

# NEPIRC NEWS

northeastern pennsylvania industrial resource center

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## National News



### **Investing in America, Investing in Americans Workforce Development Programs at the U.S. Department of Commerce**

On May 14, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo announced a Department Administrative Order (DAO) to establish a Department of Commerce workforce policy agenda focused on preparing workers with the education and skills necessary to accelerate the development and deployment of critical and emerging technologies, which are essential to U.S. economic competitiveness and national security. The DAO frames a Commerce approach to workforce investments that is employer-led, worker-centric and focused on equity. Guided by its overarching mission to create the conditions for economic growth and opportunity for all communities, the U.S. Department of Commerce supports policies that expand, create and coordinate industrial and innovation clusters to advance U.S. competitiveness in tandem with a modern workforce development strategy. In short, the Department sees economic development and workforce development as inextricably linked.

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## State News

### State Celebrates Winners of Statewide *What's So Cool About Manufacturing* Student Video Contest

Pennsylvania's 2024 *What's So Cool About Manufacturing* student video contest culminated with teams from Broughal Middle School (Northampton County), Greater Johnstown High School (Cambria County) and Bangor Area Middle School (Northampton County) walking away with statewide awards for their videos featuring [Weaver Popcorn](#), [JWF Industries](#) and [Martin Guitar](#), respectively. The statewide awards were announced in Harrisburg on May 15. These outstanding videos can be viewed on the Best of PA page of [WhatsSoCool.org](#).

Pennsylvania's [What's So Cool About Manufacturing](#) initiative, which covers more than half of the Commonwealth's school districts and generated 155 student videos about manufacturing in 2024, is part of a comprehensive array of talent pipeline efforts aimed at increasing future worker interest in manufacturing careers. The entire compilation of 2024 contest videos can be seen by clicking the button below.

In addition to maintaining its premier talent pipeline program – the [Manufacturing Ambassador Dream Team](#) – NEPIRC supports the *What's So Cool About Manufacturing* programs within the Central Susquehanna and Northern Tier regions.

Watch  
Videos

## Regional News

### Duvall Leatherwork Featured in Times Leader's Manufacturing Success Stories Spotlight Series for the Month of May

[Duvall Leatherwork](#), with storefronts in Kingston and Clarks Summit and a manufacturing facility in Hanover Twp., was recently featured in the Times Leader's Manufacturing Success Story Spotlight Series. Duvall Leatherwork was established in 2005 and offers a treasure trove of belts, wallets, purses and just about every other leather product one might desire. Duvall Leatherwork is a business that designs, creates and sells its products, and these processes are driven by its founder Nick Duvall. Nick has his hands in all of his company's operations, from writing blog posts to brainstorming the names of new products.

The leather used by Duvall Leatherwork comes from tanneries in the United States, South America and Europe, and the products themselves are as varied as the places they originate. It's worth mentioning that the leather industry is closely tied to the meat industry. According to Nick, if these hides were not used by leather manufacturers, they would go to waste. When the raw leather arrives from the tannery, it's already prepared to be cut into the shapes and sizes that match the product that needs to be created. The leather comes according to the size of the cow, and different hides are used for different forms of leather. The process of finding the right leather is one of Nick's initial and most critical concerns. An issue with the leather that arrives from the tannery can have a negative impact on the products that they will eventually become. "Our leather goods are renowned for their exceptional craftsmanship and durability," said Nick. "We put a tremendous amount of effort into sourcing the finest leathers, then transforming that leather into fine products that can only be found in an artisan-based business."

## EAM-Mosca Cuts Ribbon on Hazle Twp. Expansion

[EAM-Mosca Corporation](#) recently cut the ribbon on its new 180,000-square-foot facility, which is part of the company's \$20 million plan to expand its Hazle Township campus. Company President and CEO Christian Wiethuechter, EAM-Mosca employees, and several local leaders attended the event, including state Sen. David Argall, state Rep. Dane Watro, President and CEO of Greater Hazleton CAN DO Joseph Lettiere and Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Secretary Rick Siger. The new building hosts offices, a customer showroom and a warehouse.

