

NEPIRC NEWS

northeastern pennsylvania industrial resource center

December 2023 | Volume 38

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National News

Three Helpful Resources for Manufacturers

As a manufacturer, the following three resources from the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) National Network may be of interest to you. Should you like to request additional information, please email Info@NEPIRC.com.

The Job Quality Toolkit

The [Job Quality Toolkit](#) is rooted in the [Baldrige Excellence Framework](#) and provides practical guidance to employers of all kinds. Many interrelated factors impact job quality. The Job Quality Toolkit is organized around eight drivers.

The Manufacturers' Guide to Finding and Retaining Talent

View the [Manufacturers' Guide to Finding and Retaining Talent](#), to learn steps that will help you improve and enhance your employee recruitment, retention and engagement.

How Small Manufacturers Can Develop Risk Management Strategies for Their Supply Chains

Many manufacturers are pursuing domestic sourcing for materials and supplies as a way to overcome supply chain disruptions. View this interactive white paper to learn how small manufacturers can develop risk management strategies for their supply chains.

State News

State Funding Helps \$21 Million Expansion Project at Maid-Rite Specialty Foods Plant

Gov. Josh Shapiro's office recently announced it will grant more than \$450,000 toward Maid-Rite Specialty Food's \$21 million expansion project. Located in Dunmore, Maid-Rite Specialty Foods makes meat products and ships them all across North America. This grant from Gov. Shapiro's office will be used for the first phase of the project.

[Read More](#)

Regional News

NTRPDC Launches a Logo Creation Program for Northern Tier Businesses

The Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission (NTRPDC) recently announced the launch of the Northern Tier's Logo Creation Program. This program is designed to allow a Northern Tier business that does not currently have a professionally designed logo to have one developed. All the company needs to do is click the link below and complete the application. If the company meets the criteria, it will be connected to a designer to create the logo.

[Learn More](#)

Luzerne County Small Business Sustainability Grant Program Now Accepting Applications

Luzerne County is pleased to now be accepting applications for its Luzerne County Small Business Sustainability Grant Program. One-time, \$5,000 grant awards will be distributed to successful applicants that meet all eligibility requirements. Grants must be used for expenses related to supporting ongoing business operations. The goal of this program is to help mitigate the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on small businesses, keep their doors open, protect local jobs, support community economic recovery and increase resiliency across Luzerne County. Click the button below to learn more and apply!

[Learn More](#)

The Latest from NEPIRC



Happy Holidays from NEPIRC!

The NEPIRC team wishes all its clients, partners and friends a very happy holiday season and a joyous new year!



Eric Esoda, NEPIRC's President & CEO, Appointed to Intergovernmental Policy Advisory Committee; Brian Matyjevich, NEPIRC's Lean Enterprise Consultant Obtains SafeLand USA Trainer Certification

The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) recently announced the appointment of 10 individuals, including Eric Joseph Esoda, President and CEO of NEPIRC, to the Intergovernmental Policy Advisory Committee (IGPAC). The IGPAC provides general policy advice to the U.S. Trade Representative on issues involving trade and development that have a significant relationship to the affairs of U.S. state and local governments.



Additionally, Brian Matyjevich, NEPIRC's Lean Enterprise Consultant and Authorized OSHA Outreach Trainer, recently obtained SafeLandUSA trainer certification from West Virginia University. SafeLandUSA training is an eight-hour course that meets the requirements of several regulations pertaining to safety standards applicable to the natural gas and Marcellus Shale industry, particularly API RP 75 and API RP T-1.

[Read More](#)



Courtney Deignan, NEPIRC Business Advisor, Graduates From Women's Leadership Program

Courtney Deignan, NEPIRC's Business Advisor for Columbia and Luzerne counties, recently completed Leadership Northeast's (LNE's) Amplify: Women's Leadership Certificate Program. Courtney, along with 28 other women, celebrated their graduation from the program at the end of November. The Amplify: Women's Leadership Certificate Program is the first of its kind in northeastern Pennsylvania. Cutting-edge leadership development, high level networking opportunities and access to a dynamic series of speakers offers participants an unprecedented and transformative leadership experience that addresses the unique needs of women in the workforce.

[Read More](#)

Chelsey Coslett, NEPIRC's Manager



of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement, Named as a NEPA Top 20 Under 40 Business Professional

Chelsey Coslett, NEPIRC's Manager of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement, was recently named a Top 20 Under 40 Business Professional in Northeast Pennsylvania by the *Northeast Pennsylvania Business Journal*.

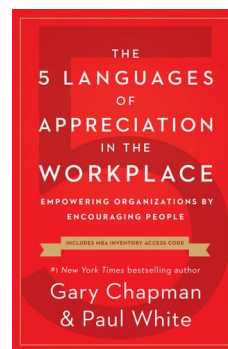
NEPIRC is delighted to have Chelsey as part of our team and appreciates the positive impact she has on our company, clients and community. You can read Chelsey's featured profile in the *Business Journal* by [clicking here](#).



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.

[Register Now](#)



NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club will take off the month of December for the holidays and will resume its monthly meeting on Thursday, January 25 during which the Club will discuss *The 5 Languages of Appreciation in the Workplace* by Dr. Gary Chapman and Paul White. To learn more about NEPIRC's Book Club and to sign up, click the button below!

[Sign Up Now](#)

Upcoming Training Programs

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

- 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 & Register](#)

Companies in Need of Suppliers

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

- **Cardboard Point-of-Sale Displays** – Pennsylvania-based manufacturer seeking to partner with an in-state supplier of cardboard retail display racks (commonly called Point-of-Sale Displays) for placement in retail outlets. The rack will have multiple shelves to display products. Process would be to print artwork (provided by company) on paper, poster board or cardboard and cut into necessary shape to allow for tab-in-notch assembly in stores. Finished product approximately 18" L x 5" W x 48" H. Item will feature eyedrop products made in Pennsylvania. Initial purchase of 150 units at desired cost of approximately \$50 each. Drawings available. Contact SupplierScouting@NEPIRC.com for more information.
- **18" Cast Iron Flap Gate** – South Dakota manufacturer of well collector pipe seeking supplier of 18" flap gate – medium duty, circular opening, double hinged. One piece cast iron. Links of hinge arms much be cast or ductile iron. Drawings and technical specifications are available upon request. Contact SupplierScouting@NEPIRC.com for more information.
- **Polyester Wrapped Helical Wire Spring (Medical Device Item)** – New York company seeking manufacturer of a nylon tub 44mm diameter x 92mm long wrapped with a .6mm helical wire at 12.6 mm pitch encased with a second (2nd) nylon tube. Materials must all be BPA free. Final use is within a medical device. Process is to enclose a stainless steel wire between a long thin strip of polyester consisting of a top side and bottom side that adhere to each other with the wire sandwiched between. Apply adhesive to the edges and wrap the wire/polyester ribbon in a helical pattern around a 42mm cylindrical core with a wire pitch of ~12.6mm, being sure to overlap polyester film with each revolution to ensure an air tight chamber and proper adhesion. Cut to length. Contact SupplierScouting@NEPIRC.com for more information.



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