

# NEPIRC NEWS

northeastern pennsylvania industrial resource center

## Your Source for Monthly Manufacturing News

Questions, comments or feedback? Please don't hesitate to share your thoughts with us by emailing [Info@NEPIRC.com](mailto:Info@NEPIRC.com).

Visit our Website

## Manufacturing News From Our Nation, State and Region

### National News

#### NIST Supply Chain Resources

NIST's supply chain resources are a few of the useful tools NIST offers to U.S. manufacturers and aspiring startups.

**The Supply Chain:** A repository of work on the economics associated with supply chains, compiled by the NIST Applied Economics Office.

#### **Supply Chain Traceability for Agri-Food**

**Manufacturing:** A current project at NIST's Engineering Laboratory to develop and deploy new standards, tools, and guidelines for traceability and cybersecurity that increase trust among participants and customers of agri-food manufacturing supply chains.

**Infrastructure for Agile Manufacturing Data Standards:** A NIST effort to provide methods and tools to enable agile manufacturing and associated supply chain operations.



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### State News

#### Pennsylvania Among Nation's Top States for Manufacturing Exports

Data recently released by USA Trade Online, a real-time export data tool maintained by the [U.S. Census](https://www.census.gov)

[Bureau](#), places Pennsylvania 9<sup>th</sup> among the nation in terms of manufacturing exports based upon shipments through the first six months of 2023. Pennsylvania's manufacturing exports – valued at \$22.92 billion – accounted for nearly 88% of the Commonwealth's total export activity and surpassed that of rival states like North Carolina, New Jersey and Georgia, which, in the past, have knocked Pennsylvania out of the nation's top 10 rankings. Chemical production led the Commonwealth's exports (\$6.93 billion or 30%), with computer and electronic products, industrial and commercial machinery and primary metal products – each accounting for nearly 10% of total export value for the half-year period. Transportation equipment exports, valued at \$1.7 billion, also contributed to the Commonwealth's strong export performance.



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## Regional News

### Cardbox Packaging Holds Grand Opening in Pittston Twp.

Last month, Eric Joseph Esoda, NEPIRC President & CEO, Brian Matyjevich, NEPIRC's Lean Enterprise Consultant, and Courtney Deignan, NEPIRC Business Advisor for Columbia and Luzerne counties, attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at [Cardbox Packaging](#) in Pittston, PA. Headquartered in Austria, Cardbox's Pittston facility is its first in the United States. Cardbox creates packaging for popular brands like siggi's, Persil, Mallo Cup, Renuzit and many others.



[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about Cardbox, and [CLICK HERE](#) to read more about the company's grand opening event.

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*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](mailto:Chelsey@NEPIRC.com).*

## NEPIRC News

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

NEPIRC's Manufacturing Best Practices Summit & Expo is only two months away!

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 Casino & Convention Center](#) in Wilkes-Barre, PA. The agenda

includes networking; break out sessions taught by NEPIRC's subject matter experts; remarks by [U.S. Representative Dan Meuser](#) and [PA DCED Secretary Rick Siger](#); keynote speaker [Pete Ruggerio](#), COO of [Crayola](#); a woman in manufacturing panel discussion moderated by [Dr. Christine Kiesinger](#), principal of [CEK Communication Consultancy](#); an industry roundtable sponsored by [APEX Accelerator at NEPA Alliance](#); and a cybersecurity requirements panel discussion sponsored by [InnoTek Computer Consulting](#).

Tickets are only \$50.00 for manufacturers and \$100.00 for non-manufacturers. [CLICK HERE to purchase now!](#)

[Visit NEPIRC's MFG DAY website](#) to review the event agenda, see this year's sponsors/exhibitors and learn more about the event. Questions? Email Chelsey Coslett, Manager of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement, at [Chelsey@NEPIRC.com](mailto:Chelsey@NEPIRC.com).



NEPIRC  
**MFG DAY 2023**  
REGISTRATION IS OPEN!  
MANUFACTURERS: \$50  
NON-MANUFACTURERS: \$100

Join NEPIRC as we celebrate the vibrant world of manufacturing in northeastern PA!

**MFG DAY**

**OCTOBER 13**  
Mohegan Pennsylvania  
Wilkes-Barre, PA

The poster features three photographs: a man in a factory setting, a group of people at a booth, and a man at a desk. The NEPIRC logo is at the top, and the MFG DAY logo is in the center.

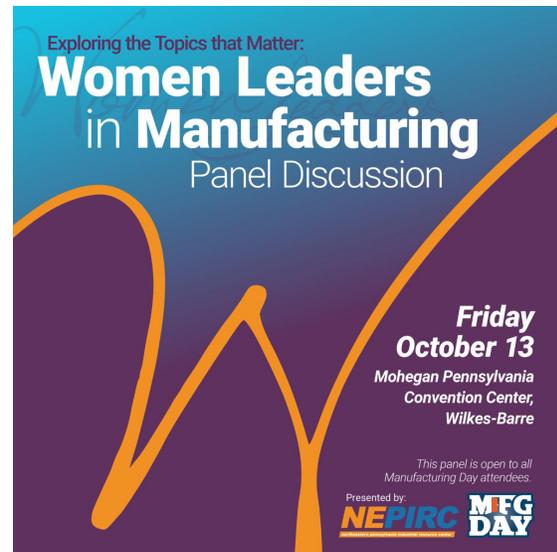
## Women Leaders in Manufacturing Panel Discussion Coming to Manufacturing Day

NEPIRC is looking forward to one of its newest offerings at this year's Manufacturing Day event – the Women Leaders in Manufacturing panel discussion moderated by Dr. Christine Kiesinger, principal, [CEK Communication Consultancy](#). Panelists include Petra Mitchell, president, [Catalyst Connection](#), Pittsburgh; Heidi McKenna, president, [The Fredericks Company](#), Huntington Valley; Pat Frances, CEO, [Chaucer Press](#), Wilkes-Barre; Grace McGregor Kramer, vice president of strategy and operations, [McGregor Industries](#), Dunmore; and Denise Truesdale, senior vice president, human resources, [Pride Mobility Products](#), Duryea.

These female executives, strategic leaders and human resources professionals are ready to share real-time, valuable insights into the pivotal roles women play in driving innovation, quality and long-term organizational success.

Whether you're a seasoned leader looking to gain valuable insights or simply curious about how women contribute to and influence the manufacturing sector, this event is for you and is open to all Manufacturing Day attendees. The panel will take from 2:05 to 3:05 p.m. Tickets are \$50 for manufacturers and \$100 for non-manufacturers.

[CLICK HERE](#) to purchase tickets. We hope you'll come out and support these incredible women leaders!



Exploring the Topics that Matter:  
**Women Leaders in Manufacturing**  
Panel Discussion

**Friday October 13**  
Mohegan Pennsylvania  
Convention Center,  
Wilkes-Barre

This panel is open to all Manufacturing Day attendees.

Presented by:  
**NEPIRC MFG DAY**

The poster features a large, stylized orange 'W' on a blue and purple background.

## InnoTek Computer Consulting to Host Cybersecurity Panel Discussion at Manufacturing Day

[InnoTek Computer Consulting](#), located in

Bloomsburg, PA, will host and moderate a panel discussion at NEPIRC's Manufacturing Day Best Practices Summit & Expo. Entitled, *Demystifying Compliance: What Cybersecurity Requirements Mean for NEPA Manufacturers*," attendees will receive strategies on how to navigate the complex world of cybersecurity and regulatory compliance. This will be a great opportunity to stay informed and ahead in the ever-changing cybersecurity landscape.



The panel will be moderated by Fred Reck, President & CEO of InnoTek Computer Consulting. Panelists include Amy Heintz, InnoTek Security Advisor; Michael Britton, InnoTek vCIO; and representatives from [Kaseya](#) IT & Security Software and [Blackpoint Cyber](#) Advanced Security Platform.

The panel will take place from 4:05 to 5:00 p.m. and is open to all Manufacturing Day attendees. Tickets are \$50 for manufacturers and \$100 for non-manufacturers.

[CLICK HERE](#) to purchase tickets!

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## NEPIRC Enters Alliance Agreement with OSHA

In July, NEPIRC entered into a two-year Alliance Agreement with the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).



