



Your Source for Monthly Manufacturing News

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Manufacturing News From our Nation, State and Region

National News

Fictiv's 2022 State of Manufacturing Report Finds an Industry Focused on Organizational Transformation in Order to Shore Up Future Growth

Earlier this month, Fictiv, the leader in on-demand, high-quality digital manufacturing, released its annual State of Manufacturing report. The findings reveal an industry in the midst of organizational transformation with leaders focused on building the foundations of more resilient, agile and technology-enabled businesses. While time-to-market is never far from an executive's mind, the data shows leaders are eager to gain the visibility, supply chain control and workforce productivity needed as a speed enabler. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the Executive Summary and download the full report.



Why You Need Standards — Learn How NIST Helps Make the World Work

Science and technology standards have a huge impact on our daily lives. Technical standards keep us safe, enable technology to advance and help businesses succeed. They quietly make the modern world tick and prevent technological problems that you might not realize could

happen. For more than 120 years, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has been deeply devoted to standards efforts. NIST has improved our everyday lives in ways we may take for granted, and solved problems advancing everything from manufacturing to public safety. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about why we need standards and how NIST helps make the world work.

NIST

National Institute of
Standards and Technology
U.S. Department of Commerce

State News

Philadelphia Fed Reserve Bank Outlook Survey Shows Mixed Enthusiasm for Manufacturers

The Philadelphia Fed Reserve's Manufacturing Outlook Survey suggested weaker overall manufacturing activity across the Pennsylvania and partial-NJ/DE region as growth forecasts, future activity estimates, new order indicators and shipment indexes all fell when compared to last quarter. In contrast, however, nearly one-third of manufacturers added jobs during the quarter and 72% believed their production increased over the last three months when compared to the first quarter of 2022. With labor concerns and supply chain challenges still looming, 42% of firms expect activity to decrease over the next six months – compared to 36% expecting an increase. Price indexes are still up – but not as strongly as in the past. [CLICK HERE](#) to read the complete article.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK
PHILADELPHIA



Regional News

NEPIRC Celebrates Hazleton Field Office with Ribbon Cutting

On Friday, June 10th, NEPIRC celebrated the ribbon cutting for its Hazleton field office. This new office, which is the first field office in the history of the organization, includes access to a state-of-the-art in-person and virtual training room and is located within the [CAN BE Innovation Center](#) at 103 Rotary Drive, West Hazleton.

Attendees of the ribbon cutting included NEPIRC staff and partners, PA State Rep.

Robert Schnee, representatives from the office of U.S. Senator Bob Casey and other dignitaries. Attendees received a tour of the new office and learned more about NEPIRC's vision for its Hazleton location.



“Manufacturing has been a driver industry in Luzerne County, and particularly within the Hazleton area, for many years. As the area’s manufacturing economy continues to grow

through the expansion of existing companies and successful attraction of new companies, we want to make sure they know that NEPIRC is here to help them as their go-to resource,” said Eric Joseph Esoda. “Manufacturing in Hazleton is becoming increasingly high-tech, complex, diverse and innovative – and we’re eager to work with companies to embrace the opportunities and tackle the challenges that come with that kind of business evolution,” he added.

NEPIRC has similar expansion announcements slated for the future as part of its 2022-2023 strategic plan to assist more companies in modernization, talent development, quality improvement and specialized topical training.

Sika Acquires Scranton-Based Manufacturer, United Gilsonite Laboratories

[Sika](#), a global specialty chemicals company with a leading position in the development and production of systems and products for bonding, sealing, damping, reinforcing and protecting in the building sector and motor vehicle industry, recently acquired Scranton-based manufacturer, [United Gilsonite Laboratories \(UGL\)](#).

UGL offers consumer and DIY liquid waterproofing products and is well situated to efficiently supply its products to customers in every region of the country. For Sika, the acquisition will increase its presence with major retailers and other building material stores by widening the offering and opening up cross-selling opportunities.



"UGL is a perfect complement to Sika's current portfolio. The UGL brands are well recognized in the USA, and their consumer and DIY waterproofing solutions allow Sika to extend its business in the USA construction industry. We warmly welcome all the UGL employees to our Sika team," said Christoph Ganz, Regional Manager Americas at Sika.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.

Milco Industries Celebrates 100 Years!

Earlier this month, [Milco Industries](#), located in Bloomsburg, PA, celebrated its 100th year in business! It marked the occasion by hosting a cookout for employees followed by a competitive game of kickball.

Milco Industries specializes in engineering technical fabrics to meet customer needs and emphasizes process control to ensure consistent results. Milco is ISO 9001:2015-certified, so it maintains strict quality management programs to ensure customer satisfaction. Congratulations on this great achievement, Milco!



If your company has great news you'd like us to share with our manufacturing community, please contact Chelsey Coslett, NEPIRC's Manager of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement, at Chelsey@NEPIRC.com.

NEPIRC to Offer No-Cost Workshops & Seminars at its New Hazleton Office Location

In conjunction with its newly announced Hazleton presence, NEPIRC will host a series of no-cost seminars and workshops that will take place at its Hazleton office location during the months of July, August and September. [CLICK HERE](#) to see the complete list of offerings.



NEPIRC President & CEO Featured on Popular, Local #OnTheStacks Podcast

Eric Joseph Esoda, NEPIRC President & CEO, was recently featured on the popular, local [#OnTheStacks Podcast](#) hosted by Bill Corcoran, Jr.!



