

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

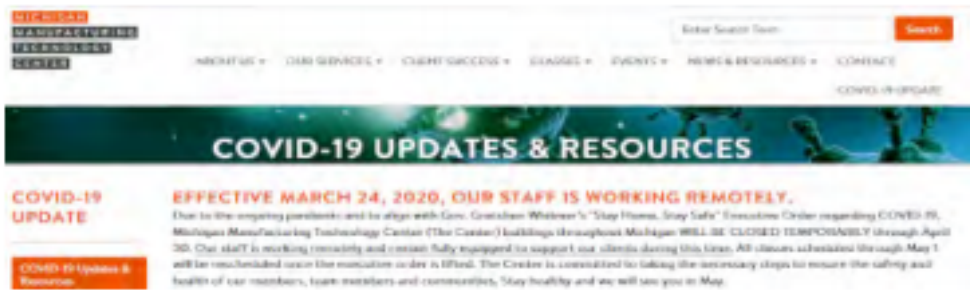
The MEP National Network is a unique public-private partnership that delivers comprehensive, proven solutions to U.S. manufacturers, fueling growth and advancing U.S. manufacturing.

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MICHIGAN MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY CENTER (MUTC)

The Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center is an organization dedicated to supporting Michigan manufacturers to work smarter, to compete and to prosper. Success doesn't just happen. It takes driven, dedicated, experienced, full-time professionals working together to keep Michigan manufacturing strong, viable and profitable. Staff knowledge is the key to success in any endeavor, and the manufacturing industry is no exception. Our practical, comprehensive and affordable consulting services and classes help our clients train and develop their employees and management.

The Center offers personalized consulting services that meet the needs of clients in virtually every aspect of their businesses. We develop more effective business leaders, drive product and process innovation, assist with navigating through governmental regulations, promote company-wide operational excellence and foster creative strategies for business growth and greater profitability. We work tirelessly on behalf of Michigan manufacturers, finding the right solutions for every situation, every time.

The Center serves approximately 12,351 small and medium-sized manufacturers in the state.

COVID-19 RESPONSE DETAILS

- As part of the COVID-19 crisis, the Center is providing its resources to maintain the viability of the state's manufacturers. It is linking them within the supply chain to support the critical needs of the state and the nation in the manufacture of key supplies for the medical response.
- In addition, the Center is providing services to identify manufacturing opportunities to diversify the manufacturing base in the state as a result of our national critical equipment and supplies vulnerabilities.





For more information: <https://www.the-center.org/Coronavirus-Update/COVID-19-Resources-Updates>

ECONOMIC IMPACT

MEP Center impacts are based on clients surveyed in FY2019



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