

# NEPIRC NEWS

northeastern pennsylvania industrial resource center

November 2023 | Volume 37

NEPIRC.com

Training &  
Events

Manufacturing  
Jobs Board

Manufacturing  
Ambassador  
Dream Team

2023 PA  
Manufacturing  
Industry Report

## National News

### State Approaches to Enhancing Supply Chain Resiliency

This National Governors Association brief focuses on supply chain issues in advanced manufacturing and related sectors, including infrastructure and transportation, renewable and alternative energy, and battery applications.

[Read More](#)

## State News

### New Record Low: Pennsylvania's Unemployment Rate Drops to 3.4% in September

Pennsylvania's unemployment rate was down one-tenth of a percentage point over the month to 3.4% in September, setting a new record low (records date back to January 1976). The U.S. unemployment rate was unchanged from August at 3.8%. The Commonwealth's unemployment rate was 0.9 percentage points below its September 2022 level of 4.3%, while the national rate was up three-tenths of a percentage point over the year.

[Read More](#)

## Regional News

### Regional Manufacturing Ambassador Dream Team Surpasses 6,500 Student Interactions

NEPIRC is pleased to report that its regional Manufacturing Ambassador Dream Team has surpassed 6,500 student interactions and experiences since its launch earlier this year. In October alone, NEPIRC's Dream Team Ambassadors participated in more than 10 events, including classroom presentations, career days, NEPIRC's Manufacturing Day and other community engagements like the Junior Achievement YES! Program. Many thanks to Zach Mulhern, Ashley Machine & Tool; Melanie Quintanilla, A. Rifkin Co.; Kate Logan, Noble Biomaterials; Aaron Russell, Dyco Inc.; Zach Aciekewicz, Bridon-Bekaert The Ropes Group; Samantha

Schumacher, GENTEX Corp.; Ian Vestrand and Craig Kovalewski; CornellCookson; Alim Matthews, Weiler Abrasives; Tiffany Weeks, Hydro Extrusions NA; Kim Smalley, CANPACK; and Nate Halverson, Towanda Metadyne, for taking the time to participate in the Dream Team's latest activities!

Learn More About NEPIRC's Dream Team

## The Latest from NEPIRC



MFG DAY 2023 Photos Ready for Viewing!

Browse the Gallery



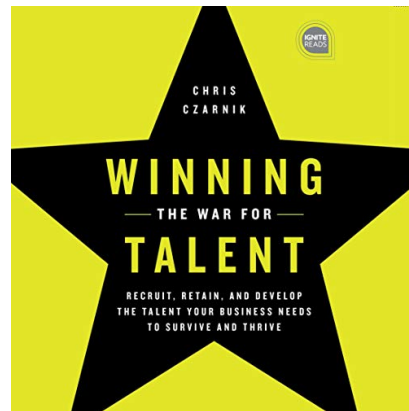
Manufacturer of the Month: United Gilsonite Laboratories

NEPIRC is pleased to feature United Gilsonite Laboratories (UGL) as the November Manufacturer of the Month! Located in Scranton, UGL has been the proud provider of DRYLOK, America's top choice for masonry care and repair, for over 68 years, as well as ZAR Luxury Stain and Finishing Products. To learn more about UGL, please [click here](#).



Join NEPIRC and the Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce (GPCC) for a complimentary seminar on workplace safety on Wednesday, December 13 from 8:15 to 10:30 a.m. at the Pittston Memorial Library.

The seminar will be presented by Brian Matyjevich, NEPIRC's Authorized OSHA Outreach Trainer, and Jeffrey Ritter, OSHA Compliance Assistance Specialist.



For November, NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club is reading *Winning the War for Talent* by Chris Czarnik. NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club will meet via MS Teams on November 30 from noon to 1 p.m. to discuss this book that provides great insight into today's workforce issues that so many of us are facing.

Register  
Now

Sign Up for Book Club!

## Upcoming Training Programs

### Two-Hour No-Cost Leadership Development Seminar, taught by Leo Gilroy:

- Thursday, December 14, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at NEPIRC Hanover Twp.
- Wednesday, January 10, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the TekRidge Center in Jessup

### Applied Project Management, taught by Leo Gilroy:

- Thursdays, January 11 to February 15, 8:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. at NEPIRC Hanover Twp.

### 8-Week Leadership Development Essentials, taught by Leo Gilroy:

- Wednesdays, January 17 to March 6, 8:00 a.m. to noon at NEPIRC Hanover Twp.

### OSHA 10 Training for General Industry, taught by Brian Matyjevich:

- Monday, January 22, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Wednesday, January 24, 8:00 a.m. to noon at NEPIRC Hazleton

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

- Tuesdays, January 30 to February 20, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at NEPIRC Hanover Twp.

Learn More and  
Register

## Company in Need of Supplier

NEPIRC is relaying this potential new business opportunity to manufacturers across our region:

- **Plastic Extruder for Fencing Components** – Start-up business seeking manufacturing partner to fabricate rectangular PVC extrusion pieces with tongue-and-groove profiles and internal ribs for reinforcement. Product will be used for fencing. The product will use plant-based plastics and have earth tone finish. Item will be sold as an accessory to the company's existing aluminum fence and post systems. Generally, pieces are 1.5" wide x 6" high x 94" long with a .5" tongue/groove on opposite sides. Items have a .125" edge radius, .080-.100 wall thickness and 4-5 internal ribs. Annual purchase expected to be 180,000 lbs. spread over 6 truckloads of approximately 30,000 lbs. each.

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



[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [chelsey@nepirc.com](mailto:chelsey@nepirc.com)