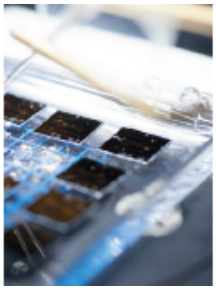
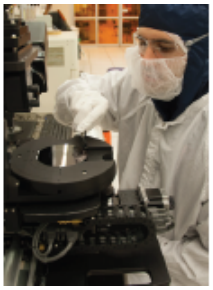
MEP National Network™

ALABAMA


ALABAMA TECHNOLOGY NETWORK (ATN)

The Alabama Technology Network (ATN) is a part of the Alabama Community College System and serves as the Manufacturing Extension Partnership affiliate for Alabama. ATN has served Alabama manufacturers since 1996. ATN's team of experts helps address the needs of industry and business through innovative, sustainable, and cost-effective solutions. ATN conducts detailed needs assessments, outlines potential solutions based on the assessment results, and provides technical assistance and customized training to help companies solve their problems.

ATN links industry and business with its network of research universities, community colleges, government agencies, and other partner organizations to deliver the technical assistance, customized training, and other tools and resources needed to improve operational efficiency, productivity, and competitiveness for Alabama manufacturers. ATN offices are located strategically throughout the state at 15 community colleges and 3 research universities to provide local points of contact and access to resources. ATN's vision is to be the driving force that makes Alabama's manufacturers the most profitable, competitive, and productive in the world.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

MEP Center impacts are based on clients surveyed in FY2023

$496.9 Million
Total Increased/Retained Sales

3,705
Total Increased/Retained Jobs

$107.3 Million
New Client Investments

$61.5 Million
Cost Savings

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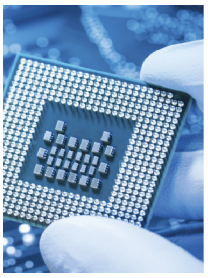
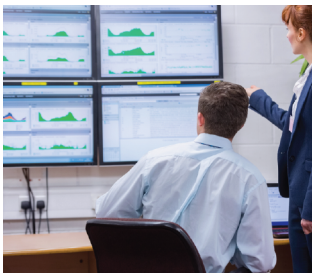
ATN
Alabama Technology Network

MEP National Network™

ALABAMA SUCCESS STORY

ATN TRAINING LEADS TO RETAINED AND INCREASED SALES FOR ALABAMA SPECIALTY PRODUCTS, INC.





ABOUT ALABAMA SPECIALTY PRODUCTS INC. Alabama Specialty Products, Inc., (ASPI) is a materials processing firm located in Munford, Alabama, that has been meeting the needs of its customers around the world for the past 42 years. Combining the resources of its company divisions, ASPI offers a wide variety of products and services for corrosion monitoring, laser processing, and advanced machining. Their 350,000-square-foot facility houses several manufacturing centers, a materials inventory area, research labs, and a quality assurance area. ASPI is a service-disabled veteran-owned small business with over 200 employees.

THE CHALLENGE. ASPI first approached ATN, part of the MEP National Network™, for training and education related guidance for their machinists and supervisors. They needed operator training to teach employees how to read CNC programs and setup training for building tools, setting offsets, and making offset adjustments. ASPI wanted their employees to be able to start setups without crashes. While evaluating their training needs, it was also discovered that ASPI needed precision measurement training for the same group. They needed training so that operators and machinists would be capable of measuring and verifying their own work to improve production by eliminating the need to wait on quality control.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. ATN worked with ASPI's Chief Technology Officer to develop and implement a customized training plan. ATN provided 40 hours of training to employees where they learned to perform moderately complex math calculations for CNC programming goals and setup and ran compliant parts on CNC mills and lathes. For the precision measurement training, ATN concentrated on teaching employees how to read basic instruments and other equipment such as the comparator, the Zeiss machine, and the profilometer. A short introduction to Geometric Dimensioning and Tolerance was also presented to explain the datum frame, symbols, and demonstrate how tolerances work.

RESULTS

- **4** jobs created
- **$500,000** in retained sales
- **$500,000** in new investment in plant and equipment
- **$300,000** invested in new products
- **$250,000** in increased sales

ATN Alabama Technology Network

**"Management of ALSPI was very impressed with the detail and diligence of the training team. We have used the team for quality control, CNC, supervisor, and strategic planning training. We were appreciative of their follow-up and feedback to the management.
"**

-Sai Mudiam, Chief Technology Officer