



RICH HOBBS

CEO Corner



A Blueprint for Manufacturing Success: Home Depot's Bold Strategy by Rich Hobbs

MRC's latest CEO Corner blog explores how Home Depot's innovative supply chain strategy offers manufacturers a powerful lesson: a single bold decision can solve multiple challenges, from tight margins to workforce demands. Discover how creative thinking can drive growth for your business. [Read CEO Corner](#)

Lean Excellence Journeys: Benchmarking Success with MRC

Join MRC for two transformative training experiences led by Mike Hoseus, co-author of *Toyota Culture: The Heart and Soul of the Toyota Way*.



The **Kentucky Lean Tour** (September 2025) offers a three-day deep dive into continuous improvement for Eastern Pennsylvania manufacturers, featuring site tours and networking with local peers. [Learn More](#)



FocusIn: Japan (March 2026) takes you to the heart of Lean philosophy with multi-day workshops and global manufacturing site visits. Elevate your operational excellence and build sustainable Lean cultures. [Learn More](#)

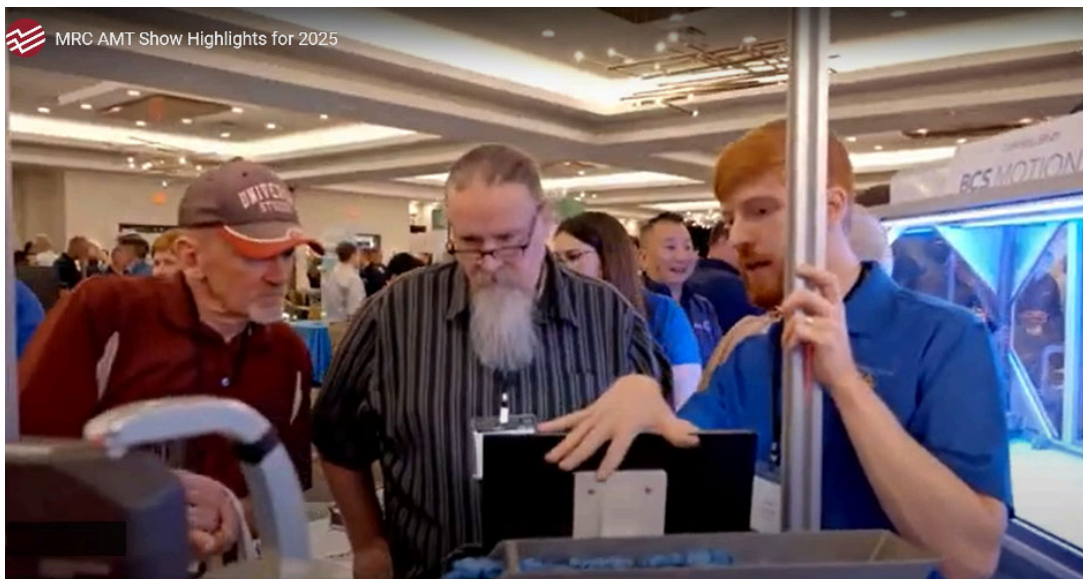
Building Boldly: How the PA Dream Team is Inspiring Tomorrow's Workforce by Amber Morris



The PA Dream Team, powered by MRC, is transforming how K-12 students see manufacturing careers—one inspiring story at a time. Amber Morris's latest blog dives into this dynamic program, where young professionals from Lehigh Valley manufacturers share hands-on activities and real-world experiences to spark student curiosity and break stereotypes. From troubleshooting circuits to building box guitars, the Dream Team is shaping the next generation of innovators while growing as leaders themselves. The PA Dream Team inspires students, breaks career stereotypes, and builds leadership in manufacturing. Learn how [Amber's Dream Team Blog](#).

*To learn more about how to join your local Dream Team or get involved as a **manufacturer**, contact Amber Morris today at amber.morris@mr CPA.org, or visit our website for [program details](#) and recruitment information. [Brochure](#)*

AMT Show Highlights Smart Manufacturing Shines at MRC's Packed Technology Show



MRC's AMT Show this past April brought together Eastern Pennsylvania's manufacturing community for an engaging showcase of innovation, networking, and cutting-edge technology. From hands-on demonstrations to inspiring industry insights, this event highlighted how MRC is empowering manufacturers to thrive in the Lehigh Valley and beyond! Check out our recap article and exclusive video clip to relive the highlights. [AMT Recap & Video](#)

AI for Small Manufacturers: Practical Paths, Real Value by Shawn Furman, Director, Automation and Manufacturing Technology Strategy



Think AI is just for tech giants? Think again! In Shawn Furman's latest blog, discover how small to mid-sized manufacturers can harness artificial intelligence to tackle real-world challenges like downtime, quality control, and energy costs without breaking the bank. From predictive maintenance to smarter forecasting, MRC is helping SMMs unlock AI's practical value with accessible tools and local support. Dive into this game-changing approach to boost your operations.

