

NEPIRC NEWS

northeastern pennsylvania industrial resource center

Your Source for Monthly Manufacturing News

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Manufacturing News From Our Nation, State and Region

National News

Cantwell, Bipartisan Group of Senators Tell Appropriators: America's Competitive Future Depends on Fully Funding CHIPS and Science Act

"CHIPS and Science marks a significant bipartisan commitment to domestic manufacturing, regional innovation and strong supply chains," reads a bipartisan letter led by U.S. Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), Chair of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. The senators highlighted the critical priorities in the bipartisan bill, including: National Institute of Standards and Technology Manufacturing

Extension Partnership (MEP) and Manufacturing USA institutes, which will build on MEP's 2021 track record of creating and retaining 125,746 U.S. manufacturing jobs and support SMMs with cybersecurity, worker training, supply chain resiliency and technology adoption.



[CLICK HERE](#) to read more about this letter, which addresses why Congress must fully fund the CHIPS and Science Act in the Fiscal Year 2023 Appropriations Bill to ensure U.S. global economic and technological leadership.

Is Legacy Equipment Slowing You Down?

In today's competitive manufacturing

environment, maintaining production efficiency is critical. One area often overlooked is the amount of time being spent by employees monitoring legacy equipment and machines that do not have the ability to capture data or report downtime. The solution lies with remote machine monitoring devices.



[CLICK HERE](#) to read more.

State News

#MadeInPAMondays Campaign Features Manufacturers from Every County

Manufacturers from all 67 Pennsylvania counties have been featured since May 2021 in the state's #MadeInPAMondays social media campaign.

The campaign features a different Pennsylvania manufacturer or maker every Monday in various industries, including agriculture, chemical, electronics and machinery. The campaign can be found on the state treasurer's Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts.



[CLICK HERE](#) to read more and see which manufacturers have been featured in the campaign.

Regional News

Crop One to Open Vertical Indoor Farming Facility, Bring New Jobs to Northeast Pennsylvania

Earlier this month, Governor Tom Wolf announced that [Crop One](#), an industry-leader in technology-driven indoor vertical farming, is opening a vertical farm in Hazle Township, Luzerne County, bringing 40 new full-time managerial and farm production jobs to the region.



Crop One has negotiated a lease with PNK group to operate a commercial scale vertical indoor farming facility at 405 Stony Creek Road in Hazle Township. The 316,000-square-foot space will primarily grow romaine lettuce and spring mix, serving retailers, food service providers and other partners located within close proximity to the facility, ensuring produce is packaged and on store shelves within 24 hours. This project is Crop One's third operation in the United States.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more about Crop One's Luzerne County location and its commitment to invest \$105 million into its new facility.

Fresh n Lean, Wholesome Food Manufacturer, Purchases Preferred Meals Facility in Moosic

California-based wholesome meal and food delivery manufacturer, Fresh N Lean, recently purchased the Preferred Meals facility located in Moosic, Lackawanna



County. Fresh N Lean is committed to creating healthier families by crafting meal plans and recipes using only wholesome, fresh and non-GMO ingredients. The company prepares each of its dishes and then delivers them to customers' doors to ensure healthy diets stay on track. Fresh N Lean is currently looking to fill over 20 positions at its Moosic location.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about the company and view its available jobs.

If your company has great news you'd like us to share with our manufacturing community, please contact Chelsey Coslett, NEPIRC's Manager of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement, at Chelsey@NEPIRC.com.

NEPIRC News

Happy Holidays from NEPIRC!

From all of us at NEPIRC, we wish you and yours a very happy holiday season and peace and joy in the new year!



NEPIRC's 8-Week Leadership Development Essentials Class Graduates 15

Last month, NEPIRC's fall 8-Week Leadership Development

Essentials program finished with 15 individuals receiving their certificates of completion. This class was a spirited and fun group that loved their coffee and the delicious breakfast pastries awaiting them each week throughout the course.



Taught by Leo Gilroy, NEPIRC's Director of Strategy & Innovation, the class covered a myriad of leadership topics like the leadership skills and styles required to lead successful teams, effective communication methods, conflict resolution, motivation, change management, performance coaching, developing thriving work cultures, workforce diversity, sexual harassment and hostile work environments. The group was also able to apply the skills learned through simulations like the marshmallow and the sub-arctic survival challenges.

Companies represented in this fall's program included [InterMetro Industries](#), [Sordoni Construction Services](#), [Forbo Flooring Systems](#), [Quietflex Manufacturing](#), [Ralmark Company](#), [Romark Logistics](#), [SIMONA AMERICA Group](#) and [United Gilsonite Laboratories](#). Congratulations to all participants! NEPIRC wishes each of you successful leadership journeys.

DYK? NEPIRC Offers No-Cost Environmental Health and Safety Gemba Walks for Manufacturers

The safety of all manufacturers is critically important to NEPIRC, which is why we offer environmental health and safety (EHS) Gemba walks free of charge to manufacturers within NEPIRC's 11-county footprint. Performed by an Authorized OSHA Outreach Trainer, the Gemba walk observes walking and working surfaces, exit routes, emergency action plans, fire prevention and protection plans, electric and lighting, PPE, potential chemical hazards, machine guarding, material handling, fall protection and more.



