



## *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

#### Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Celebrates 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

August 23<sup>rd</sup> marked the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the [Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership \(MEP\)](#). For over three decades, MEP has been a beacon of support, growth and innovation, enriching the U.S. manufacturing ecosystem.

Since its inception, MEP has been a steadfast force driving manufacturing growth and innovation across our nation. Through meaningful collaborations and partnerships, MEP Centers and NIST MEP have tirelessly worked hand in hand with manufacturers to usher in industry advances that have paved the way for a more prosperous future.

With this remarkable milestone, it is exciting to look toward the future with unwavering determination. The creation of the Supply Chain Optimization and Intelligence Network will strengthen U.S. supply chains, empower American-driven innovation and lead in a 21<sup>st</sup> century economy that is critical to our national security interests. Through this and other initiatives, the MEP National Network continues to drive innovation and sustainability in manufacturing.



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## Workcred Releases Report: *Examining the Return on Investment of Manufacturing Credentials*

Which credentials do manufacturers and workers value the most? As part of its long-term research to assess how to effectively use credentials to support a competitive manufacturing

workforce, [Workcred](#), in partnership with the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP), has released a report on [Examining the Return on Investment of Manufacturing Credentials](#).

**workcred**  
an affiliate of ANSI

Credentials—including microcredentials, certificates, certifications, apprenticeships, badges, licenses, and associate, baccalaureate and graduate degrees—help validate workers' skills and competencies and communicate these skills to potential employers in a portable, transparent way, serving as a valuable asset in the job market.

The report identifies how employers and workers value credentials, which credentials they value and recommendations to support a highly skilled and efficient manufacturing workforce. The research builds on Workcred's 2018 report, [Examining the Quality, Market Value and Effectiveness of Manufacturing Credentials in the United States](#), which found that credentials have uneven use in the manufacturing industry and provided recommendations to help improve understanding about the content, use and value of credentials.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the complete article.

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## Photo Shoot Opportunities for MEP Center Clients

As part of NIST MEP's efforts to highlight the amazing work of MEP Centers and their manufacturing clients across the country, the MEP National Network currently has a total of **six photo shoot opportunities** available. These photo shoots will be offered at no cost to the Center (NEPIRC) and the manufacturer.



MEP  
**National  
Network**™

*The Go-To Experts for Advancing  
U.S. Manufacturing*

Photographs can speak volumes, and the goal is to capture the raw emotion, hard work and dedication that is manufacturing in the

U.S. Photos will be taken by a professional photographer and will be available to NEPIRC, the client and the MEP National Network for marketing purposes, including printed materials, social media and NIST MEP/MEP Center websites. **All photo shoots must be completed by January 15, 2024.**

### Selection Requirements

NIST MEP uses a variety of criteria to determine which companies to highlight in these photo sessions, including:

- Previous projects completed with NEPIRC
- Positive impacts and client survey responses reported
- Geographical representation across the country
- Diversity
- How the manufacturing facility will appear in photographs
- Availability of a professional photographer within the vicinity of the facility
- NEPIRC's and client's willingness to participate

### Production and Distribution

Working with the NEPIRC and the client in advance, NIST MEP will assist with selecting a local professional photographer to perform the photo shoot on site. Key shots include, but are not limited to workforce in action, innovative technologies in use, NEPIRC staff and client interactions and product(s) manufactured as well as the process involved.

The photographer will tour the manufacturing facility and capture photos of the people and their work (not interrupting production). NEPIRC and client will approve photos before they are released to the Network.

For more information or to submit your company for consideration, please email Chelsey Coslett, NEPIRC's Manager of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement. Please include your company name, website, company success highlights and any other information you would like considered to support your submission. **Please send submissions by COB Thursday, September 21, 2023.**

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## State News

### Study Finds Manufacturing is PA's Leading Industry

There are many different sectors that drive the mammoth economy of the United States. But have you ever wondered which of these sectors is the leading business industry of each state?

Some researchers did, and even published a study to reveal their findings, including the primary business sector in Pennsylvania.

[OnDeck](#)—a platform that seeks to help small businesses get the loans and credit “to help meet your unique needs and can tailor your repayments terms to fit your business”—was the website behind [this study](#), which first seeded a list of 100 industries before lifting LinkedIn data to count and rank how many companies within each were represented in specific locations.



The leading industry in Pennsylvania was found to be manufacturing, which also happened to be the greatest overarching industry nationally.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more.

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### Diamond Manufacturing Expands and Continues to Grow in Northeastern PA

Diamond Manufacturing Company recently expanded with a 30,000-square-foot addition at its headquarters in Wyoming. The company continues to grow and another 15,000-square-foot addition was slated for August, said Brent Montross, executive vice president of Diamond Manufacturing.



John Newton Thomas founded the company in 1915 to create sizing screens for the coal mining industry.

Today, Diamond Manufacturing is a big supplier of perforated metal coils and sheets and a full-service provider of perforated metals, including aluminum, stainless steel, carbon steel and plastic. The company serves the agriculture, oil and gas, automotive, aerospace, architecture, industrial and medical industries and ships throughout North America.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more about Diamond Manufacturing and its expansion project.

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### Discover NEPA Features NEPIRC's MFG DAY Regional Manufacturing Sponsors in Blog Series to Help Promote Event

In an effort to help promote Manufacturing Day on October 13, NEPIRC has partnered with [DiscoverNEPA](#) to highlight NEPIRC's regional manufacturing sponsors, along with the great products they make, in a six-part blog series. So far, two of the blogs have been published and are receiving great feedback from readers. In case you missed them, click below to take a look:



[Blog 1](#) features Bridon-Bekaert The Ropes Group, Cardinal Glass Industries, Center City Print, Finch Manufacturing & Technology, Futuristic Innovative Graphics (FIG), Holly Label Company and Space Age Plastics.

[Blog 2](#) features A. Rifkin Co., Ball Corporation, Belrick Corporation, Cheetah Chassis, HRC Manufacturing, PDQ Print & Fulfillment and Weiler Abrasives.

Be sure to keep an eye on NEPIRC's Facebook and LinkedIn pages for the remaining editions.

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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 one month away!

The 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](#) on Route 315 in Wilkes-Barre, PA. The agenda includes networking opportunities with over 100 exhibitors; break out sessions taught by NEPIRC's subject matter experts; remarks by [Congressman Matt Cartwright](#), [Congressman Dan Meuser](#) and [PA DCED Secretary Rick Siger](#); keynote speaker Pete Ruggiero, COO of [Crayola](#); a women leaders 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 start at \$50 for professionals and are \$35 for students. The price includes breakfast, breakout session of your choice, lunch, keynote presentation, panel discussions and the closing networking reception for those who are 21 and older.

[Visit NEPIRC's MFG DAY website](#) to purchase tickets, 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!

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

The graphic features three photos: a man working at a computer workstation, a group of people standing together, and a man at a trade show booth. The NEPIRC logo is visible in the top right corner.

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## PA Elected Officials and State Policy Leaders to Attend MFG DAY

NEPIRC is honored to have three of PA's elected officials and state policy leaders be in attendance at its Manufacturing Best Practices Summit & Expo on October 13. Congressman Matt Cartwright will offer welcoming comments to the crowd, and Congressman Dan Meuser and Rick Siger, Secretary of PA Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED), will each give luncheon remarks.

[Congressman Cartwright](#) (8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District) serves as Senior Member, House Committee on Appropriations; Ranking Member, Commerce-Justice-Science Subcommittee; Vice-Chair, Sustainable Energy & Environment Coalition; and Co-Chair, House Military Depot & Industrial Facilities Caucus.

[Congressman Meuser](#) (9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District) serves as Member, House Committee on Small Businesses and Member, House Committee on Financial Services.

[PA DCED Secretary Siger](#) served as Former Chief of Staff, White House Office of Science & Technology Policy and Former Deputy Chief of Staff, U.S. Dept. of Commerce.

**Congressman Matt Cartwright**

**Congressman Dan Meuser**

**Rick Siger, Secretary, PA DCED**

A dark blue rectangular box containing three circular portrait photos of the officials mentioned in the text, each with their name and title to the right.

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## NEPA Alliance APEX Accelerator to Host Industry Roundtable at MFG DAY

NEPIRC would like to thank the NEPA Alliance APEX Accelerator for hosting an

industry roundtable entitled, *Subcontracting & Partnerships in Government Markets*, at Manufacturing Day on October 13. The federal marketplace provides subcontracting and partnering opportunities intended for manufacturers and suppliers to sell their products/services. Subcontracting allows small businesses to sell to the government by partnering with a large business prime contractor. Subject matter experts from the General Service Administration and the Small Business Administration Eastern Division will be among the invited panelists to discuss subcontracting and partnering prospects and how they can provide new sales outlets for your business.



[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more and purchase your Manufacturing Day tickets.

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## NEPIRC & Dream Team Ambassadors Enjoy a Night Out at the Ball Game

On a picturesque August evening, NEPIRC hosted a night out for staff and its Dream Team Ambassadors at the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders game at PNC Field in Moosic. Before the game, the group enjoyed a Pennsylvania Made Pre-Game Picnic featuring products from Heinz, Berks Foods, Smith's Hotdogs, CANPACK US, Bimbo Bakeries USA, Wise Foods, Utz Snacks, The Lion Brewery, Fox Ledge and others. It was a great way to kick off the evening!

NEPIRC's Dream Team Ambassador, Alec Ciaglia from Jam Works, threw out the first pitch, and the Dream Team was featured on the Jumbotron during the fourth inning. It was certainly an exciting game, as it went into extra innings with the RailRiders clinching the W. If this wasn't enough fun, an awesome fireworks display was enjoyed by all after the game.