Through this agreement, NEPIRC will be able to expand its industrial safety training programs and employee safety services to regional manufacturers by accessing additional OSHA-approved training materials, working collaboratively with OSHA to develop new educational and service programs and having enhanced relationships with OSHA's team of Compliance Assistance and Outreach Specialists.

With the signing of its Alliance Agreement, NEPIRC joined an elite group of 20 OSHA Alliance partners in Pennsylvania and became one of only three Alliance members serving the northeastern and northern tier of Pennsylvania business communities.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more about this important partnership.

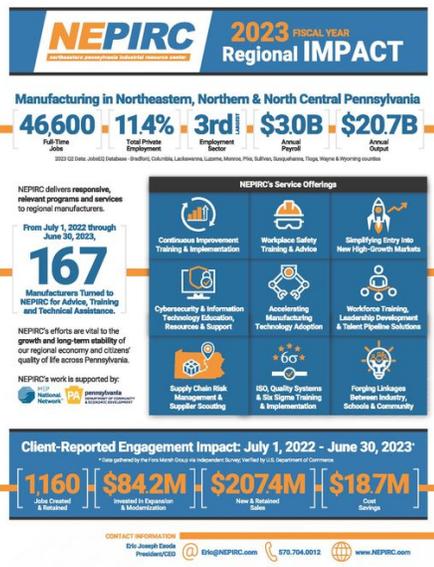
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## NEPIRC Releases FY 2023 Regional Impact Infographic

NEPIRC is pleased to present its fiscal year 2022/2023 regional impact infographic.

[CLICK HERE](#) to take a closer look at the data gathered by the independent market research and analysis firm, The Fors Marsh Group, and the U.S. Department of Commerce, which confirms that NEPIRC engagements had dramatic impact across our manufacturing community throughout NEPIRC's 2022/2023 fiscal year.

If you'd like to learn how your company can benefit from NEPIRC's expertise, please email [Info@NEPIRC.com](mailto:Info@NEPIRC.com).



## Hayward Laboratories Featured as NEPIRC's Manufacturer of the Month

Hayward Laboratories, located in East Stroudsburg, is NEPIRC's Manufacturer of the Month! Since the early 1990s, Hayward Laboratories has been dedicated to the manufacture and packaging of high quality, hair, skin, beauty and health care products.



Some of these products include the popular line of Palmer's cocoa butter creams, lotions, lip balms, body oil and the original Palmer's solid formula.

If you'd like to be featured as a NEPIRC Manufacturer of the Month, please email [Chelsey@NEPIRC.com](mailto:Chelsey@NEPIRC.com).

## Take Advantage of NEPIRC's Upcoming Training Programs!

### 8-Week Leadership Development Essentials, taught by Leo Gilroy, Director of Leadership and Organizational Development:

- Wednesdays from August 30 to October 18, 8:00 a.m. to noon at NEPIRC Hanover Twp.
- Thursdays from September 7 to November 2, 8:00 a.m. to noon at NEPIRC Towanda

### Six Sigma Yellow Belt Training, taught by Brian Matyjevich, Lean Enterprise Consultant:

- Thursday, September 7th, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at NEPIRC Hanover Twp.

### OSHA 10 Training Course for General Industry, taught by Brian Matyjevich, Authorized OSHA Outreach Trainer:

- Wednesday, September 13 and Thursday, September 14 at NEPIRC Hazleton; class will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the first day and 8:00 a.m. to noon on the second day



### **Six Sigma Green Belt Training, taught by Brian Matyjevich:**

- Wednesdays from October 4 to November 1, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at NEPIRC Hanover Twp.

### **OSHA 30 Training Course for General Industry, taught by Brian Matyjevich:**

- Thursdays from October 5 to October 26, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at NEPIRC Hazleton

### **Lean Specialist Certificate Program, taught by Mark Morgis, Continuous Improvement Specialist:**

- Mondays, October 16 to November 13, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at NEPIRC Hanover Twp,

### **ISO 9001:2015 Requirements Overview, taught by Ray Kryeski, Mechanical Engineer:**

- Thursday, October 19, 8:00 to 11:00 a.m., via MS Teams

### **ISO 9001:2015 Internal Auditor Training, taught by Ray Kryeski:**

- Wednesday, October 25 and Thursday, October 26, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at NEPIRC Hanover Twp.

