

NEPIRC NEWS

northeastern pennsylvania industrial resource center

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National News

World Economic Forum Cybersecurity Survey

The World Economic Forum's Cyber Resilience in Manufacturing Initiative is a not-for-profit, public-private collaboration to enhance cyber resilience across the manufacturing sector. Their survey will provide insights on cybersecurity risks and challenges across manufacturing industries. This voluntary survey is anonymous and non-attributable to a single entity, organization or person.

[Take Survey](#)

NASA, DOC, DOD publish Space Manufacturing Technology Report

NASA and the Departments of Defense and Commerce submitted a Space Manufacturing Technology Report to the National Space Council, providing 14 recommendations to maintain U.S. leadership in the sector. The document also highlights public-private partnerships and maximization of federal initiatives including the DOC's Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership program.

[Read Report](#)

State News

Pennsylvania Manufacturers Report Significant Benefits and Impacts from Statewide Industrial Resource Center (IRC) Program

According to data voluntarily provided by 575 small and mid-sized manufacturing firms across Pennsylvania throughout 2023, the statewide Industrial Resource Center (IRC) initiative, the Commonwealth's flagship program for strengthening the competitiveness and resiliency of smaller industrial firms, generated significant positive results among users of their services. Over the past 12 months, manufacturers that utilized IRC professional services avoided 7,197 layoffs while adding 1,462 full-time workers to their rosters. They also realized \$796.8 million in

retained sales and secured \$256.4 million of new customer orders as results of their IRC advisement and engagements.

[Read More](#)

Regional News

Reserve Your Booth for Skills in Scranton's Skills 2024 Workforce Summit & Career Fair

Booth registration is now open for Skills in Scranton's Skills 2024 Workforce Summit and Career Fair slated for Thursday, April 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel. This transformative event is aimed to bridge the gap between job seekers, students and industry professionals, providing a unique platform for meaningful connections. Through inspiring speaker presentations and interactive employer booths, attendees will have the opportunity to explore diverse career paths, gain insights from seasoned experts, and forge vital networks that can propel their professional journey to night heights. For more information or to reserve a booth, email Emily Pettinato, Workforce Development Specialist, at EPettinato@ScrantonChamber.com.

[Learn More](#)

i2M Receives 2023 Recycler of the Year Award

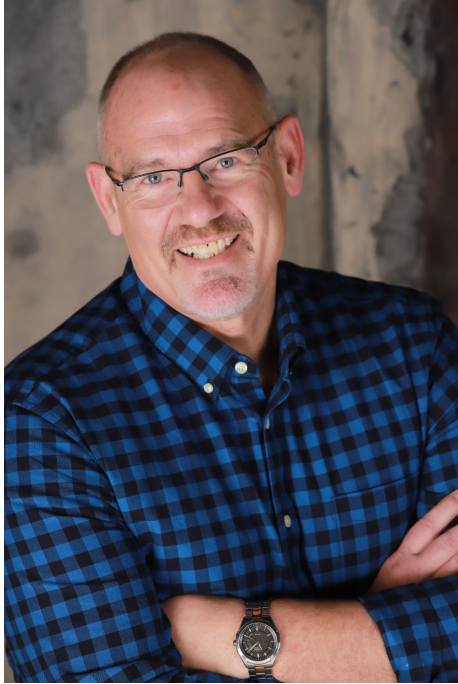
i2M, a plastics fabricator engaged in the manufacture of plastic liners, sheet plastic and roofing materials, recently received the 2023 Recycler of the Year Award from the Vinyl Sustainability Council (VSC). This recognition is a testament to i2M's unwavering commitment to sustainability and innovation in the plastics industry. i2M's ReNew™ Champions Post-Consumer Plastic Recycling Program has redefined industry standards, with a remarkable 228% increase in total bin count along the East Coast. The VSC commended i2M's strategic expansion, emphasizing the growth of this groundbreaking program. NEPIRC congratulates i2M on this accolade and commends the company's dedication to sustainability.

The Latest from NEPIRC

Award Winning International Speaker to Headline NEPIRC's MFG DAY 2024

NEPIRC is pleased to announce that Chris Czarnik, author, coach, trainer, and subject matter expert on talent recruiting, engagement and retention in today's environment, will be the keynote speaker for this year's Manufacturing Day Best Practices Summit & Expo on October 4 at the Mohegan Pennsylvania Casino & Convention Center!

Mr. Czarnik has spent the last 20 years



figuring out why people go to and leave organizations. As one of the most accomplished career coaches in the country, he has helped thousands of job seekers figure out how to identify organizations and jobs that are a great fit for them. His book *Winning the War for Talent* is used by more than 3,500 organizations across the country, and Chris travels more than 200 days a year teaching individual companies how to recruit, retain and develop great employees. NEPIRC is excited to have Chris as this year's MFG DAY keynote!

Stay tuned to NEPIRC's monthly e-newsletter and social media platforms for more information about Chris and this year's MFG DAY event. If you'd like to explore MFG DAY sponsorship, please email Chelsey@NEPIRC.com.



