New Mexico Manufacturing Extension Partnership

New Mexico MEP aspires to be the premier solution provider to strengthen and grow New Mexico’s manufacturing. As a statewide assistance center, New Mexico MEP is dedicated to increasing the competitiveness of the state’s small and mid sized businesses.

The Center’s experts and industry resource network help create the change that can make the difference. New Mexico MEP provides expertise in results-driven methodologies, best practices, and innovative technologies designed to increase your profitability.

As a public/private partnership, New Mexico MEP brings together government, not-for-profit and industry resources to offer the comprehensive programs and services you need.

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ECONOMIC IMPACT

MEP Center impacts are based on clients surveyed in FY2016

$108.3 Million
Total Increased/Retained Sales

733
Total Increased/Retained Jobs

$17.3 Million
New Client Investments

$15.6 Million
Cost Savings
"It was really great to have another set of well-trained eyes come into our facility to help us identify these opportunities. We are looking forward to partnering with the E3 team in our continuous improvement efforts and goal to achieve the ISO 14000 Environmental Quality Management System certification." Javier Delgadillo, Plant Manager

MANUFACTURER ON THE “BORDER” OF BIG IMPACTS

ABOUT. Founded in 1972, Northwire, Inc. is a woman-owned small business with locations in Nevada, Wisconsin and New Mexico. The Santa Teresa, NM facility is strategically situated near the Mexico and El Paso, TX border. Northwire has built a solid reputation as one of the leading specialty cable manufacturers in the US and abroad. The New Mexico facility manufactures custom technical wire and cable and provides contract manufacturing for diverse applications in life sciences, energy, industrial, aerospace and defense industries.

THE CHALLENGE. Northwire has a long history of environmental responsibility to preserve and protect the planet’s resources. The company continuously explores new ways to implement strong environmental commitments in each of its facilities. Reducing their environmental footprint is a key corporate goal. Northwire is currently involved in implementing the ISO 14000 environmental standard as part of its continuous improvement efforts.

MEP’S ROLE. Northwire completed an E3 (Economy, Energy, Environment) site assessment with a team of technical staff from New Mexico MEP, TMAC (both are NIST MEP affiliates) and New Mexico State University Institute for Energy & Environment Resources Center. E3 involves technical assessments and offers practical, sustainable approaches that manufacturers can incorporate into their operations. Northwire’s E3 assessment began with class room training to a cross-functional team including quality, maintenance, managers and production staff. Next, the team identified various wastes as they mapped and followed the product flow throughout the facility. This allowed the team to identify opportunities to reduce energy consumption, minimize carbon footprints, prevent pollution, increase productivity, and drive innovation throughout the facility.

RESULTS

$144,000 cost savings identified once defects are reduced

Recommendation to create three additional hours of production a day for projected $4.5M in future savings

Identified ~$10,000 per year savings from reduced energy consumption and improved energy efficiency