



Your Source for Monthly Manufacturing News

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Manufacturing News From Our Nation, State and Region

National News

Announcement from the U.S. Department of Commerce About Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Cybersecurity Awareness Month has been celebrated every October since 2004 with the goal of raising awareness for how to protect yourself, your business and your family online. For Cybersecurity Awareness Month 2022, President Biden issued a [proclamation](#) highlighting the importance of cybersecurity and encouraging each of us to do our part. This year's theme is to "See Yourself in Cyber," which is a reminder of the role we all play in protecting both ourselves and others from cybersecurity threats.



In addition to the President's proclamation, partners across the government share resources each Cybersecurity Awareness Month. Please take a moment to review the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA) [resources page](#) or NIST's [website](#) for information about how to protect yourself online and events taking place throughout the month.

State News

PA Manufacturing Advisory Council Releases Playbook Highlight Video to Celebrate Manufacturing Day and Kickoff National

Manufacturing Week

Last month, NEPIRC announced the release of the [Pennsylvania Manufacturing Advisory Council's \(PA MAC's\) Pennsylvania's Manufacturing Competitiveness Playbook](#) – and now you can watch the highlight video!

To celebrate Manufacturing Day on Friday, October 7th, which was also the start of National Manufacturing Week, NEPIRC premiered the Manufacturing Competitiveness Playbook highlight video. The video brings to life key points from the Playbook – like the three game-changers and 10 recommendations for advancing Pennsylvania's manufacturing economy while also accelerating the creation of good-paying manufacturing careers. Please take a few minutes to [watch this video](#), which also serves to recognize the many contributions of Pennsylvania's manufacturing industry.

Pennsylvania's Manufacturing Competitiveness



PLAYBOOK

Report by:
Pennsylvania
Manufacturing
Advisory Council

Still need to download your copy of the Playbook? [CLICK HERE](#).

Governor's Action Team Releases 2021-2022 Annual Report

The Pennsylvania Governor's Action Team has released its 2021-2022 Annual Report. This year, the report illustrates that manufacturing start-ups and expansions accounted for 65% of all job creation and 93% of all job retention within the Team's 2021-2022 project portfolio! In the Lehigh Valley and central PA regions, manufacturing and food processing companies accounted for 100% of the Team's projects (and related job creation and retention) while in the northwest, northeast and southeast regions, industrial firm projects constituted at least 50% of all Team engagements (and more than 670 new jobs!).



pennsylvania
GOVERNOR'S ACTION TEAM

[CLICK HERE](#) to download your copy of the annual report.

Regional News

PowerRail Celebrates Open House and Ribbon Cutting

Members of the NEPIRC team recently attended the open house and ribbon cutting for [PowerRail](#) to celebrate the opening of the manufacturer's new global headquarters in Exeter.

As a world leader in the engineering, manufacturing and distribution of aftermarket locomotive parts, PowerRail is now occupying a 200,000-square-foot facility, rather than the 90,000-square-foot space it previously occupied in Duryea.

While the transition from its former location was effectively completed over the summer, this event was the first time the manufacturer

was able to show off its new facility to local, county, and state elected officials; partners like NEPIRC; and other local businesses.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more about PowerRail's recent expansion.



Gov. Wolf and Local Officials Tout Canpack Success Story During Olyphant Facility Tour

In early October, Gov. Tom Wolf joined local officials at [Canpack Group's](#) massive Olyphant aluminum can production facility to celebrate the manufacturer's investment and the 500-plus jobs it delivered locally. This represents the largest manufacturing project in the Scranton area since Procter & Gamble, in Wyoming County, in 1966. With all four manufacturing lines now operational, Gov. Wolf touted the plant as the "envy of the world" and noted that Canpack's initial \$366 million investment is the ninth largest in the history of the Governor's Action Team. Construction of the new facility started in 2020.



UnityLab Creating More Jobs in Sullivan County

A press event was held late last month to announce that [UnityLab](#), headquartered in Dushore, will receive \$4.5 million in funding through the Pennsylvania Rural Jobs and Investment Tax Credit Program to create more than 150 new jobs in the area.