NEPIRC works with the manufacturer's safety team or EHS professional to ensure all areas of concern are observed and addressed. Once the walk through is complete, an EHS report is compiled that lists suggestions for areas of improvement and recommendations.

To learn more about NEPIRC's EHS Gemba walk, please contact Marla Hager, Director of Client Development, at Marla@NEPIRC.com.

Ray Kryeski and Brian Matyjevich Teach Successful ISO 9001:2015 Internal Auditor Course

Instructed by Brian Matyjevich, NEPIRC's Lean Enterprise Consultant, and Ray Kryeski, NEPIRC's Mechanical Engineer, NEPIRC's fall ISO 9001:2015

Internal Auditor program participants learned the proper conduct and roles of an auditor, the content and structure of a documented quality system and how to conduct an internal audit using effective interview skills. The class was held both in person and virtually.

Manufacturers represented in the fall class included [Weiler Abrasives](#), [Multi-Plastics Extrusions, Inc.](#), [Specialty Roller & Machine, Air Products](#) and [Koehler Bright Star](#).

The entire NEPIRC team wishes all participants the best with implementing the ISO 9001:2015 QMS standard and conducting internal audits at their respective companies.



Take Advantage of NEPIRC's Winter Training Opportunities

Don't dread the cold weather; instead, use winter as a time to work on your professional development!

Check out NEPIRC's upcoming training lineup, which includes 8-Week Leadership Development, OSHA 10, Lean Principles, Creative Problem Solving, Six Sigma Yellow and Green Belt, ISO 9001:2015, SolidWorks Essentials and Project Management.



[CLICK HERE](#) for dates, times, course descriptions and to register.

Winter 2023 Dates for NEPIRC's Leadership Development Seminar

Facilitated by Leo Gilroy, Director of Strategy & Innovation, this two-hour session starts individuals on their journey to become stronger, more impactful leaders. While joining other managers and supervisors to discuss workplace challenges, attendees will explore topics that include self-awareness, power & authority, risk & failure and leadership style. Attendees usually go on to participate in NEPIRC's eight-week Leadership Development Essentials Certification course upon completion of this session.



Choose from the dates below:

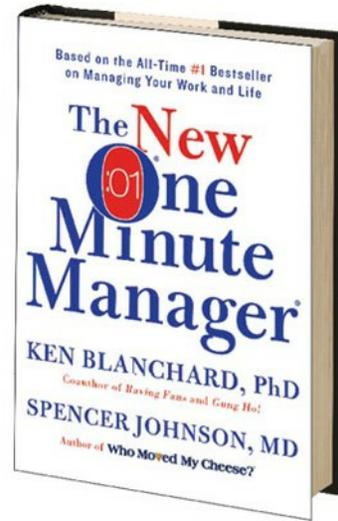
- Tuesday, January 31st, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the [TekRidge Center](#) in Jessup
- Wednesday, February 1st, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the [Pocono Mountain Public Library](#) in Tobyhanna
- Tuesday, February 21st, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at NEPIRC's Towanda office

Total investment: Free for manufacturers / \$49.00 for non-manufacturers. [CLICK HERE](#) to register.

The New One Minute Manager - the Next NEPIRC Wise Words Book Club Read

Are you an avid reader looking to connect with other manufacturing leaders? Consider joining NEPIRC's Wise Words Book Club! The Club's next meeting is Thursday, January 5th from noon to 1:00 p.m. via MS Teams. The group will discuss [The New One Minute Manager](#) by Ken Blanchard, Ph.D., and Spencer Johnson, MD. It's a short, easy read that's perfect for the holiday season!

To learn more, email Chelsey Coslett, NEPIRC's Manager of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement, at Chelsey@NEPIRC.com, or you can [CLICK HERE](#) to register for the next meeting.



#GiveLocalSomeLove this Holiday Season!

When you shop and buy small, you support a dream – and your community. For every \$100 spent at a small business, \$48 goes back into our local economy. If that same \$100 is spent at a big box store or national retailer, only \$14 makes it back to our local economy.

This holiday season, shop and buy small, keep your money local and watch it make a real difference. It won't just put a smile on your face and brighten the day of the people working at the small business – it'll empower our community and everyone living within it. Together, let's #GiveLocalSomeLove.

What a wonderful day

to shop small in PA.

Keep your money here and watch it make a difference.
Purchase with purpose this holiday season.

 **GIVE LOCAL
SOME LOVE**

NEPIRC's Manufacturing Jobs Board

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JOB BOARD **Local Manufacturing** **Job Listings** **Start your NEW Career** **in Manufacturing Today!**

Land Your Next Employee with NEPIRC's Manufacturing Jobs Board!

If your company is currently hiring, and you're not already utilizing NEPIRC's Manufacturing Jobs Board, then what are you waiting for? Email Chelsey Coslett, NEPIRC's Manager of Marketing & Stakeholder Engagement, at Chelsey@NEPIRC.com for more information. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the Manufacturing Jobs Board.

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