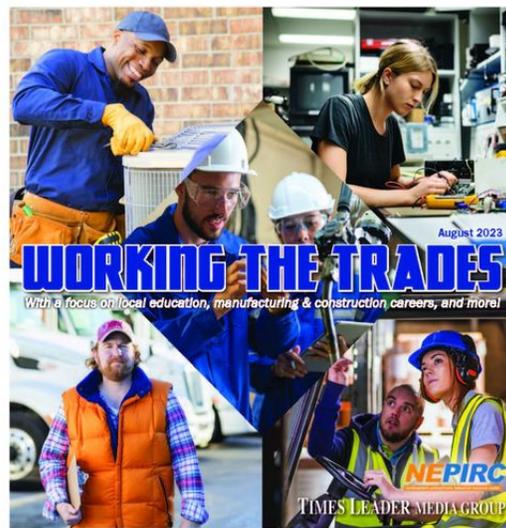


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## Working the Trades Serves to Showcase Trades Careers to Students and Their Parents

NEPIRC was honored to partner with *The Times Leader* on its recently released *Working the Trades* publication, which showcases local resources that can guide students to career paths in sustainable careers in northeast PA.

[CLICK HERE](#) to check it out.



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

### **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

**NEPIRC**

northeastern pennsylvania industrial resource center

*Upcoming Events!*

### **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.

### **SolidWorks Essentials Training, taught by TriMech**

- Monday, November 6 to Thursday, November 9, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at NEPIRC Hanover Twp.

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

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## September's Wise Words Book Club Read: *Boundaries for Leaders: Take Charge of Your Business, Your Team and Your Life*

For the month of September [NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club](#) is reading *Boundaries for Leaders: Take Charge of Your Business, Your Team and Your Life* by Dr. Henry Cloud.

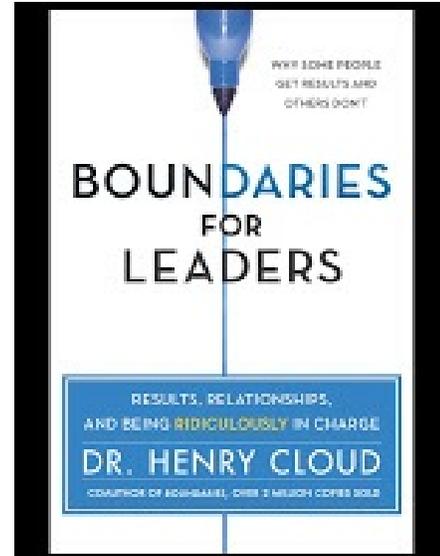
**Book summary:** In *Boundaries for Leaders: Take Charge of Your Business, Your Team and Your Life*, clinical psychologist and bestselling author Dr. Henry Cloud leverages his expertise of human behavior, neuroscience and business leadership to explain how the best leaders set boundaries within their organizations—with their teams and with themselves—to improve performance and increase employee and customer satisfaction.

In a voice that is motivating and inspiring, Dr. Cloud offers practical advice on how to manage teams, coach direct reports and instill an organization with strong values and culture.

*Boundaries for Leaders: Take Charge of Your Business, Your Team and Your Life* is essential reading for executives and aspiring leaders who want to create successful companies with satisfied employees and customers, while becoming more resilient leaders themselves.

NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club will meet on Thursday, September 28 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 [Chelsey@NEPIRC.com](mailto:Chelsey@NEPIRC.com).



## New Business Opportunities: Companies Looking for Suppliers

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

- **In State Opportunity: Sheet Metal Formed Pump Housing Hopper & Flanged Housing** – Pennsylvania-based manufacturer looking for supplier of custom-made housings and hoppers for fluid pumps. Hopper specs: 15-43" long X 5-12" diameter w/ 18-20" opening. Flanged housing specs: 15-43" long X 5-12" diameter. Wall thickness up to 3/8" accepted. 304/306/1020 or similar (A-36) sheet metal to be cut, bent, welded and machined as needed to create parts according to drawings (available through NEPIRC). Welder should be ASME AWS D1.1, D1.3 and D1.6 certified or similar. Total volume of 50-100 hoppers and 100-200 housings expected. **Great chance to create a PA-based supply chain for a manufacturer in Exton, PA.**
- **100kg & 250kg Stackable Cylinder Weight** – Michigan firm seeking supplier of 100kg and 250kg stackable cylinder weights made to OIML R 111-1 Class F1 specifications. Material should be austenitic stainless steel with density between 7.39 and 8.73 kg/cubic meter, maximum magnetic susceptibility < 0.2, magnetization (M) 25uT polarization and surface roughness (Rz) < 1um. Approximate size is 1-ft diameter. Each weight to have four (4) lifting posts.

Drawings available through NEPIRC. Weight variation of +/- 500 mg for 100kg model and +/- 1,250 mg for 250kg model accepted.

- **Silicone Gasket for Class 3 Medical Device** – Georgia company actively searching for domestic supplier of injection molded or 3D printed silicone gasket for medical device. Current product, made overseas, is vacuum casted with RPU11 material, but end product lacks desired level of durability. Company believes that injection-molded silicone will work for intended application but is open to other production processes, including 3D printing. Drawings of gasket available through NEPIRC. Current design has OD of 64mm. Product must meet relevant FDA requirements.

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



### 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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