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## The Latest from NEPIRC



## Remake Learning Days Come to NEPIRC!

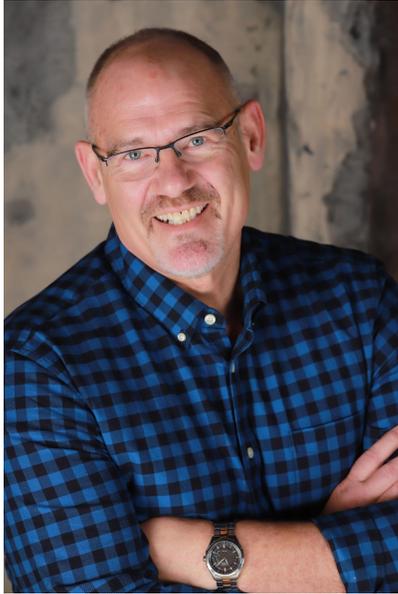
NEPIRC was honored to participate in [Remake Learning Days](#) (RLD) on Friday, May 17! RLD is an international learning festival and hands-on learning experience for students. NEPIRC's Remake Learning Day event was titled: *Abracadabra! The Magic Behind 3D Scanning and Printing* and featured a demonstration of 3D scanning and printing of an Xbox controller. Ten Hanover Area middle school-aged students attended the event. The students enjoyed learning about PA Representative Alec Ryncavage's path leading him into his political career. Students also heard from Dream Team Ambassador, Zachary Mulhern from [Ashley Machine & Tool Co.](#), who talked about his manufacturing career

journey and experiences. Zach also touched on skills that Ashley Machine & Tool looks for when interviewing candidates for positions, highlighting the importance of soft skills. The students finished the morning by playing an interactive game featuring PA-made products and explored NEPIRC's Manufacturing Showcase. It was a great learning experience for everyone involved, and NEPIRC looks forward to participating next year!



## Sponsor NEPIRC's 2024 Manufacturing Day (MFG DAY) Best Practices Summit & Expo

81 companies have already signed up to sponsor and exhibit at NEPIRC's 2024 Manufacturing Day (MFG DAY) Best Practices Summit & Expo on October 4 at the Mohegan Pennsylvania Casino & Convention Center! MFG DAY celebrates the many contributions of the manufacturers in northeastern, northern and north central Pennsylvania. It's a day filled with networking, breakout sessions and panel discussions, learning about the great products made in our region and enjoying product and robotic demos. If you'd like to jump on the bandwagon and be a MFG DAY sponsor/exhibitor, please email [Chelsey@NEPIRC.com](mailto:Chelsey@NEPIRC.com) or [CLICK HERE](#). Manufacturers AND non-manufacturers both benefit from sponsoring and exhibiting at MFG DAY!



This year's keynote speaker is Chris Czarnik, author, coach, trainer, and subject matter expert on talent recruiting, engagement and retention in today's manufacturing environment. 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.

Never attended MFG DAY and not sure what to expect? Check out the photo gallery from NEPIRC's 2023 event by [CLICKING HERE](#).

## Welcome to the Team, Kira

In April, NEPIRC welcomed Kira Loomis to the team! Kira serves as the Marketing and Events Assistant who is responsible for supporting the coordination and execution efforts for NEPIRC's events and assisting with NEPIRC's social media, public relations, graphic design, branding and overall marketing strategy.

Kira holds a Bachelor of Science in media and journalism, with an emphasis in public relations from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania.

While in school, she interned with Bloomsburg University's Marketing and Communications Office where she demonstrated dedication and ability to drive success in media and marketing.



## Reserve Your Plant Tour Headsets Today

NEPIRC announced last month that its latest resource, [\*From Start to Finish: NEPIRC's Guide to Impactful Plant Tours\*](#), is now available for download.

In addition to this brief checklist guide that helps manufacturers ensure all bases are covered when it comes to planning, coordinating and executing plant tours, manufacturers can now reserve FREE plant tour headsets from NEPIRC.

NEPIRC provides OSHA-approved tour headsets, including two speaker sets and 12 guest sets, free of charge. Email [HeadsetRequest@NEPIRC.com](mailto:HeadsetRequest@NEPIRC.com) to reserve yours today. Also, don't forget to [CLICK HERE](#) to download NEPIRC's plant tour checklist guide.

Plant tours are important to your firm and do the opportunity to identify areas of improvement. However, it's not just the amount of time spent in the plant, but the quality of the experience that matters. A well-planned and executed plant tour can provide your company with a great opportunity to shine.

Plant tours should be well-organized and executed in ways that maximize the value of the experience. To ensure a successful plant tour, it can help to follow these steps:

1. Plan the tour in advance. This includes identifying the key areas to visit and the people who will be providing the tour.

2. Prepare the plant. This includes ensuring that all the bases are covered and that the tour is presented in a professional and organized manner.

