

MEP National Network: Meeting the Challenge

The MEP National Network is a public-private partnership delivering comprehensive, proven solutions to U.S. manufacturers, fueling growth and advancing U.S. manufacturing. The urgent need for personal protective equipment (PPE), medical equipment and supplies requires agility and innovation from manufacturers.

At the same time, sharp focus is now on the fragility of many supply chains as shrinking inventories have resulted from delayed shipments of raw materials and components. With Centers in each state and Puerto Rico, the MEP National Network is swiftly and demonstrably addressing the current challenges facing U.S. manufacturers.

Connecting Resources to Needs

The MEP National Network works with industry organizations, federal, state and local governments and manufacturers to share critical information and connect resources to address urgent needs including:

- Supply chain mapping for critical PPE needs.
- Matching resources to needs in the medical and food supply chains.
- Connecting with state government partners and agencies to create supply chain portals.
- Determining current and potential critical needs and linking these with manufacturers that can meet them.
- Identifying alternative materials, specifications and resources for manufacturers to meet critical needs.
- Helping train workforce and transition workers.
- Connecting manufacturers to national needs identified by federal agencies such as the Department of Defense, Federal Emergency Management Agency and Food and Drug Administration and connecting them to financial resources at the Small Business Administration.

Working Directly with State Governments

MEP Centers help link state government policies and programs to the manufacturers in their states by:

- Participating in emergency task forces to address challenges and issues.
- Serving as the connection between the manufacturing industry and state procurement efforts.
- Managing supply chain portals linking manufacturers to demand and organizing them to deploy as needs change at the state level.
- Connecting manufacturers with state resources.

Addressing Specific Issues with Manufacturing PPE, Medical Supplies and Medical Devices

The MEP National Network is helping manufacturers meet the country's urgent needs for PPE and medical devices by:

- Guiding manufacturers to answers, solutions and information about testing protocols, quality testing and required certifications.
- Addressing issues of potential legal liabilities arising from the production of:
 - » PPE including examination gloves, face shields, goggles/masks, gowns, N95 respirators, powered air purifying respirators and surgical face masks.
 - » Medical supplies including catheters, flow-splitters for oxygen supply, nasal cannulas, oxygen masks, Thorpe tube flowmeters and Venturi masks.
 - » Medical devices including beds, cool misters, infusion pumps, laryngoscopes, negative pressure rooms, non-contact thermometers, oxygen concentrators, pulse oximeters and ventilator machines.

Maintaining Base Operations and Serving All Manufacturers

The MEP National Network continues to fulfill its mission to strengthen and empower U.S. manufacturers in order to maintain the health of the U.S. manufacturing base as it faces an extraordinary emergency that will have long-lasting effects. MEP Centers are:

- Working with companies needing access to capital through loans, lines of credit and cash.
- Helping businesses protect their workforce and their workplace.
- Guiding manufacturers as they examine and stabilize their own supply chains.
- Helping companies engage customers in new and different ways.
- Examining ways manufacturers can use technologies to improve productivity.
- Protecting manufacturers against cybersecurity threats.

The MEP National Network

The MEP National Network is a unique public-private partnership that delivers comprehensive, proven solutions to U.S. manufacturers, fueling growth and advancing U.S. manufacturing.

Contact Us:



100 Bureau Drive
Gaithersburg, MD



(800) MEP-4MFG



mfg@nist.gov



PENNSYLVANIA MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP (PA MEP)

PA MEP serves small and medium-sized manufacturers (SMMs) in the state by enhancing their productivity and technological performance to create a positive and enduring economic impact. SMMs represent 12% of the total gross state product and Pennsylvania ranks fifth in the nation in manufacturing employment. Manufacturing businesses provide over 578,000 jobs in Pennsylvania, representing approximately one out of every 11 jobs. Managed by the Pennsylvania Industrial Resource Center Foundation, the PA MEP is a public-private partnership sponsored by NIST MEP. The PA MEP is also supported by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and by the manufacturers who receive essential training and consulting services to increase competitiveness and grow their companies. To serve the regional diversity of the state's manufacturing base, PA MEP manages MEP federal funding and program outcomes for a network of seven Industrial Resource Centers who are regional affiliates strategically focused on meeting the needs of their geographic region. Affiliates include: Catalyst Connection (southwest); DVIRC (southeast); IMC (central); MANTEC (south central); MRC (Lehigh Valley); NEPIRC (northeast); and NWIRC (northwest). The Center serves approximately 13,577 small and medium-sized manufacturers in the state.

COVID-19 RESPONSE DETAILS

- PA MEP is working on supplier sourcing for critical personal protective equipment and working with companies on the required waivers needed for manufacturing items in a critical supply chain.
- Online training for manufacturers has been developed to help companies address the operational, supply chain, financial and human resource issues that arise during this crisis.
- They have developed peer group networks and offer ongoing support as companies address real-time COVID 19 issues.
- They are developing a 13-week recovery engagement to help clients adjust, reopen and get back up to speed quickly.

For more information: <https://pamep.org/>

ECONOMIC IMPACT

MEP Center impacts are based on clients surveyed in FY2019



\$659.1 Million

Total Increased/Retained Sales



4,939

Total Increased/Retained Jobs



\$163.1 Million

New Client Investments



\$66.2 Million

Cost Savings

CONTACT US



One College Avenue
DIF 32
Williamsport, PA 17701



(570) 308-3312



www.pamep.org



rriegner@pamep.org
diane.lewis@mrcpa.org



PA MEP
PENNSYLVANIA MANUFACTURING
EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP