to a reference
Deviation—the difference between the actual measured dimension and the nominal dimension
IEEE—Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
Interpreter—a processor, either human or electronic, that assesses information from the measuring device’s comparator
LAB—Laboratory Accreditation Bureau
Micrometer—a caliper that has a spindle moved by a finely threaded screw
NIST—National Institute of Standards and Technology
Nominal—the standard or desired dimension or size of a feature. The print values for the measurement as opposed to the measured values.
Repeatability—a measure of the ability of an instrument to produce the same measured value when sequentially sensing the same quantity under similar measurement conditions
SCC—Standards Council of Canada
SRM—standard reference material
Touch probe—an electronic contact measuring device that is mounted on a machine tool, gage or coordinate measuring machine
UL—Underwriters Laboratories

The information contained in Quality Digest directories, plus some additional information, is available online at www.qualitydigest.com/directories.
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