



PURDUE MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

The Purdue Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) provides high value, affordable solutions to help businesses increase profitability. As advocates for Indiana's thousands of manufacturers, our staff leverages resources in both the public and private sectors to help identify areas of improvement, streamline processes, and ultimately increase competitiveness.

Offering solutions for manufacturing challenges, Purdue MEP specializes in the following services through on-site training and analysis:

- Energy Efficiency & Sustainability
- Faculty Assistance
- Innovation and Technology
- Leadership Development
- Lean Manufacturing / Lean Office
- Quality Improvement / Quality Management Systems (ISO)
- Six Sigma
- Supply Chain Services
- Training within Industry (TWI)
- Competitiveness Review
- Executive Peer Groups
- ExporTech
- Food and Beverage
- Collaborative Robotics
- Cybersecurity
- Digital Manufacturing and Design Assessments
- Video Work Instruction
- And more!

Our professionally trained staff, located throughout the state, includes experts from a variety of business and manufacturing sectors. We serve businesses throughout the state of Indiana.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

MEP Center impacts are based on clients surveyed in FY2023



\$558.7 Million

Total Increased/Retained Sales



3,456

Total Increased/Retained Jobs



\$131.7 Million

New Client Investments



\$182 Million

Cost Savings

CONTACT US



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**PURDUE
UNIVERSITY®**

Manufacturing Extension Partnership

PURDUE MEP ASSISTS MARSON INTERNATIONAL IN SAFETY SUCCESS!

ABOUT MARSON INTERNATIONAL, LLC. Started in 2002, Marson International has become the leader in large and small-diameter tube fabrication for a diverse customer base. Located in Elkhart, Indiana, they maintain a comprehensive, versatile, and state-of-the-art production facility capable of manufacturing the most critical and sophisticated tube assemblies. Their capabilities range from rapid prototyping, through low and mid-volume production, to high-volume runs requiring manufacturing cells.

THE CHALLENGE. After employee turnover, Marson International needed a full-time safety manager to serve its Elkhart facility's approximately 160 employees. In the interim, the responsibilities of the position were spread among other employees with full-time positions and the overall safety metrics reflected the lack of attention. Through an active search, Marson found a candidate who needed an apprenticeship to get up to speed for the rigors of the safety manager position and the company's potential safety risks.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. Purdue MEP, part of the MEP National Network™, worked with Marson International and the Indiana Department of Workforce Development to submit the grant application that would ultimately pay for the safety apprenticeship. Purdue MEP then customized an 18-week program that focused on Occupational Safety and Health development as well as some leadership and soft-skills training. One day a week for 18 weeks, a Purdue MEP team member was onsite working with the safety manager-in-training throughout the duration of the apprenticeship. The program also included an OSHA-30 Hour General Industry training for 7 employees.

The benefits of the apprenticeship program are numerous. During a 24-week time period, Marson had 0 OSHA recordable injuries, leading to 0 hours of missed work due to injuries, and 0 hours of employee time spent back-filling positions. Worker's Compensation costs and insurance premiums have gone down and will continue to be reduced based on their 3-year rolling EMR (Experience Modification Rate).

Several employee initiatives have been enacted and well-received, including the creation of a safety committee comprised of employees from multiple departments, providing the employees with a voice in all safety initiatives. The committee works on several over-arching goals including the reduction of work-related hazards, hazard prevention and addressing any near-miss issues. The leadership team has hosted company-wide celebrations when major milestones were achieved and continues to support new initiatives.

"When I arrived at Marson International the first thing we did was assemble a safety committee to work on the challenges of creating a safer working environment, where the employees were actively involved in the safety process. Through the Purdue MEP instructor, we formed a safety committee to meet monthly and have slowly changed the culture to one of safety first. We are now approaching six months of recordable injury-free. This would not be possible if not for the OSHA 30-Hour training and support granted to us by Purdue University."

-Dave Eli, Safety Manager



RESULTS



\$36,000 in federal funding for apprenticeship training



7 employees received OSHA-30 Hour General Industry certificates



Employees are actively involved and committed to working safely



0 Work-Related OSHA Recordable Injuries for 24 weeks



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