



May 2025 | Volume 55

**Manufacturing Day
2025**

Training & Events

**Energy &
Manufacturing
Grant Program**

**Manufacturing
Ambassador Dream
Team**

National News



Building the Quantum Technology Supply Chain of the Future

Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC, Illinois MEP) President David Boulay writes in IndustryWeek about how to develop a robust quantum technologies supply chain. He reached out to the MEP-Assisted Technology and Technical Resource (MATTR) service to learn about the capabilities needed to create a supply chain for the required components and products.

[Read
Article](#)

Connecting Smaller Manufacturers With Cutting-Edge Technology Solutions

The MEP National Network created the National Advanced Tech Team to connect manufacturers with access to cutting-edge technology, such as specialized equipment, world-class research facilities and technical expertise. Their initial help is often at low or no cost. Polaris MEP (Rhode Island MEP) Director Matt Watson explains in this Advanced Manufacturing article how the team is in the position to empower small and medium-sized manufacturers in ways that, until recently, were mostly privy to large manufacturers.

[Learn More](#)

State News

Bayer Unveils \$44 Million Investment in Myerstown, PA Manufacturing Facility, Renewing Commitment to U.S. Innovation, Health and Community

On April 16, Bayer proudly celebrated the grand opening of its new 70,000 square foot expansion at its Myerstown, PA, (near Hershey) facility, following a \$44 million investment in 2022. This state-of-the-art facility is a testament to Bayer's commitment to providing trusted self-care solutions to consumers across North America while advancing meaningful engagement with the local community.

Bayer's Myerstown site has a rich history dating back over 75 years, and it has now grown to become the largest manufacturing site in Bayer's Consumer Health network globally, producing brands like Bayer® Aspirin, Aleve®, Claritin®, One A Day®, Alka-Seltzer Plus®, Midol® and more. Bayer's Myerstown facility is set to advance its production capabilities through the integration of modernized technology and streamlined processes, strengthening its ability to reliably deliver science-driven self-care solutions. The new space is designed to move products more efficiently with eight new product packaging lines and automated systems in logistics.

[Continue Reading](#)

Governor Shapiro Joins the Hershey Company to Open New Reese Chocolate Processing Facility

On April 17, Governor Josh Shapiro joined Michele Buck, President and CEO of The Hershey Company, along with elected leaders, to open the new state-of-the-art Reese Chocolate Processing (RCP) facility—Hershey's first fully-integrated digital manufacturing plant and the first new manufacturing facility built at its headquarters in Dauphin County in over three decades. The Governor highlighted how this expansion, supported by his Administration's permitting reforms and economic development strategy, is a major win for Pennsylvania's workforce, communities and economy.

The new 250,000-square-foot chocolate processing facility sits on a 55-acre site—large enough to hold five NFL football fields—between the Hershey Technical Center and the existing Reese's plant, located at 1000 Reese Avenue. It will produce the chocolate used in a variety of beloved brands, including Reese's, KitKat, Symphony and Special Dark.

The facility is part of Hershey's broader \$1 billion investment strategy, which includes the addition of 13 new production lines and upgrades to 11 existing lines across North American facilities. It will support more than 125 new jobs and build on

Hershey's long-standing legacy as a major employer in Pennsylvania, where the company already supports over 6,000 jobs.

[Read More](#)

Regional News

Atlas Machining & Welding Moving Into Former Hood Packaging Building in Hazleton

Atlas Machining & Welding has announced its move into the former Hood Packaging facility on Maplewood Drive in Hazleton. Founded in 1981 to provide emergency repair and maintenance services for the eastern Pennsylvania cement industry, the company has evolved into a full-service, globally-recognized custom manufacturer. Atlas provides complex machining, intricate fabrication and unique mechanical build and repair services across a broad spectrum of industries. Atlas is headquartered in Northampton, PA.

[Discover Atlas Machining & Welding](#)

Revolutionizing Manufacturing with Innovation and AI in Northeastern Pennsylvania

AI and innovation are transforming manufacturing and workforce opportunities here in northeastern Pennsylvania. You can learn more about these advancements by watching this clip of PBS' Keystone Edition featuring Mike McHale, CEO of Production Systems Automation (PSA); Ken Okrepkie, Regional Manager, Pocono Northeast Region, Ben Franklin Technology Partners; and Shanie Mohamed, Economic Development Specialist, Greater Wyoming Valley Chamber of Commerce.

[Watch Now](#)

Available Real Estate for Manufacturers

Check out this month's real estate listings from [Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services!](#) Click the link next to each image for more information, including photos, specs and drawings. [Click here](#) to email Jim Cummings, VP of Marketing for Mericle, should you wish to inquire about one of the featured properties.



