

## The MEP National Network Shows Substantial Economic Return

A recent study by Summit Consulting and the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research found the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Program generated a substantial economic and financial return of nearly 13.4:1 for the \$140 million invested in Fiscal Year 2019 by the federal government. The study also finds that total employment in the U.S. was nearly 217,000 higher because of MEP Center projects. In addition, the Upjohn study examined additional areas of economic impact not previously reported - personal income is \$14 billion higher and gross domestic product is \$22.9 billion larger, translating into an increase of \$1.87 billion more in personal income tax revenue to the federal government than without the MEP Program.

[View the infographic to see these findings and more.](#)

[Click here to view the study.](#)

## COVID-19 Updates and Info

Impact Dakota will be providing helpful links and information regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Please reach out to us if you have any questions. Paul Lucy, 701-412-3319 or email [paul@impactdakota.com](mailto:paul@impactdakota.com).



[Coronavirus Updates & Info](#)

## 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.



[Supply Chain Scouting](#)

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

*To comply with social distancing directives, we will be providing the following training via interactive webinars. Please see below for more information.*

### High Performance Manufacturing Lean Enterprise Certification Training

**ONLINE - Beginning May 26**

Impact Dakota is starting a new round of the Lean Enterprise Certification Program (LECP), May 26th, 2020, via Interactive Webinar, and we are currently taking commitments.

The Impact Dakota LEAN Enterprise Certification Program (LECP) helps businesses achieve higher profitability by building internal capability and capacity to improve QUALITY, COST, and DELIVERY performance. This is the only nationally-certified and recognized program for Lean Certification in the country and is applicable to manufacturers and non-manufacturers. For information about the LECP training contact Reza Maleki at 701.367.8664, or [RezaM@ImpactDakota.com](mailto:RezaM@ImpactDakota.com).

[Click here for LECP information](#)

### FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Preventive Controls for Human Food Training

**ONLINE - June 9-11**

One of the most significant new FDA rules is the Preventive Controls for Human Food rule. This rule states that every human food manufacturer, except for the very smallest who will have modified requirements, must have somebody on staff who has completed a Preventive Controls for Human Food class.

This three-day event will prepare you for the REQUIRED facility Food Safety Plan as well as ongoing verification of the plan.

[Click here for info & registration](#)

### The Mexican Fintech Market: Mexico's Road Towards Open Banking

**ONLINE - June 22**

Learn how to do business in Mexico and the Mexican business culture, as well as trends and opportunities in the Mexican fintech industry sector, the Mexican fintech law and open banking.

Join Javier Chavez-Ruiz, CEO and founder of IST Soluciones, leading digital strategy and digital consulting company based in Mexico.

[Click here for Info & Registration](#)

## North Dakota Manufacturers



**Stay Safe - We are all in this together!**

## Mark Your Calendar

UPCOMING EVENTS  
 Please [click here to register](#) or for more information on the following events.

[Lean Enterprise Certification Program](#)  
 ONLINE  
 May 26

[Preventive Controls for Human Food Training](#)  
 June 9-11

[The Mexican Fintech Market: Mexico's Road Towards Open Banking](#)  
 June 22

[Manufacturing Day](#)  
 October 2

## Lean Innovation: What Manufacturers Can Learn From the Tech Sector's Appropriation of Lean Thinking

When most people think of lean processes, the prevailing attitude is that the goal is to optimize things in a step-by-step approach. The result that companies using lean methods can look forward to is incremental improvements brought about by the elimination of waste.

Individuals who stick with this definition often assert that lean principles oppose innovation. That's because "innovation" is typically considered a product-based form of invention that causes disruption. Lean manufacturing is all about following well-defined processes and figuring out how to make them better. Innovation, on the other hand, usually occurs by uprooting current processes or blatantly not following them.

[Read full story](#)

### Making an Impact Since 2001 ...

Client Results\*

» **\$357** MILLION IN NEW AND RETAINED SALES

» **\$109** MILLION IN COST SAVINGS

» **\$204** MILLION IN NEW INVESTMENTS

» **3,605** JOBS - CREATED OR RETAINED

\*Determined by an independent third-party survey



Combining Lean Enterprise Certification Program and Quick & Easy Kaizen generated \$153,000 in savings and 243 implemented ideas.



Job Instruction Training enabled 75% reduction in set-up time and 50% reduction in deviations from standard procedures.

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

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