Discover how AI, automation, and smart manufacturing technologies can elevate your shop's efficiency and growth! Read [Shawn's AI Blog](#) to explore practical solutions for small manufacturers. As MRC's Director of Automation and Manufacturing Technology Strategy, Shawn is eager to connect with you on your shop floor for a complimentary consultation to tailor strategies that drive results. Contact Shawn to start exploring today! Email to shawn.furman@mrcpa.org or call (670) 737-2529.

Featured Success Story
American Polarizers, Inc.
Leader in Linear, Circular Polarizer Films

Based in Reading, Pennsylvania, American Polarizers, Inc. (API) is globally known for [polarization products](#) and solutions used across a broad range of industries, including research, aerospace, 3D imaging, medical, machine vision, photo, and more. The company offers a wide range of linear polarizers, circular polarizing films and filters, and waveplates and retarders, as well as custom optical- and pre-cut filters. Its expertise in polarization is backed by 60 years of experience, industry-leading product development, and excellent quality, as evidenced by ISO 9001:2015 and FAA-PMA certification.



"MRC has been a critical part of our Continuous Improvement journey."
– Jeff Snyder, President, American Polarizers, Inc.

[Read API Success Story](#)

**Could an SBA Loan Be the Growth Boost
Your Manufacturing Business Needs?**

By Diane Lewis
VP, Manufacturing Solutions & Center Operations



Struggling to find affordable financing to grow your manufacturing business? Diane's latest blog explores how SBA loans, backed by the U.S. Small Business Administration's Made in America Manufacturing Initiative, can unlock growth for small to mid-sized manufacturers. From upgrading equipment to expanding facilities or hiring staff, these flexible, low-cost loans open doors—especially for women-owned, minority-owned, and veteran-owned businesses. Learn how MRC can guide you to the funding you need to stay competitive. [Read SBA Blog](#)

Ready to fuel your shop's next big move? We can help you connect with the right people and resources to get started. Contact Diane at diane.lewis@mrcpa.org or (610) 554-5196 — we're here to point you *in the right direction*.

LATEST ADVANCEMENTS AT MRC

These skills contribute to a resilient, motivated, and cohesive team environment, which is essential for any organization aiming to thrive in today's ever-changing landscape.



NEW! Change Management:: Navigating Transitions with Confidence - As businesses evolve, guiding teams through change is crucial to minimizing disruptions and maintaining productivity. Effective change management ensures employees feel supported, helping them adapt smoothly to new policies, processes, or roles. Upcoming workshop in October 2025 For early registration - [View Now](#)



NEW! Advanced Automation for Manufacturers. Ready to transform your manufacturing operations with cutting-edge technology? MRC's Automation/Smart Manufacturing course equips small to mid-sized manufacturers with practical skills in robotics, IoT, SCADA systems, data analytics, edge computing, and cybersecurity.

Unlock the power of automation for your shop! Learn how to implement scalable, game-changing technologies. Ready to elevate your operations? Upcoming October 2025 - For more details and early registration - [View Now](#)

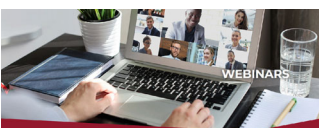
Have a group you would like to train?

To schedule any private class onsite at your company, please contact Diane Lewis at (610) 554-5196 or diane.lewis@mrcpa.org.

REMINDER!



Events Schedule MRC is an industry leader in training manufacturing employees in all aspects of the business. Download our 2025-2026 Training and Events Schedule. [View Here](#)



Our On-demand Webinars provide manufacturers with a valuable, no-cost resource to expand their knowledge on a variety of topics that can enhance their businesses' products, processes, and financials. [View Here](#)

SUCCESS STORIES

Success Stories MRC has helped hundreds of manufacturing companies throughout Pennsylvania. Read some of our client success stories and learn how MRC helps manufacturing clients just like you. [View Here](#)

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GET THE RESOURCES YOU NEED TO THRIVE

Contact the MRC Team today for the answers to your biggest challenges.

SCHEDULE A MEETING

TRAINING EVENTS CALENDAR



Manufacturers Resource Center

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