

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

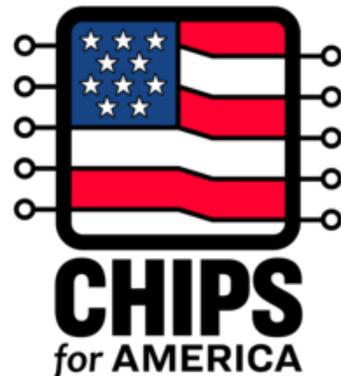
National News

CHIPS for America Funding Opportunity Expanded

To establish a vibrant domestic semiconductor industry, the U.S. must invest across the semiconductor supply chain – including the upstream materials and manufacturing equipment critical to chip manufacturing.

As part of implementing the bipartisan CHIPS and Science Act, the Department of Commerce is releasing two funding opportunities for suppliers. The first, launched on June 23, 2023, expands the scope of the February 2023 funding opportunity to include [projects for the construction, expansion or modernization of semiconductor materials and manufacturing equipment facilities](#) for which the capital investment equals or exceeds \$300 million. The second, to be released in the fall of 2023, will seek applications for semiconductor materials and manufacturing equipment facilities with capital investments below \$300 million.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.



State News

IndustrySelect Ranks Pennsylvania Among Top 10 U.S. States for Manufacturing

IndustrySelect recently listed Pennsylvania as the 6th most significant state in the union in terms of manufacturing jobs and

output according to its research. *IndustrySelect* analysts commented that “the state is powerful in industrial machinery manufacturing and food processing but also ranks high in pharmaceutical and defense industries.”

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the full article and see which other states were included in the listing.



Regional News

Shapiro Announces EAM-Mosca to Invest \$20.6M to Expand Operation

In late June, Gov. Josh Shapiro said [EAM-Mosca Corp.](#), a leading provider of automatic strapping systems used in commercial packaging that is headquartered in Hazleton, will invest \$20.6 million to expand its manufacturing operation in Luzerne County, creating at least 50 new good-paying jobs within the next three years.



With support from the [Department of Community and Economic Development](#), Shapiro said the packaging system manufacturer will renovate its existing facility and purchase new machinery and equipment for its Hazle Township campus at 675 Jaycee Drive.

The \$9 million complete renovation of 525 Jaycee Drive is adjacent to EAM-Mosca’s existing headquarters at 675 Jaycee Drive. The new facility is part of a larger \$20.6 million strategic initiative to expand the company’s operational footprint within the state in the coming years. It allows for the retention of 157 employees statewide and the creation of 50 new positions. NEPIRC was present at the groundbreaking ceremony to congratulate EAM-Mosca on this exciting endeavor!

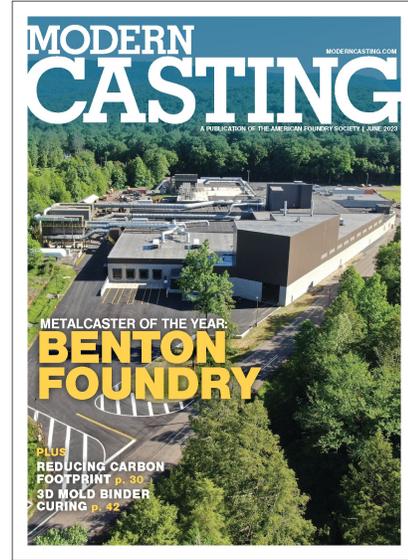
[CLICK HERE](#) to read the complete article.

Modern Casting Names Benton Foundry Metalcaster of the Year

[Benton Foundry](#), located in Benton, PA, was named Metalcaster of the Year by *Modern Casting* in its June issue!

Benton Foundry is a world-class foundry that showcases a commitment to smart, incremental and consistent reinvestment. Most recently, the iron metalcaster has completed one of the largest expansions in its history, which involved 70,000 sq. ft. of new and renovated space to improve and enhance its coremaking capabilities. Finished in the fall of 2022,

the expansion increased capacity, improved process control, enhanced efficiency and added 50 new jobs. It is because of this accomplishment that *Modern Casting* named Benton Foundry its “Metalcaster of the Year.” The core room capital investment project is just the latest example of the modernization and growth mindset established by Fritz Hall in the 1970s and adhered to ever since. His son, Jeff Hall, Benton Foundry president since 2013, has carried on the legacy. “My father was very motivated to turn this into a successful business, as was his father AJ Hall,” Jeff Hall said. “And the mindset was always to keep the profits in the business and to reinvest them. As a result of that mindset, they started working off five-year CapEx, cash-flow budget plans in the mid-1970s. And we continue to do that to this day. We are now in our ninth five-year plan. So, our modernization mindset has been in place for basically 45 years.”



