



ALASKA MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP CENTER

The Alaska Manufacturing Extension Partnership Center is a statewide technical assistance, training, and workforce development provider with the purpose of advancing small and medium-sized manufacturers across Alaska. The Center is colocated with the UAA Business Enterprise Institute (BEI) and draws significant support from collaborative programs within BEI.

A representative of the National Institute of Standards and Technology's Manufacturing Extension Partnership (NIST MEP), the Alaska Manufacturing Extension Partnership Center operates under the US Department of Commerce to promote innovation and industrial competitiveness. The Center assists manufacturing businesses by providing them with a range of innovative strategies and solutions. We collaborate with agencies across the state to help Alaska manufacturers improve their competitiveness, performance, and profitability in today's increasingly demanding global economy.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

MEP Center impacts are based on clients surveyed in FY2023



\$279K

Total Increased/Retained Sales



19

Total Increased/Retained Jobs



\$647K

New Client Investments



\$371K

Cost Savings

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ALASKA FOOD CO.'S SUCCESS: STREAMLINED PROCESSES AND STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS

ABOUT ALASKA FOOD CO.. Alaska Food Company is a service-disabled veteran-owned company that currently has six employees in Wasilla, Alaska. They offer freeze-drying as a service and sell own in-house freeze-dried meals, 49th Farms. The meals are perfect for people who want a quick, restaurant-quality meal on the go or at home, for outdoor adventures, or for buffet feeding.

THE CHALLENGE. Alaska Food Co.'s challenge was to set up a manufacturing process to minimize redundancies and maximize the efficiency of space and personnel to operate without wasting time and energy.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. Alaska MEP helped solve that issue by connecting with a company called Lean Alaska that specializes in Six Sigma. With their assistance, Alaska Food Co. was able to map out the manufacturing process in a way that streamlined the process from receiving raw materials to producing the final product, while also figuring out the exact number of personnel needed for staffing. Additionally, the Alaska Food Co. team attended a sales training workshop and will attend upcoming HACCP training workshops.

"Working with Alaska MEP has been great! The assistance that we have received helped us foresee issues in our manufacturing process instead of having to learn them the hard way. The professional development workshops have also been great for building our team's skills. Lastly, the networking they have provided has been a massive help for our business development. We plan to utilize Alaska MEP's resources as much as possible in the future and are truly grateful for everything that they do."

-Cody Russell, CEO/CFO



RESULTS



6 jobs retained through sales training



\$10,000 saved by going through MEP for trainings at a reduced cost.



\$4,500 invested in sales and 5s trainings