### **High-Impact Leadership, taught by Leo Gilroy:**

- Wednesdays, November 1 to December 13, 8:00 a.m. to noon, at NEPIRC Hanover Twp.

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

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## **August's NEPIRC Wise Words Book Club Read: *The Catalyst***

For the month of August [NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club](#) is reading [The Catalyst](#) by Jonah Berger.

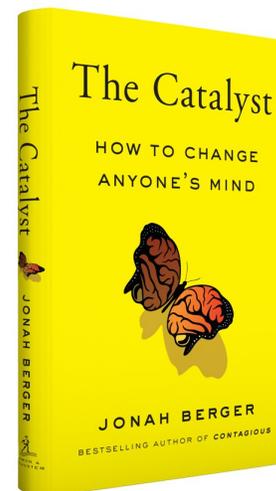
**Book summary:** From the author of *New York Times* bestsellers *Contagious* and *Invisible Influence* comes a revolutionary approach to changing anyone's mind. Everyone has something they want to change. Marketers want to change their customers' minds and leaders want to change organizations. Start-ups want to change industries and nonprofits want to change the world. But change is hard. Often, we persuade and pressure and push, but nothing moves. Could there be a better way?

This book takes a different approach. Successful change agents know it's not about pushing harder, or providing more information, it's about being a catalyst. Catalysts remove roadblocks and reduce the barriers to change. Instead of asking, "How could I change someone's mind?" they ask a different question: "Why haven't they changed already? What's stopping them?"

*The Catalyst* identifies the key barriers to change and how to mitigate them. This book provides a powerful way of thinking and a range of techniques that can lead to extraordinary results. Whether you're trying to change one person, transform an organization, or shift the way an entire industry does business, this book will teach you how to become a catalyst.

NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club will meet on Thursday, August 24 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.

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



## New Business Opportunities: Companies Looking for Suppliers

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

- **Injection Molded Tool Box** – Entrepreneur in Alaska is seeking an injection molder to help finalize the design and production of an innovative tool box that will attach to the top of store-bought (Home Depot, Lowes, etc.) A-frame ladders. The tool box is designed to provide a space for contractors to store saws, nail guns, hand tools, drills and other items while on a ladder. Approximate dimensions are 15"W x 22"L x 7"H with wall thickness of 3/16". Constructed of ABS plastic. Company looking to work with a manufacturer in mainland U.S. to make molds, run prototypes and then be sole source provider of the product. Prototype drawings and other specifications available through NEPIRC.
- **ASTM A536-84 Grade 65-45-12 T-Pin** – Manufacturer in Nevada looking for domestic supplier of 8" x 3" with 1/4" diameter standard T-pins with center hole to accommodate a cotter pin. Will be cast aluminum with weight of no more than 0.7 lbs. Annual demand will range from low of 2,000/yr to high of 6,000/yr depending on sales of manufacturers primary products. Price is negotiable.
- **Extendable Fiberglass or Carbon Fiber Poles** – Tennessee company seeking a manufacturer of extendable fiberglass or carbon fiber poles that would collapse to 3 feet and extend to 12 feet. Pole will have accessories on the ends, so both ends will need to have a treatment – yet to be determined – to attach those accessories (either a clamp, hole or fixture of some type). Diameters are not critical at this point and supplier will have input into final design.

Companies interested in these supplier opportunities are encouraged to contact Eric Esoda, NEPIRC's President & CEO, at [Eric@NEPIRC.com](mailto:Eric@NEPIRC.com).

## NEPIRC's Manufacturing Jobs Board



The graphic features the NEPIRC logo at the top, with the text 'northeastern pennsylvania industrial resource center' in a smaller font below it. The main text reads 'JOB BOARD Local Manufacturing Job Listings' in large, bold, blue and orange letters. Below this, it says 'Start your NEW Career in Manufacturing Today!' in a similar color scheme. The background is a blurred image of a hand holding a tablet displaying a dashboard with various charts and graphs.

**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](mailto:Chelsey@NEPIRC.com) for more information. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the Manufacturing Jobs Board.

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**Use these quick links to learn more about NEPIRC:**

[Upcoming training programs & events](#)

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