525 Research Drive, Pittston

147,000 SF

[Click here](#) to learn more about this property.

620 Oak Ridge Road,



Hazle Township

248,000 SF

[Click here](#) to learn more about this property.



300 Lasley Avenue, Wilkes-Barre

93,955 SF

[Click here](#) to learn more about this property.

The Latest from NEPIRC



NEPIRC
DREAM TEAM

WANTED: Ambassadors to Join NEPIRC's Dream Team!

If you know a manufacturing professional who is incredibly passionate about their career, the manufacturing industry and wants to encourage students to consider working in manufacturing, then we want them to become part of NEPIRC's Manufacturing Ambassador Dream Team!

The Dream Team program was created in 2023 to increase high school and college student awareness of outstanding careers available within Pennsylvania's advanced manufacturing field. Dream Team Ambassadors are energetic, enthusiastic, and outgoing manufacturing associates eager to talk about their career journeys through in-school presentations, Career Day booths and Career Fair attendance. Scheduling a Dream Team engagement is a great way for faculty to incorporate career exploration into the school curriculum while also enhancing the image of manufacturing and stimulating student interaction.

if you're interested in becoming an Ambassador, please email Kira@NEPIRC.com to learn more or [click here](#) to visit NEPIRC's Manufacturing Ambassador webpage.

Presenting Sponsor of MFG DAY 2025

NEPIRC is excited to announce that [InnoTek Computer Consulting](#) is the Presenting Sponsor for this year's Manufacturing Day (MFG DAY) Best Practices Summit & Expo happening Friday, October 3 at Mohegan Pennsylvania in Wilkes-Barre!

Located in Bloomsburg and Hazleton, PA, InnoTek is an IT and a cybersecurity firm empowering businesses with high-quality technology services for more efficient, effective and profitable operations.

NEPIRC is grateful for InnoTek's support of MFG DAY 2025, and we look forward to collaborating with them on this year's event.



The Manufacturing Millennial Selected as MFG DAY Keynote Speaker

Jake Hall, known as the "Manufacturing Millennial," was recently named keynote speaker for MFG DAY 2025.

Considered one of the loudest voices in the industry and awarded by LinkedIn as the Top Voice in Robotics, Automation and Manufacturing, Hall is helping companies future-proof their businesses with technology and attract the workforce of tomorrow.

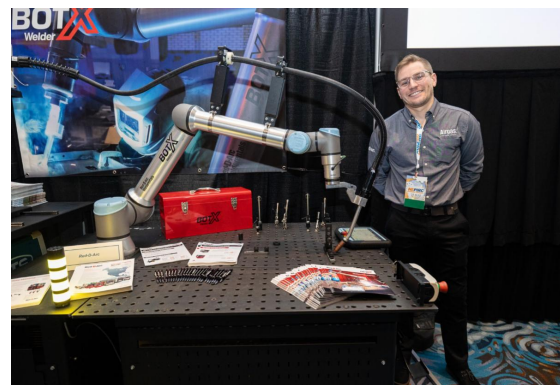
In addition to Hall's keynote address, "The Future of Manufacturing: Technology and Workforce," he will host a breakout session on the power of social media that will teach manufacturers how to leverage it for workforce attraction.

[Click here](#) to learn more about The Manufacturing Millennial and MFG DAY.

Get Your Business in Front of Hundreds; Become a MFG DAY Sponsor

64 companies have already made the decision to sponsor MFG DAY, and all top-tier sponsorship packages are now **SOLD OUT!**

If your company has yet to lock in sponsorship, what are you waiting for? Sponsorship packages are available to meet all price points, and each package includes a 10x10 exhibitor space, along



with much more.

This year's event will heavily focus on advanced manufacturing technology, robotics and AI, so if your company falls into one of these categories, then you definitely need to be at MFG DAY.

Exhibitor space sold out last year, so don't wait if you're interested!

[Click here](#) for more information and to view sponsorship packages.

Questions? Email
Chelsey@NEPIRC.com.



You're Invited: Pennsylvania's Energy & Economic Opportunity Discussion

Join [Penn's Northeast](#), the [Pennsylvania State Chamber of Business and Industry](#) and [Lackawanna College](#) for an engaging conversation about how the Commonwealth can capitalize on energy opportunities under the new Administration in Washington, D.C. Congressman Rob Bresnahan will be one of the featured panelists.

This event will take place Friday, May 2, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Lackawanna College. It is free to attend but space is limited, so registration is required. Please RSVP to Rachel@PennsNortheast.com.