Dream Team Ambassadors Gather to Celebrate 2023 Program Achievements & Learn About Emotional Intelligence

On January 12, members of NEPIRC's Manufacturing Ambassador Dream Team program gathered at the Scranton Chamber of Commerce to celebrate the Team's achievements

during its first year of inception and participate in a training session on emotional intelligence facilitated by Leo Gilroy, NEPIRC's Director of Leadership and Organizational Development.

NEPIRC is pleased to report that its Dream Team program exceeded every expectation and goal set forth since it began in January 2023. Through student surveys and positive feedback from school administrators, the Dream Team has proved successful in its objective to change the conversation and perception regarding today's manufacturing careers. Since the Dream Team's inception in January, Ambassadors have had more than 7,500 student interactions at 40 different classroom and career exploration day presentations.

Throughout 2023, Ambassadors also enjoyed quarterly leadership training sessions on various topics, and the latest one on emotional intelligence did not disappoint. Leo Gilroy took participants through an emotional intelligence assessment and talked about the importance of emotional and social intelligence, self-awareness, relationship management, self-management, social awareness and sympathy vs. empathy. Ambassadors who were able to make the training enjoyed themselves and stated it was a worthwhile afternoon.



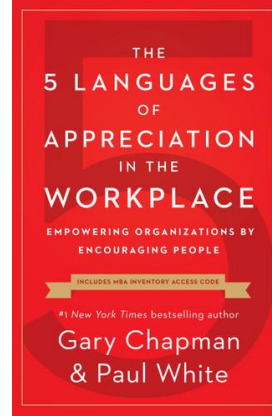
NEPIRC Sponsors Wilkes-Barre Area High School Robotics Team

STEM and robotics education for high schoolers is vitally important, which is why NEPIRC is honored to sponsor the Wilkes-Barre Area High School Wolfpack Robotics Team this year as a gold sponsor! Chelsey Coslett, NEPIRC's Manager of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement, and Jenelle Osborne, NEPIRC's Dream Team Project Coordinator, met the team when they presented the sponsorship check. NEPIRC looks forward to partnering with Wolfpack Robotics this year and wishes them the best of luck.



Join NEPIRC on Thursday, March 14 from 8:15 to 10 a.m. at the Pittston Memorial Library for a special first-look at its newest leadership program, High-Impact Leadership. Led by Leo Gilroy, NEPIRC's Director of Leadership and Organizational Development, this interactive session will provide a high-level overview of personality style, psychological safety, high-performance teams, emotional intelligence, innovation by design, project management and strategic mindset. **This event is free for manufacturers!**

[Register Now](#)



Read more in the new year – join NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club! The group will meet on Thursday, January 25 from noon to 1 p.m. to discuss *The 5 Languages of Appreciation in the Workplace* by Drs. 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

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

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

Applied Project Management, taught by Leo Gilroy:

- Thursdays, January 25 to March 7, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at NEPIRC Hanover Twp.

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

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

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

- Wednesday, April 10 and April 11, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the TekRidge Center in Jessup

SolidWorks Essentials Training, taught by TriMech:

- Monday, April 15 to Thursday, April 19, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at NEPIRC Hanover Twp.

High-Impact Leadership, taught by Leo Gilroy:

- Thursday, May 9 to June 13, 8 a.m. to noon, 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:

- **Corvette Door Protector** – Florida entrepreneur seeking a contract manufacturer to produce a patented premium door protection product for Corvette enthusiasts and collectors. Item is essentially a window “pocket” consisting of poly-spandex, marine vinyl and soft spacer and backing material. Elastic straps with snaps also hold the item in place. The item protects doors from dings and dents and also covers the window, thus providing protection from interior fading. Dimensions vary from C5 through C8 models. Specifications, drawings and dimensions available through NEPIRC. Approximately 150 units of each model type will be purchased as an initial launch. Contact SupplierScouting@NEPIRC.com for more information.
- **Auto Cargo Floor Mat Molder** – Georgia-based company seeking contract textile (carpeting) compression molder to water jet cut automotive cargo and floor mats to specific dimensions. Largest mat is 51” x 51” with tolerances of +/- 5 mm. All material (carpeting w/ rubber backing) will be provided in rolled form. Reliable purchase of 10,000 mats/month. Finished items to be shipped to Dalton, Georgia in cases of 100-120 mats/case. Contact SupplierScouting@NEPIRC.com for more information.
- **Precision Machining Opportunity** – Missouri-based company seeking metal stamping and 4-side machining service provider with progressive die expertise. Supplier will be responsible for cutting metal to specific “blank” shapes, punching holes and other features using progressive dies and machines with 30-600 ton capability and then bending finished products to meet complex geometry specifications. Supplier will be responsible for First Article Inspection (FAI) and will need to enter various NDAs before gaining access to engineering drawings. Material used behaves similarly to galvanized cold-rolled steel, copper and stainless steel. Company has a portfolio of products they are interested in working with supplier to produce, with quantities ranging from 1,000/year for some parts to more than 2,000,000/year for others. Contact SupplierScouting@NEPIRC.com for more information.



NEPIRC | 75 Young St., Hanover Township, PA 18706-1471

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