

NEPIRC NEWS

northeastern pennsylvania industrial resource center

Your Source for Monthly Manufacturing News

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Manufacturing News From Our Nation, State and Region

National News

NEPIRC Attends Kickoff of the MEP National Network's Annual Update Meeting in Chicago

On September 19, Drew Mackie, NEPIRC's EVP & CFO, attended the kickoff of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) National Network's Annual Update meeting at the Intercontinental Hotel in downtown Chicago. During the kickoff, Drew participated in a fireside chat session with MEP Director Pravina Raghavan (pictured right), learned about new legislation and a new strategic plan for the Network and was able to sit in on sessions discussing supply chain and small business credit incentives. Drew also had the opportunity to highlight NEPIRC's recent successes and growth, along with networking with other Centers within the MEP Network.



State News

Gov. Wolf Awards Funding to NEPIRC to Create "Dream Team" Ambassador Program to Encourage High School Students to Consider Careers in Manufacturing

Earlier this month, Gov. Tom Wolf announced \$150,900 in new funding for NEPIRC, through [Pennsylvania's Manufacturing PA Training-to-Career Program \(MTTC\)](#), to support a manufacturing career awareness program in northeastern Pennsylvania where young professionals talk to high school and college students about the benefits and rewards of a career in manufacturing.



“I’m proud to support exciting and innovative programs such as this one,” said Gov. Wolf. “This program will introduce students to the industry and encourage them to consider manufacturing-related careers. The program ultimately will improve the talent pool for manufacturing companies in northeastern Pennsylvania and keep a pipeline of talent flowing in their direction.”

The “Dream Team” program will recruit young manufacturing professionals from area companies to serve as “ambassadors” and visit targeted high schools, community colleges, and trade schools to speak with students, teachers, and administrators about their profession, its requirements and its rewards. The targeted schools will be located in the 11-county service area of NEPIRC, which includes Bradford, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wayne and Wyoming counties.

NEPIRC will recruit no less than 15 young professionals from area companies to serve as ambassadors and will train them about the goals of the program and how to deliver compelling presentations about their jobs. The program will then engage no less than 20 high schools, community colleges and trade schools - where each ambassador will make at least one presentation each.

“The Dream Team initiative is an innovative and engaging way to introduce students, faculty, school administrators, and parents to younger manufacturing professionals and create a more updated and accurate understanding and opinion of our manufacturing sector and the purposeful, rewarding and high-tech jobs our regional manufacturers offer,” said Eric Joseph Esoda, President, NEPIRC. “We’re delighted that the [Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development](#) share in our enthusiasm about this effort.”

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the complete, official announcement.

Pennsylvania Manufacturing Advisory Council Releases Playbook for Competitiveness

As Pennsylvania’s third-largest employment sector — with more than 560,000 full-time workers generating nearly \$115 billion of goods last year alone — manufacturing drives Pennsylvania’s overall economy. On September 1, the [Pennsylvania Manufacturing Advisory Council](#), a nonpartisan partnership of manufacturers and industry experts, released [Pennsylvania’s Manufacturing Competitiveness Playbook](#) — an actionable strategy document that identifies three game changers and 10 specific recommendations to make Pennsylvania’s manufacturing economy more robust and resilient — thus creating more good-paying jobs for Pennsylvanians.

Pennsylvania’s Manufacturing Competitiveness

PLAYBOOK



Report by:
Pennsylvania
Manufacturing
Advisory Council

The efforts of the industry-led, 25-member Pennsylvania Manufacturing Advisory Council were focused on developing recommendations that government leaders across the state should consider as ways to expand Pennsylvania's manufacturing economy. The Council's resultant Playbook includes data and advice derived from insights and commentary offered by more than 500 Pennsylvania manufacturers.

[CLICK HERE](#) to download your copy.

Regional News

Tobyhanna Army Depot QMS Retains Certification

Congratulations to [Tobyhanna Army Depot's](#) quality management system (QMS) on retaining the sought-after Aerospace Standard certification after an in-depth surveillance audit by an outside organization in August.

The assessment, conducted by Orion Registrar, verified Tobyhanna's adherence to AS9100/9110 – an industry standard that has been achieved by only 20,000 companies worldwide. Like the ISO 9001 certification, AS9100/9110 requires a more rigorous QMS to support aerospace and defense workloads. Tobyhanna has maintained industry-standard quality certifications since 2003.



Saint-Gobain Highlights Path to Net Zero in Energy Publication

Recently, building materials manufacturer Saint-Gobain, with a plant in Olyphant and numerous other locations throughout North America, was featured in the publication, *EnergyTech*, to highlight its path to Net Zero. The publication interviewed Dennis Wilson, Vice President of ESG (environmental, social and governance) and managing director of Saint-Gobain Circular Economy Solutions, North America, who provided clarity and context around the company's multiple energy efficiency, recycling and electrification moves at many of its plants.



