

**June 2020** 

#### **Now Taking Commitments**

#### **Lean Enterprise Certification Program** for High Performance Manufacturing

Due to challenges of dealing with the COVID-19 requirement for social distancing, we are now offering the Lean Enterprise Certification Program for High Performance Manufacturing (LECP-HPM) training online via interactive webinar. We are in the process of setting up dates for the next training. If you are interested in participating, or have questions, please contact Reza.

The Impact Dakota LECP-HPM training is associated with an industryleading certification program that provides individuals and companies with a comprehensive and effective roadmap for professional and workforce development that aligns with industry-recognized standards. This training provides your workforce with the opportunity to learn about tools, techniques, and systems that enhance your ability to contribute to your continuous improvement efforts. Impact Dakota LECP-HPM helps businesses achieve higher profitability by building internal capability and capacity to improve QUALITY, COST, and DELIVERY.

We will continue to offer onsite LECP-HPM trainings where physical facilities allow safe distancing for participants. The on-site and online trainings are contingent to sufficient enrollment. Please click on the following link for complete information including pricing and training schedule.

**Click here for LECP-HPM information** 

### No-Cost On-Site Manufacturing Assessment

Companies are challenged with continuously reducing cost, increasing flexibility, and decreasing lead times while still providing their customers with high-quality products. In an effort to help North Dakota's manufacturers, Impact Dakota is expanding its on-site, no-cost assessment of your manufacturing business to identify and discuss opportunities that can help with improved productivity of your resources. The approach to this assessment is based on principles of LEAN manufacturing which focuses on reduction of wastes helping companies achieve higher levels of productivity in their production and operations.

As part of this assessment, in a very friendly but purposeful way, the Impact Dakota staff walk the shop floor to observe, evaluate, and discuss your production and supporting operations. Following the on-site visit a brief summary report reflecting observations and outline of ommendations will be provided.

**No-Cost On-Site Assessment Info** 

## United States - Mexico - Canada Agreement (USMCA): Effective July 1

The United States, Mexico, and Canada updated NAFTA to create the new USMCA. USMCA is mutually beneficial for North American workers, farmers, ranchers, and businesses. The new agreement, which goes into effect on July 1, 2020, will create a more balanced environment for trade, will support high-paying jobs for Americans, and will grow the North American economy.

Click here for USMCA Resources

Stop sitting on that big idea, it's time to grow! **USDA Small Business Innovation** 

### Research Workshop July 14, July 15, or July 16

This workshop will introduce the exciting opportunities offered by the USDA Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program. These

competitive, grants provide the opportunity to conduct research and explore the development of new technologies, services, and products. Click here for a flyer with more information.

Click here for workshop registration

MEP-Assisted Technology



#### The MEP-Assisted Technology and Technical Resource (MATTR) program offers clients of MEP Centers, small and mid-sized

manufacturers (SMMs), direct access to wide-ranging, world-class technical expertise available at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) research labs and user facilities. A partner to the U.S. manufacturing sector for more than a century, NIST has a proven track record of collaboration with existing manufacturers and aspiring start-ups. MATTR has been piloting operations since 2016, successfully connecting

NIST Lab technical experts with MEP client manufacturing companies around the U.S. on numerous occasions to provide meaningful technical assistance. Currently MATTR operates in an informal mode, in which NIST staff share technical expertise relating to manufacturer issues, essentially as a professional courtesy that MATTR facilitates. No funding is exchanged in the current mode of MATTR operation. **Learn more about the MATTR Program** 

**Supply Chain Scouting** 

#### **System** Impact Dakota is partnering with NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) and

our nationwide network of 50 other MEP Centers across the U.S. and Puerto Rico to help solve supply chain gaps encountered by government entities, critical care service providers, and manufacturers.



# MANUFACTURING in Lehman's Terms



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# Manufacturing COVID-19 **Updates**

Summer is in full swing, and I hope everyone is getting a chance to get out and enjoy the nice weather after being cooped up during the pandemic! As things begin to tilt a little back toward normal, I wanted to cover some of the COVID-19 business program changes which have occurred over the past month or so. With respect to COVID-19 related funding, the three primary sources for businesses include the Small Business Administration (SBA), the Bank of North Dakota (BND), and the North Dakota Department of Commerce. Click here to read full

Lehman's Terms.







**Supply Chain Scouting** 

Impact Dakota is the official representative of the MEP National Network in North Dakota.

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