In this episode, Eric reflects on his childhood and the influence that manufacturing had on his life. As he rose through the ranks at NEPIRC, he had one goal in mind: to provide others the same opportunity that manufacturing provided him.

He also explains why he thinks manufacturing can help solve generational poverty, the positive impact that manufacturing will have on the northeast Pennsylvania (NEPA) economy over the next 5-10 years, and how NEPA manufacturers could play a pivotal role in future space exploration. [CLICK HERE](#) to listen!

No-Cost Leadership Development Sessions Slated for August

Instructed by Leo Gilroy, this free two-hour session starts individuals on their journey to become stronger, more impactful leaders. While joining other managers and supervisors to discuss workplace challenges, attendees will explore topics that include self-awareness, power & authority, risk & failure and leadership style. Attendees usually go on to participate in NEPIRC's eight-week Leadership Development Essentials Certification course upon completion of this session.



Choose from the dates below:

- Wednesday, August 3rd, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at NEPIRC (in person only)
- Wednesday, August 3rd, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the [Pocono Mountain Public Library](#) in Tobyhanna (in person only)
- Wednesday, August 10th, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the [Community Giving Foundation](#) in Berwick (in person only)
- Thursday, August 11th, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., virtually via MS Teams
- Thursday, August 11th, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., virtually via MS Teams

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information and to register.

Mark Morgis Represents NEPIRC at the Smart Manufacturing Experience

Last week, Mark Morgis, NEPIRC's Mechanical Engineer, represented NEPIRC at the Smart Manufacturing Experience held at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in downtown Pittsburgh. One of the sponsors of the event was the [Clean Energy Smart Manufacturing Innovation Institute](#) (CESMII). As part of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Network, NEPIRC is a member of CESMII, which is the United States' national institute on Smart Manufacturing, driving cultural and technological transformation and secure industrial technologies as national imperatives.



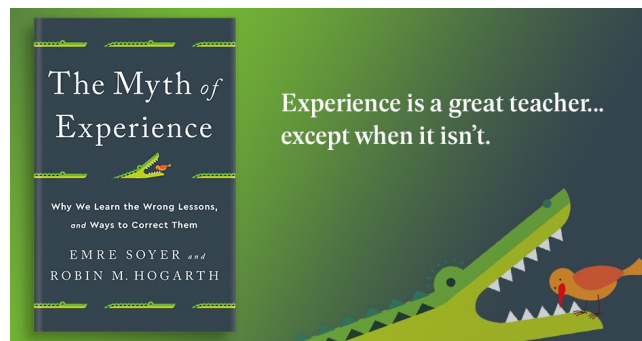
The Smart Manufacturing Experience enabled manufacturers to get inspired and educated about emerging technologies that upskill the workforce, improve quality and advance the future of manufacturing. The Smart Manufacturing Experience also elevated attendees' understanding of smart technologies and encouraged higher-level thinking, while accelerating the need to explore and implement Industry 4.0.

Mark enjoyed the opportunity to attend this event, network with the manufacturers and manufacturing partners and learn about the latest Smart Manufacturing advancements and trends.

The Myth of Experience — The Next Wise Words Book Club Read

This month, NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club members are reading *The Myth of Experience* by Emre Soyer and Robin Hogarth. The book takes an interesting stance on the idea that while most of us believe we can learn from past experiences, what if that's just an illusion?

It's not too late to jump in and join us! Our next meeting is Thursday, June 30th from noon to 1 p.m. via MS Teams. [CLICK HERE](#) to register and for more information.



New Business Opportunities: Companies

Looking for Suppliers

NEPIRC is relaying these potential new business opportunities to manufacturers across our region:

- **16 oz. Brite Cans** – Pennsylvania manufacturer seeking 16 oz. Brite cans for beverages. Primary beverage would be beer, cider or similar. Seeking aluminum can with 16 oz./473 mL volume capacity. Expected order volume is a minimum of 250,000/year at a price of \$.22/can delivered to York, PA. Great opportunity to create a PA-based supply chain within a high-growth market segment!
- **Air Flow Control Manifold** – Air distribution and flow control manifold to operate at <50 psi input. One (1) input and three (3) to eight (8) outputs. Input to accommodate ¼” or 6 mm flex tube and outputs to accept 5/32 OD x 3/32 ID or 4 mm OD x 2.5mm ID flex tubing. Push to connect tube application with each orifice having a separate flow control adjuster from 0% to 100%. Aluminum or brass construction with some plastic materials. Must be saltwater corrosion resistant. Specs and drawings available upon request.
- **Linen Pillow Covers (Textile Product)** – Covers for pillow sizes 12x20, 18x18, 20x20 and 22x22. Decorative pillow covers 50/50 linen/cotton blend with plastic hidden zipper packed in plastic bag for shipping. Buyer would approve designs and then place orders from customers for production-on-demand in quantities of 1-100 of a specific design. Buyer is currently selling 200/yr. but product is just ramping up, so demand could grow significantly. Cost should be <\$25/unit. Shipped direct to end-customer.

Companies interested in these supplier opportunities are encouraged to contact Eric Esoda, NEPIRC's President & CEO, at Eric@NEPIRC.com.

NEPIRC's Manufacturing Jobs Board



Land Your Next Employee with NEPIRC's Manufacturing Jobs Board!

If your company is currently hiring, and you're not already utilizing NEPIRC's Manufacturing Jobs Board, then what are you waiting for? Email Chelsey Coslett, NEPIRC's Manager of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement, at Chelsey@NEPIRC.com for more information. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the Manufacturing Jobs Board.

Use these quick links to learn more about NEPIRC:

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