State Representatives Tina Pickett (R-110) and Joe Hamm (R-84) were both present at the event and expressed their excitement to see the development of the company.



UnityLab is a manufacturer of laundry systems, such as Hoffman pressing machines and steamers, as well as laundry systems like washers and dryers. Part of the funding will go toward an entire revamp of the current headquarters, including updated facilities and

modern, up-to-date machinery and technology. Specifically, NEPIRC partnered with UnityLab to design the new plant floor layout, which will soon begin the implementation process.

Jonathan Benjamin, the CEO of UnityLab, said the opportunity to expand is a great way to keep young adults in Sullivan County after graduating high school, or even return to the area after college.

[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 News

NEPIRC Announces MFG DAY 2023 Date!

Friday, October 14th closed out National Manufacturing Week 2022, and Eric Joseph Esoda, NEPIRC's President & CEO, and Chelsey Coslett, NEPIRC's Manager of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement, thought it would be a fitting day to announce the date of Manufacturing Day 2023! If you missed the announcement, then [be sure to watch it now](#).



[CLICK HERE](#) to add the date to your calendar, and of course, stay tuned to NEPIRC's Facebook and LinkedIn pages for more information regarding MFG DAY sponsorships, the event agenda, speakers, panelists, etc.!

NEPIRC Team Members Attend NEPA Alliance's *Bringing the World to Northeastern PA* Event

On Friday, September 23rd, NEPIRC team members attended *Bringing the World to Northeastern PA* hosted by [NEPA Alliance](#). Held at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Scranton, the team spent the day networking with manufacturers who were in attendance to learn about doing business with other countries. It was also a great opportunity to visit with some of NEPIRC's economic development partners that attended. NEPIRC would like to thank NEPA Alliance for including us at this wonderful event.



NEPIRC President & CEO Participates in Manufacturing Panel at The Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce's Skills 2022 Workforce Summit & Career Fair

Eric Joseph Esoda, NEPIRC President & CEO, recently took part in a manufacturing industry panel discussion as part of [The Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce's Skills 2022 Workforce Summit & Career Fair](#).

Eric participated alongside Andrew Bordeau, Senior Manager for Production Operations at [Lockheed Martin](#), and Greg Posly, Director of Operations for [General Dynamics Land Systems](#). The trio discussed the benefits and rewards from working in manufacturing,

opportunities for career growth, the skill set needed and how to get started with your job search. NEPIRC would like to thank The Greater Scranton Chamber for inviting Eric to serve on the panel.



Winter 2022/2023 Dates for NEPIRC's Leadership Development Seminar

Facilitated by Leo Gilroy, Director of Strategy & Innovation, this 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:

- Tuesday, December 6th, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the [Community Giving Foundation](#) in Berwick (in person only)
- Wednesday, December 7th, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at NEPIRC (in person only)
- Tuesday, December 13th, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at NEPIRC's Hazleton office
- Wednesday, December 13th, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the [Pocono Mountain Public Library](#) in Tobyhanna (in person only)
- Wednesday, December 14th, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., virtually via MS Teams
- Wednesday, December 14th, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., virtually via MS Teams
- Tuesday, January 31st, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the [TekRidge Center](#) in Jessup

Total investment: Free for manufacturers / \$49.00 for non-manufacturers. [Click here](#) to register.

Upcoming Webinars!

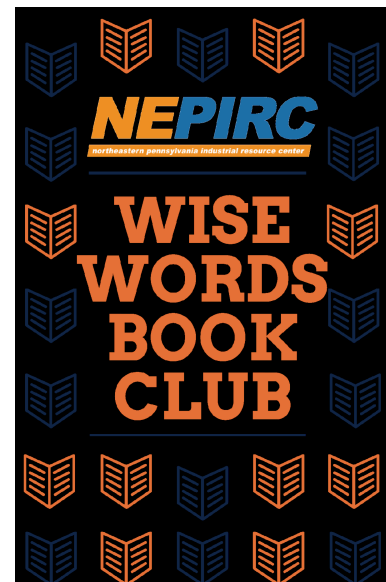
Please see the information below regarding two upcoming webinars designed specifically for manufacturers:



1. ***Economic Outlook 2022-Raising Rates, Taming Inflation and Battling Bear Markets:*** This webinar will cover the multiple and complex forces that are strongly affecting the world economy, domestic economy and financial markets. Among the many issues that will be discussed are interest rates, inflation, energy, geopolitical risks, employment and corresponding implications of the election outcomes. Additionally, the Investment Strategies Group at Alex.Brown, a division of Raymond James, will share what they envision happening over the next 12-18 months. This webinar will be presented by Lawrence V. Adam III, CFA®, CIMA®, CFP® from Alex. Brown / Raymond James. [CLICK HERE](#) to register.
2. ***How to Attract, Retain and Engage Employees in 2022 and Beyond:*** This webinar will examine causes of high turnover and low employee engagement. Participants will explore ways to cast wider nets to reach larger pools of potential workers. The presentation will also cover how incentive compensation programs can enhance employee recruitment, engagement and retention. This webinar will be presented by Leo Gilroy, NEPIRC's Director of Strategy & Innovation, and is in partnership with *QualityDigest* and the MEP National Network. [CLICK HERE](#) to register.

Join NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club

Looking for a way to connect with other manufacturing leaders? Consider joining NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club! The Club meets monthly on the fourth Thursday from noon to 1:00 p.m. via MS Teams. It's always a good time discussing the book and hearing everyone's biggest takeaways. This month, the meeting will take place on Thursday, November 17th due to the Thanksgiving holiday. If you're interested to learn more, email Chelsey Coslett, NEPIRC's Manager of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement, at Chelsey@NEPIRC.com, or you can [CLICK HERE](#) to register for the next meeting.



New Business Opportunities: Companies Looking for Suppliers

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

- **Glass Bottles** – California-based company seeking domestic manufacturer of 90mm (h) x 57mm (dia) by 3mm (thick) glass bottle for collection, storage and

feeding of breast milk. There will be gold colored printing on exterior of glass – but silicon sleeve will also be provided to manufacturer for placement onto each bottle. Thickness tolerance is +/- 1mm. Material will be 100% Borosilicate glass. Demand is 6,000 units annually at level production of 500/month. Desired price point \$2.00 - \$2.50/unit. Pictures and more details available.

- **Blow-Molded Ice Pack** – West coast company liquid-filled 68mm (h) x 62mm (dia) x 1mm (thick) blow-molded ice pack with filling and sealing caps. Inside liquid will be furnished by buyer. Once frozen (by consumer at home), the pack will be placed inside the glass bottle referenced above to keep breast milk and other contents cold. Should be made of food grade HDPE with phase change characteristics of -10C. Must be BPA-free, FDA-approved and Prop 65 approved. Demand is 10,000/year at level production. Desired price is \$0.40 - \$0.50/unit. If company cannot fill the packs, buyer is receptive to receiving unfilled units and having another manufacturer fill and seal. Photos and specs of prototypes available.
- **Razor Knife w/ Hook Blade** – Seller of golf products seeking to launch a specialized knife for removal of golf club grips. Product similar to typical plastic “cutting knife” or “box knife” products found at hardware stores but has a hooked blade. Blade can be placed at base of golf club grip – with an upward motion then slicing the grip for easy removal. Estimated dimension of plastic base – 5.6” long. Blade would be 3.4” long and reversible with a hook on both ends. Blade is approximately .4” wide and housing wide enough to accommodate the blade, which will slide back/forth, so blade is not exposed when not needed. Blade should be durable/sharp enough to withstand 15-30 uses. Demand is 20,000 units/year with delivery to Connecticut. Desired price is \$0.50 - \$0.75/unit. Specs available.

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

A graphic for NEPIRC's Manufacturing Jobs Board. At the top, the NEPIRC logo is displayed in orange and blue, with the tagline "northeastern pennsylvania industrial resource center" in a smaller font below it. The main text reads "JOB BOARD" in large, bold, blue letters, followed by "Local Manufacturing Job Listings" in a slightly smaller blue font. Below that, it says "Start your NEW Career in Manufacturing Today!" in a mix of blue and orange text. The background of the graphic shows a hand holding a tablet displaying a dashboard with various charts and data points.

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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