



MRC Newsletter
INDUSTRY INSIGHTS
Inside the World of Manufacturing
MRC Milestones, Successes, & Updates

RICH HOBBS

CEO Corner



Smart Moves: Efficiency That Drives Long-Term Vision

*How manufacturers can turn today's operational gains
into tomorrow's strategic advantage*

Manufacturers are under pressure to perform today *and* prepare for tomorrow. But short-term profits and long-term investments don't have to compete. In Rich's latest article, we explore how operational excellence, smart technology, and workforce development can help manufacturers thrive in both the short and long term. Discover how MRC helps companies turn strategy into action and performance into progress.

[Read CEO Corner](#)

Lean Excellence Journeys: Benchmarking Success with MRC

View photos and a recap of MRC's September tour through Kentucky's diverse industrial landscape from the automotive sector to aviation technology.



Participants gained a first-hand look at advanced operations and workforce development in action, including an insightful snapshot into how different organizations approach production, innovation, and culture -- and we're excited to share a closer look. [Learn More](#)

**Interested in future Lean learning experiences?
The learning doesn't stop in Kentucky.**

**FocusIn: Japan - March 1, 2026
Operational Excellence Benchmarking Experience**



Learn from multi-day workshops on manufacturing best practices, improvement philosophy, and systems development. Site tours will be held at Toyota and other world-class facilities, including global manufacturers, taking manufacturers even deeper into the heart of operational excellence. [Learn More](#)

Celebrating 250 years of the U.S. Navy & Marine Corps on the Philadelphia Waterfront

From groundbreaking innovation to new public-private partnerships, the Pavilion set the tone for an exciting future in America's maritime and manufacturing sectors.



Rich Hobbs and **Amber Morris** represented MRC at the **Innovation Pavilion on the Philadelphia Waterfront** on October 9, celebrating the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps' **250th anniversary**. This high-profile, three-day event showcased cutting-edge technology, supplier innovation, and workforce development initiatives.

Rich highlighted the **Manufacturing Skills Gap**, while Amber shared insights from the **PA Dream Team Initiative**, which inspires the next generation through hands-on activities and real-world career stories. Together, they underscored the critical connection between innovation, education, and preparing youth for future career pathways in manufacturing.

Lehigh Valley Manufacturing Forum
Discover the key takeaways.
See why this is becoming a must-attend event!

Presented By:





Our 2025 Manufacturer of the Year

PRECISION



ROLL GRINDERS

Scan to learn more!



Unlock opportunities and drive innovation at the Lehigh Valley Manufacturing Forum – where professionals connect, collaborate, and shape the future of our local industries.

THE LEHIGH VALLEY MANUFACTURING FORUM

Wednesday, October 1, 2025
8:30 am - 12:00 pm
Delta Hotels by Marriott Allentown
Lehigh Valley
7736 Adrienne Drive
Breinigsville, PA 18031

Thank you to our sponsors!



*Sponsors as of 9/10/25



If you missed the buzz at the Delta Hotel, Allentown, at the the Lehigh Valley Manufacturing Forum 2025, it was a packed house with leaders, innovators, and game-changers celebrating our region's industrial powerhouse. For a full recap, key takeaways, and photos ... [Learn More](#)

Cybersecurity in Manufacturing: Protecting Your Operations & Data

by Mary A. Stevens
Senior Relationship Manager
EZ Micro Solutions



**Cybersecurity in Manufacturing
Protecting Your Operations and Data**
October is Cybersecurity Month, and there's no better time to talk about protecting the backbone of our economy: Manufacturing.

Smart tech, connected equipment, and digital supply chains are transforming the industry, but they also open the door to new cyber threats. From ransomware to crypto jacking, manufacturers face risks that demand layered defenses and proactive strategies.

Read the full post and download a ***FREE* IT Cybersecurity Checklist** to see if you're ready. [Read Blog](#)

Featured Success Story
Eastern Engineered Wood Products
Consider it Done!

Eastern Engineered Wood Products (EEWP) is a two-step wholesale distribution company, focused solely on selling engineered lumber to the building supply trade. As a family-owned business that takes pride in providing quality products and service, they strive to learn and grow, consistently implementing quality- and process improvements so they can be a preferred and trusted partner for their customers. They are dedicated to safety, diligently tracking, promoting, and rewarding safety-minded practices and behaviors. Their team of experienced professionals is committed to fostering a work environment that is encouraging and respectful of their employees, thereby promoting dedication, productivity, teamwork, and longevity.



**WE MAKE
IT SIMPLE**

WE MAKE DIFFICULT JOBS RUN SMOOTHER.
COME WORK WITH OUR EXPERTS.

**WE MEASURE
EVERYTHING**

THAT'S HOW WE PROVIDE A
GREAT CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE.

“We are committed to getting more out of our training efforts; MRC is committed to meeting us where we are.”

– Wade Buick, Vice President, Operations and Strategic Initiatives

[Read *EEWP* Success Story](#)

Manufacturer of the Year
Precision Roll Grinders, Inc.
www.precisionrollgrinders.com

Celebrating Manufacturing Excellence



Precision Roll Grinders (PRG) has earned top honors as the *Lehigh Valley Manufacturer of the Year*—a recognition that celebrates their unmatched technical precision, innovation, and community impact. From grinding rolls up to 50 feet long with world-leading accuracy to advancing manufacturing excellence across industries, PRG sets the standard for performance and craftsmanship.

Learn more about how this Lehigh Valley powerhouse continues to raise the bar for precision and innovation.

Read the full story on our [NEWS Page](#).

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.

Nuevo en Español Supervisor Boot Camp Lehigh Valley, Winter 2026



NEW! MRC’s hands-on Supervisor Boot Camp equips new and emerging leaders with practical skills in communication, coaching, team building, and more—all delivered in **Spanish!** Build confidence, lead effectively, and make a real impact in your workplace. [Learn more and register.](#)



NEW! Introduction to Lean Manufacturing - Rev Up Your Operations with Lean Manufacturing! Ready to see Lean Manufacturing in action? Our immersive workshop gives you hands-on experience with proven methods to streamline processes, eliminate waste, and boost productivity. Step into the driver’s seat with MRC’s exclusive Land Cruiser manufacturing simulation — the same tool once used at Toyota’s Georgetown, KY location — and gain practical insights you can bring back to your team. [View More and Register](#)



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.

Could automation improve your production line? In our *Advanced Automation for Manufacturers* preview, **Shawn Furman** and **Gene Kaschak** discuss how small, practical steps, from cobots to simple process upgrades, can make a big impact.

The course returns this spring, but you can start planning now. **Invite Shawn out for a no-cost Automation Gemba Walk** to explore opportunities unique to your operation. To schedule, please contact **Diane Lewis** at (610) 554-5196 or diane.lewis@mrcpa.org.



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. See all our upcoming training and events [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](#)



Our Manufacturing Insights blog is dedicated to providing valuable information and insights into the dynamic world of manufacturing to offer us the vantage point to anticipate market shifts, optimize operations, and strategize for the future. [View Here](#)



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](#)

LIKE, SHARE, and FOLLOW US on Social Media! Thank you!

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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