[CLICK HERE](#) to read more about Benton Foundry and its expansion,

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

Be Part of the Largest Gathering of Our Region's Manufacturers; Purchase Your Manufacturing Day Sponsorship & Tickets Today!

Each October, NEPIRC celebrates [Manufacturing Day](#) (MFG DAY) by hosting the largest Manufacturing Best Practices Summit & Expo in northeastern Pennsylvania. Last year, the event attracted close to 400 manufacturing representatives and decision-makers and more than 70 exhibitors ([click here](#) to see photos). This year, we expect even more!



This year's event will take place on Friday, October 13 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with a closing networking reception from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., at [Mohegan Pennsylvania](#) (The Casino) in Wilkes-Barre, PA. The agenda includes networking; break out sessions taught by NEPIRC's subject matter experts; remarks by [Representative Dan Meuser](#); keynote speaker [Pete Ruggerio](#), COO of [Crayola](#); a women in manufacturing panel discussion moderated by [Dr. Christine Kiesinger](#), principal of [CEK Communication Consultancy](#); an industry roundtable sponsored the [APEX Accelerator at NEPA Alliance](#); and a CMMC requirements panel discussion sponsored by [InnoTek Computer Consulting](#).

A [MFG DAY sponsorship](#) is the perfect opportunity to put yourself in front of the largest gathering of manufacturing buyers, leaders, owners and decision makers in our region. Sponsorships for 2023 are available but going quickly, so [click here](#) to view the options. Then, contact Chelsey Coslett, Manager of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement, at Chelsey@NEPIRC.com or 570.704.0018 to lock in your sponsorship.

Can't sponsor but would like to attend? Tickets are only \$50.00 for manufacturers and \$100.00 for non-manufacturers. [CLICK HERE to purchase now!](#)

Pete Ruggiero, COO of Crayola, to Deliver Manufacturing Day Keynote on Thriving Amongst Supply Chain Chaos

As NEPIRC's Manufacturing Day keynote speaker, Pete Ruggiero, COO of Crayola, will discuss how Crayola overcame post-pandemic challenges in his presentation, "Thriving Amidst Supply Chain Chaos." His Crayola career spans a quarter of a century in previous roles, including Interim Chief Executive Officer, Vice President-Global Finance and Managing Director of Binney & Smith (Europe) Ltd. At Crayola, Ruggiero has played a critical role in the transformation of Crayola into an innovative company. Under his leadership, Crayola has diversified its business model through new product development, expansion into international markets and the opening of multiple Crayola Experience attractions.



If you or your business has experienced supply chain chaos, especially over the past three years, you won't want to miss Mr. Ruggiero's presentation! You can purchase your tickets [here](#).

Johnson College's Mobile Training Laboratory to Visit Manufacturing Day

NEPIRC is excited to announce that [Johnson College's](#) Mobile Training Laboratory will be at Manufacturing Day on October 13! The



mobile laboratory includes a 35' trailer outfitted with student workstations and equipment for training in STEM and the building trades. NEPIRC encourages anyone who has a student that might be interested in learning more about STEM careers to attend Manufacturing Day and visit the Mobile Lab. You can purchase tickets [here](#). The NEPIRC team is grateful to Johnson College for this opportunity!

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about Johnson College's Mobile Training Laboratories.

NEPIRC Hosts Leadership Training for Dream Team Ambassadors and Liaisons

Last month, NEPIRC hosted a no-cost leadership training session for its Dream Team Ambassadors and their liaisons at NEPIRC's Hanover Twp. and Towanda offices. The training was led by NEPIRC's Director of Strategy & Innovation, Leo Gilroy, and was focused on building high-performance teams.



In addition to the presentation material, the Ambassadors and their liaisons participated in the Desert Survival Challenge, an interactive, situational group exercise. It was great to get the Ambassadors together again to learn from one another.

Take Advantage of NEPIRC's Summer Training Programs!

Two-Hour Leadership Development Essentials Seminar, taught by Leo Gilroy, Director of Strategy & Innovation:

- Tuesday, August 1, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., at the Community Giving Foundation in Berwick
- Wednesday, August 2, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at NEPIRC Hanover Twp.
- Tuesday, August 8, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at NEPIRC Towanda
- Tuesday, August 8, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. virtually via MS Teams
- Wednesday, August 9, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at NEPIRC Hazleton
- Thursday, August 11, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. virtually via MS Teams



Two-Hour Workplace Safety (all classes run noon to 2:00 p.m.), taught by Brian Matyjevich, Authorized OSHA Outreach Trainer:

- Tuesday, August 1 at NEPIRC Effort
- Wednesday, August 2 at NEPIRC Towanda
- Thursday, August 3 at NEPIRC Hazleton

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

Post Consumer Pet Brands – NEPIRC's Manufacturer of the Month

[Post Consumer Pet Brands](#), manufactured in Bloomsburg, is NEPIRC's Manufacturer of the Month! From brands like Rachael Ray[®] Nutrish[®] and Nature's Recipe[®] to 9Lives[®], Gravy Train[®] and Kibbles 'n Bits[®], Post Consumer Pet Brands provides our pets with food they love.

If you'd like to be featured as a NEPIRC Manufacturer of the Month, please email Chelsey@NEPIRC.com.

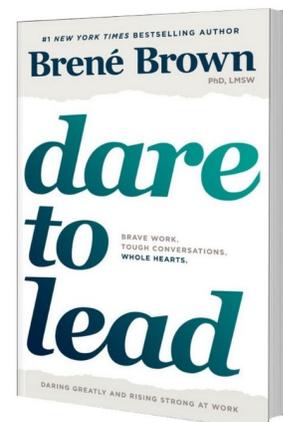


July's NEPIRC Wise Words Book Club Read: *Dare to Lead*

For the month of July [NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club](#) is reading [Dare to Lead](#) by Brené Brown.

Book summary: Leadership is not about titles, status, and wielding power. A leader is anyone who takes responsibility for recognizing the potential in people and ideas, and has the courage to develop that potential.

When we dare to lead, we don't pretend to have the right answers; we stay curious and ask the right questions. We don't see power as finite and hoard it; we know that power becomes infinite when we share it with others. We don't avoid difficult conversations and situations; we lean into vulnerability when it's necessary to do good work.



But daring leadership in a culture defined by scarcity, fear, and uncertainty requires skill-building around traits that are deeply and uniquely human. The irony is that we're choosing not to invest in developing the hearts and minds of leaders at the exact same time as we're scrambling to figure out what we have to offer that machines and AI can't do better and faster. What can we do better? Empathy, connection, and courage, to start.

Four-time #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Brené Brown has spent the past two decades studying the emotions and experiences that give meaning to our lives, and the past seven years working with transformative leaders and teams spanning the globe. She found that leaders in organizations ranging from small entrepreneurial startups and family-owned businesses to nonprofits, civic organizations, and Fortune 50 companies all ask the same question:

How do you cultivate braver, more daring leaders and how do you embed the value of courage in your culture?

In this book, Brown uses research, stories, and examples to answer these questions in the no-BS style that millions of readers have come to expect and love.

NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club will meet on Thursday, July 27 from noon to 1:00 p.m. via MS Teams. [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up! Even if you don't have a chance to read the book, we'd love for you to join us. This month's meeting will be facilitated by Leo Gilroy, NEPIRC's Director of Strategy & Innovation.

If you're an avid reader looking to connect with other manufacturing leaders, then NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club is for you! To learn more, email Chelsey@NEPIRC.com.

New Business Opportunities: Companies Looking for Suppliers

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

- **Zinc Coating of Brass Parts** – Arkansas-based manufacturer of brass parts is seeking a supplier to provide zinc coating services for its products. Brass parts are 3/8" diameter by 1" length including threads. These parts go into water heater assemblies. The zinc coating applied must be red and must be permanent. Simple use of red ink is not sufficient. However, there is no specification on the exact shade of red. Volume would be between 300 and 500 lbs. of brass parts annually – typically in two or three batches per year. Desired price point between \$1.08 and \$1.40 per lb.
- **Paper Food Container** – New product start-up seeking a supplier of a paper container for its food product. Rough measurements, which can be discussed with supplier (to avoid tooling costs if possible) are 5.5" to 6" top diameter and 5.2" to 6" depth. The container will have a slight slope to the sides so bottom diameter will be less than top. Product does not need to be wax-coated, but buyer would consider a wax-coated item. Thickness of paper can be discussed with supplier, but a thinner-than-usual container would be acceptable since contents are dry and light. No moisture or liquids will be added to the product for preparation or consumption. Buyer anticipates first-year demand of 2.8M units.
- **Transformer** – Arizona company seeking supplier of a transformer to be used in a new 208-240 volt AC power supply. Transformer consists of coil winding on commercially available bobbins and cores. Buyer has technical specifications and drawings, which will be passed along to potential suppliers upon request. Technical specs include dimensions (approx. 5"x5.5"x6" finished); weight (approx. 30 lbs); 0.97:1.03 isolation transformer; 120 VAC, 20A continuous; 180 degrees C, Class F. Must be assembled to UL Standard 1012. Purchase will be for 400 units in first year of buyer-supplier relationship and increasing thereafter. Potential suppliers should contact NEPIRC for more specifications.

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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