Manufacturer of the Month



Manufacturer of the Month: Greiner Packaging

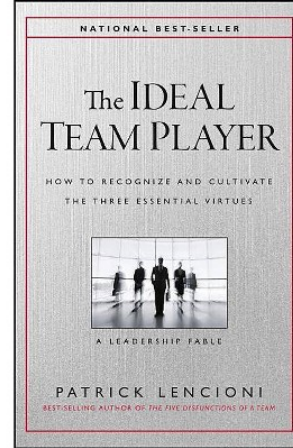
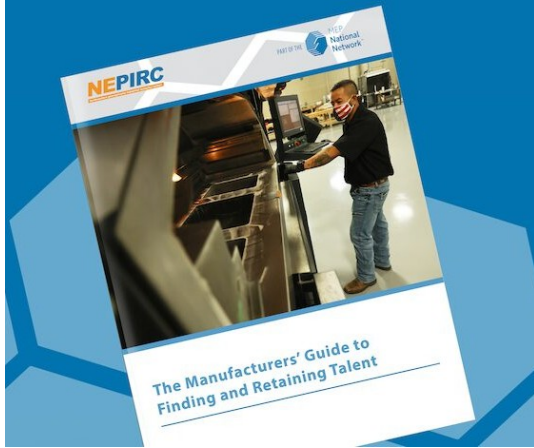
Located in Pittston, PA, Greiner Packaging has established itself as a leading manufacturer known for its innovative and sustainable plastic packaging solutions. The company specializes in creating customized packaging that meets the diverse needs of various industries, including food and non-food segments, ranging from beverages and baby food to detergents.

Most packaging in the food and non-food segments is typically only used once before it is disposed of in the recycling bin. At Greiner, however, the company also produces plastic packaging that can be reused in many cases and thus supports its sustainability mission in a very targeted way. With a broad range of technologies, Greiner offers diverse possibilities for its customers and is incredibly committed to quality.

Pictured above to the right, you will notice one of Greiner's standout products, the sealing lid, which has been an integral part of the Greiner Packaging product portfolio for over 20 years.

Brands like siggi's® Yogurt, Friendly Farms® Sour Cream and General Mills® Cheerios and Lucky Charms, along with many others, all entrust their sustainable plastic packaging needs to Greiner. To learn more about Greiner Packaging, visit its website by [clicking here](#).

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



Download Now: The Manufacturers' Guide to Finding and Retaining Talent

It's no secret that finding and retaining talent is a key issue for manufacturers. How can we attract a younger workforce? How can we retain our talent? How can we encourage new hires to return to work after their first day? These questions and more are plaguing today's manufacturers.

To help provide answers, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP), published *The Manufacturers' Guide to Finding and Retaining Talent*. NEPIRC encourages manufacturers to download this resource, as it will provide answers to your most pressing workforce attraction and retention questions.

[Download Guide](#)

Learn How to Recognize & Cultivate Essential Virtues of Team Players

This month, NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club is reading [The Ideal Team Player](#) by Patrick Lencioni.

Lencioni tells the story of Jeff Shanley, a leader desperate to save his uncle's company by restoring its cultural commitment to teamwork. Jeff must crack the code on the virtues that real team players possess, and then build a culture of hiring and development around those virtues. Beyond the fable, Lencioni presents a practical framework and actionable tools for identifying, hiring and developing ideal team players. Whether you're a leader trying to create a culture around teamwork, a staffing professional looking to hire real team players or a team player wanting to improve yourself, this book will prove to be as useful as it is compelling.

NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club will meet on Thursday, May 29 from noon to 1 p.m. via MS Teams. Click the button below to learn more about this book and sign up.

[Join the Club!](#)

Upcoming Training Program; Register Today

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

- Wednesday, May 14 and Thursday, May 15, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., virtually via MS Teams

8-week Leadership Development Essentials, taught by Leo Gilroy:

- Wednesdays, July 9 to August 27, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., virtually via MS Teams

[Learn More & Register](#)

Companies in Need of Suppliers

NEPIRC is relaying these potential new business opportunities to manufacturers across our region. To learn more, email Randall Yash, Director of Technology, at Randy@NEPIRC.com.

- **Steel Floor Tiles** - Virginia-based company is seeking a manufacturer of steel floor tiles reinforced with angle or square tubing around edges and across the bottom with powder coating or epoxy painting to the surface. The size of the floor tile is 24in x 24 inches with a surface tolerance of +/- 0.063" in all directions. Customer is looking for 300 tiles annually with potential for more.
- **Stainless Steel Binding Barrel** - Louisiana company looking for manufacturer to melt, cast, form, heat treat and surface finish stainless steel binding barrels using 316 Stainless Steel. This is a one time purchase of 300-400 items.
- **Urethane Casted Components** - Virginia-based company seeking cast urethane components to be used in product manufacturing. Product specifications and details are tied behind an NDA, which will need to be signed prior to technical drawings being shared. The estimated business volume is 150-200 of each item (1500-2000 total) annually.



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