



MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

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The Manufacturers' Association Collaborates to Win \$250,000 Grant to Support Manufacturing in the Region

(York, PA) – The south-central Pennsylvania manufacturing sector was awarded a second round of funding recently, to further support the “Next Gen Manufacturing Industry Partnership.”

The commonwealths *PASmart Next Generation* grants provide funds to support the development, launch, implementation, and technical assistance of Next Gen Industry Partnerships (IP), which address the workforce, economic development, and educational needs of regional industries through an employer led and “demand-driven” approach.

Over the past year, the *Southcentral PA Manufacturing Next Gen Industry Partnership* of regional manufacturing leaders created action teams that focused on the most urgent needs identified by the industry: promoting manufacturing careers to grow the future workforce, improving training opportunities for middle-skill/technical occupations, and facilitating business-to-business connections to exchange best practices.

The partnership is facilitated by The Manufacturers Association which works with regional organizations to support the employers initiatives – these groups include SCPaWorks - the regional Workforce Development Board, the SC PA Partnership for Regional Economic Performance (PREP), and the Educational partners in south-central PA. The private sector driven initiative is led by two employer Co-Champions, Weldon Solutions, a manufacturer of grinding machines and robotic integration; and Phoenix Contact, a global leader in electronic connectors.

Tom Palisin, the Association's Executive Director stated, “The industry partnership is a regional strategy to collectively address manufacturing's most critical competitiveness issues. It also provides manufacturers a single table to work with the dozens of public programs and resources to create comprehensive solutions for the industry.”

Manufacturing CEOs interested in participating in the Next Gen Partnership should contact the partnership through The Manufacturers' Association.

The Manufacturers' Association is a multi-county trade association serving as an advocate and partner for manufacturing and logistics in south-central Pennsylvania and north-central Maryland. The organization provides apprentice and skilled trade training, workforce development programs, group benefit insurance, and member educational and networking events for its member companies.

For manufacturing leaders interested in learning more about the Next Gen Manufacturing Partnership, contact Brian Paterniti, training manager for The Manufacturers' Association at (717) 843-3891, or by email at bpaterniti@mascpa.org.

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The Manufacturers' Association is the partner and advocate for manufacturing, production and logistics in Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Founded in 1906 within the strength of the region's strong industrial roots, today the Association actively works with many types of organizations – offering member benefits such as employee education, training and workforce development, group benefit insurance, professional HR and search services, networking events, and much more.

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