3. Execute the tour. This includes providing a clear and concise overview of the plant and its operations.

4. Follow up. This includes providing a summary of the tour and any feedback received.

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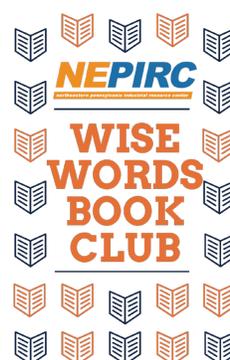
**DOWNLOAD NOW >>**



## Manufacturer of the Month: Crystal Windows & Door Systems

June's Manufacturer of the Month is [Crystal Windows & Door Systems](http://www.crystalwindows.com) – a high-quality manufacturer of aluminum windows and doors located in Dalton, PA. Established in 1990, Crystal Windows & Door Systems has become one of the top 25 manufacturing window companies in North America. Throughout the years, the company has built successful relationships by partnering with professional architects, designers, developers and government officials to design high-quality window management solutions. Crystal Windows & Door Systems employs more than 800 employees at its main factory, regional branches, subsidiaries and affiliate firms. Thank you to Crystal Windows & Door Systems for providing careers with purpose and such great products!

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



Don't forget, NEPIRC is now partnered with [TriMech](#), the leading provider of 3D CAD, analysis, rapid prototyping and design automation solutions, to offer TriMech's 100+ public and private formal training courses. TriMech also provides assistance with advanced manufacturing processes, encompassing component production through additive manufacturing and the sale and support of 3D printing machines of all sizes.

TriMech's training portfolio that is now available through NEPIRC covers SOLIDWORKS (CAD, Simulation, Electrical, PDM, MBD, Composer, Visualize, Draftsight, etc.) DriveWorks, Mastercam, Simulia, Abaqus, CATIA V5, ENOVIA, 3DEXperience Platform, Flexsim Software Products and Stratasys. [CLICK HERE](#) to view all programs or email [Marla@NEPIRC.com](mailto:Marla@NEPIRC.com) for more information.

TriMech Training  
Portfolio

Sign Up  
Now

Do you love to read? Do you enjoy reading non-fiction? Do you like to read books that help you become a stronger, more impactful professional or leader? Do you enjoy networking with other professionals? If you answered "yes" to at least one of these questions, then you need to consider joining NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club! Here's the 411:

1. NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club meets on the fourth Thursday of the month from noon to 1 p.m.
2. The Book Club meets virtually via MS Teams, making it super easy and convenient to join!
3. The meetings always end on time.
4. It's no problem if you don't finish the book by the time we meet.
5. You can join with a friend or colleague.

Interested in signing up? Email [Chelsey@NEPIRC.com](mailto:Chelsey@NEPIRC.com) or click below.

## Upcoming Training Programs

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

- Wednesdays, July 10 to August 28 , 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., virtually via MS Teams

### Fall Protection, taught by Brian Matyjevich:

- Wednesday, July 17, 8 a.m. to noon, at the TekRidge Center in Jessup

### OSHA 10, taught by Brian Matyjevich:

- Wednesday, July 24, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Friday, July 26, 8 a.m. to noon; virtually via MS Teams

### Two-Hour Leadership Development Essentials, taught by Leo Gilroy:

- Thursday, August 1, 8:30 to 10:30 a.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:

- **Injection-Molded Part for Speech Therapy Device** – South Carolina company seeking supplier of more than 50 molded parts used in speech therapy devices. Most molds are available. Material is TPU, TPE, ABS and PP that is colored using FDA-grade colorant. The production does not require clean room manufacturing. More than 50 molds would be provided to the supplier who would then be responsible for sourcing materials and colorant. Products are part of the TalkTool collection and can be seen at

TalkTools.com. Annual contract of \$100K - \$150K from supplier is budgeted.

- **Aluminum Extrusion** – Washington state company seeking a specific aluminum extrusion. Item is currently made by Kaiser Aluminum (Part #1510-407) made to profile BAC1510-407. Material is AMS QQ-A-200/3A – Aluminum 2024 T3511 AMS QQ-A-200/11A – Aluminum 7075 T6511. Buyer usually purchases 5,000 feet of each alloy at a time. Drawings are available upon request.
- **Die Cast Aluminum Housing for Gas Regulator** – West Virginia manufacturer searching for supplier of die cast body of a gas regulator. Material needs to have extremely low porosity level in order to control the pressure of the natural gas. This is a high-pressure aluminum die casting on a 500-ton to 900-ton machine. Material currently used is A380 and A381. Supplier must be ISO 9001:2015 certified. Current demand is 130,000 units annually at desired price of \$3/unit.



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