Investing in Manufacturing Community Partnerships

Designated Communities

**Advance Michigan IMCP**
Wayne County Economic Development Growth Engine
*Bryce Kelley, bkelley@waynecounty.com*

Advance Michigan seeks to position its 13-county region at the forefront of the automotive and digital technologies behind connected cars and infrastructure technologies. In partnership with regional education stakeholders, Advance Michigan plans to make significant investments in workforce development programs – including retraining of incumbent workers – alongside focuses on supply chain development, infrastructure, and automotive research and development.

**Advanced Manufacturing Partnership for Southern California**
University of Southern California Center for Economic Development
*Leonard Mitchell, mitchell@usc.edu*

AMP SoCal is a consortium focused on transforming the aerospace and defense sectors, with a focus on advanced manufacturing technologies. The partnership plans to develop a range of programs, including a standards-based Additive Manufacturing Technician certificate program in partnership with regional education partners, a “University Guides Network Program” to provide a single point of contact between employers and institutions of higher education, and a digital one-stop for augmenting the ability of small manufacturers to collaborate in the design of new components.

**Chicago Metro Metal Cluster**
Cook County Bureau of Economic Development
*Elaine Romas, elaine.romas@cookcountyil.org*

The Chicago Metro Metal Cluster seeks to build upon the reputation of the Chicago metro region as a leader in class for metal manufacturing – a $30 billion sector spanning 3,700 firms and 100,000 workers in the region. Through targeted, strategically-driven commitments across six pillars of integrated investment, the Chicago Metro Metal Cluster plans significant outlays in supply chain, infrastructure, and workforce development partnerships across the region.
DRIVE for the Future IMCP  
University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service  
*Charles E. Shoopman, Jr., chuck.shoopman@tennessee.edu*

The DRIVE initiative seeks to build upon the Tennessee Valley’s pre-existing sector leadership in automotive industry employment through strategic promotion of advanced automotive technology development and commercialization. DRIVE plans to deepen regional competencies in automotive technologies through partnerships with high-impact employers, and with the goal of enhancing workforce capacity and expanding the capabilities and access of SMEs in the automotive technologies sector.

Greater Portland Food Production Cluster  
Greater Portland Council of Governments  
*Neal W. Allen, nallen@gpcog.org*

The Portland region accounts for 31% of food production across the entire state of Maine, and features a vibrant ecosystem of SMEs engaged in some stage of food production. The Greater Portland Food Production Cluster aims to bolster skills programs in industrial engineering, food science, and food preparation, alongside working to minimize supply chain waste and promote low-impact hydroponic and greenhouse methods of food production.

Greater Rochester / Fingers Lakes Region  
City of Rochester  
*Delmonize Smith, dsmith@cityofrochester.gov*

The Greater Rochester region aims to build upon its historic strength in the precision machining, optics, photonics, and imaging sectors through catalytic workforce development projects. With the intention of building cross-industry capabilities and strengthened supply chain networks, the consortium aims to decrease the time of technology transfer and creating a skills pipeline for in-demand jobs.

Northwest Georgia Center for Sustainable Floor Covering Innovation and Advanced Workforce Readiness (S-FLOR)  
Northwest Georgia Regional Commission  
*Lloyd Frasier, lfrasier@nwgrc.org*

Long a national leader in the floor covering industry, the S-FLOR consortium seeks to build upon pre-existing strengths in the sector by investing in a shortened supply chain and preparing tomorrow’s workers by patching critical shortfalls in the existing secondary and technical post-secondary educational network. Leveraging innovation centers housed at Georgia Tech, the S-FLOR consortium will seek to provide cutting edge materials research and other technologies for commercialization to SMEs in the region.

The Milwaukee 7 Manufacturing Community  
Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee  
*Rocky Marcoux, rocky.marcoux@milwaukee.gov*
The Milwaukee 7 consortium seeks to strengthen Milwaukee’s positioning as an attractive city for relocation of manufacturing enterprises, particularly in the areas of energy, water, and food production technologies. The Milwaukee 7 empowers academic-industry partnerships in key areas of need, and features a regional workforce alliance designed to engage employers and technical colleges in supporting curriculum developments for employer needs.

**Southwest Alabama IMCP**
University of South Alabama  
*Lynne Chronister, lchronister@southalabama.edu*

The Southwest Alabama IMCP aims to leverage historical strength in the shipbuilding sector into future leadership in aviation manufacturing, with an emphasis on adapting existing workforce development programs and employer liaisons into viable partnership to drive employment growth in aviation. The opening of new aviation factories in the region promises to catalyze these investments and support exports in the region, while additional apprenticeship and pathways programs in shipbuilding will help support the region’s traditional proficiencies in shipbuilding.

**Southwestern Ohio Aerospace Region**
City of Cincinnati  
*Sam Stephens, samuel.stephens@cincinnati-oh.gov*

Southwestern Ohio has a significant position of leadership in the manufacturing of aerospace parts and engines globally. The Southwestern Ohio Aerospace Region (SOAR) plans to build upon these regional strengths, principally through supply chain development, a vastly expanded suite of workforce initiatives, and strategic identification of “shovel-ready” manufacturing sites for development.

**Tactical Investment in Advanced Manufacturing Capabilities**
Wichita State University  
*Dr. John S. Tomblin, john.tomblin@wichita.edu*

South Kansas numbers among the most manufacturing-specialized regions in the United States, with a disproportionately high percentage of employment there contingent on the manufacturing sector. The South Kansas Manufacturing Community seeks to make aerospace manufacturing an anchor for a diversified sector, with investments in manufacturing research centers, supply chain integration investments, and up-skilling projects targeting the regional workforce.

**Washington Aerospace Manufacturing Community**
Puget Sound Regional Council  
*Sarah Lee, slee@psrc.org*

Utilizing the regions close proximity to major centers in aerospace manufacturing and design, the Puget Sound Regional Council seeks to strengthen workforce development assets, invest in strategic research partnerships with local universities and colleges, and bolster the capacity of suppliers to provide to an increasingly high-demand and integrated aerospace manufacturing sector in the region.