Already this year, Saint-Gobain has announced at least five major projects to improve efficiencies, which include recycling operations and the gypsum-wallboard plants run by subsidiary CertainTeed. Saint-Gobain is also considering fuel resources, like moving from natural gas and other fossil-fired power to hydrogen and biofuels, and shifting from gas-fired power to electrification for equipment functions. While Saint-Gobain sees no silver bullet to Net Zero, the company is committed to taking multiple paths to reach that goal by 2050.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the complete article.

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's Manager of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement Participates in New Women's Leadership Program

Chelsey Coslett, NEPIRC's Manager of Marketing and Stakeholder Engagement, was recently accepted into [Leadership Leadership Northeast's Amplify](#), a premier women's leadership certificate program that is the first of its kind in northeastern Pennsylvania. This program is designed for women in mid- to senior-level leadership positions in the corporate, non-profit, education and government sectors.



In six dynamic half-day sessions held at women-run businesses throughout northeastern PA, the class of 30 women will:

- Gain strategies and tools to support them in their unique leadership journey
- Build effective networks and create opportunities to develop professional relationships through a community of practice model, mentorships and sponsorships with other women leaders
- Develop solutions to address the unique challenges women face in the workforce
- Learn to navigate complex leadership and career patterns while maintaining personal relationships and responsibilities

The program is also organized by the [Greater Wyoming Valley Chamber of Commerce Elevate Women's Network](#) and Dr. Christine Kiesinger of CEK Communication.

NEPIRC Joins the National Tooling & Machining Association

NEPIRC recently became an Educational Partner of the [National Tooling & Machining Association](#) (NTMA). The NTMA is a U.S.-based membership trade association with the collective power of 1,200 thriving tool and die and precision manufacturing companies. The NTMA also connects U.S. precision manufacturers to advance and secure the industry for future generations.



NEPIRC looks forward to being introduced to the rest of NTMA's members in an upcoming issue of *The Record*, NTMA's monthly publication.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about NTMA.

Sign Up Today for a NEPIRC Fall Training Class

Looking to expand your professional

skill set this fall? Check out NEPIRC's upcoming training lineup, which includes Six Sigma Green Belt, ISO 9001:2015 Internal Auditor and Continuous Lean Improvement.

[CLICK HERE](#) for dates, times, course descriptions and to register.



Move: The Next NEPIRC Wise Words Book Club Read

The next read NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club members are diving into is entitled "Move" by Parag Khanna and was actually a recommendation by NEPIRC's three-time MFG DAY speaker David Beurle, CEO of [Future IQ](#). The book covers much of what David discussed in regard to future trends in civilization during his keynote presentation at NEPIRC's MFG DAY event this past May. If you're looking for a good book that will get you thinking, consider this one and consider joining NEPIRC's Book Club! The next meeting is Thursday, October 6th from noon to 1:00 p.m. via MS Teams.

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



New Business Opportunities: Companies Looking for Suppliers

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

- **Sewn Canvas Covers** – Company looking to domestically source production of 100% polyester Oxford fabric 600D tating pattern covers. Will have PVC coating. Weight 420-450 GSM with 16.5 x 11.8 dimensions and 0.46 mm thickness. Pattern is blue, gray and tan. Item is required within the next six months, if not sooner. Delivery can begin in as few as 30 days if contract manufacturer has the immediate capacity and ability to produce the item. Annual demand of 3,000+ anticipated. Pricing can be discussed with the buyer, which is situated in Missoula, Montana.
- **Buy American Act Requirement: Thermal Desorption Autosampler System** – Company in Durham, North Carolina required to purchase a Thermal Desorption (TD) Autosampler to perform analysis of volatile organic compounds via direct injection into an Agilent Gas Chromatography/Triple Quadrupole Mass Spectrometer (GC/TQMS). Used to confirm volatile chemical composition of air samples from potentially contaminated sites. The manufacture and provision of this unit – with price point of \$96,900 desired – is fully detailed within a Statement of Work available through NEPIRC.
- **Magee AE33 and TCA-08** – The AE33 and TCA-08 are aerosol black carbon analyzers and total carbon analyzers that provide the specific profile of smoke from wildfires. These are specialized instruments that are made in the USA with domestic

and foreign components. Housing is a metal box 25" x 19". Demand is currently for one unit of each at desired price point of \$75,000 for the bundle. More information can be found by accessing Magee's website at www.MageeSCI.com and searching for the AE33, AE43 or TCA-08 models. Full details available through NEPIRC. Delivery to Oregon in three months desired.

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.

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NEPIRC | 75 Young St., Hanover Township, PA 18706-1471

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Sent by chelsey@nepirc.com