The MEP National Network is a unique public-private partnership that delivers comprehensive, proven solutions to U.S. manufacturers, fueling growth and advancing U.S. manufacturing.

ECONOMIC IMPACT
MEP Center impacts are based on clients surveyed in FY2018

- **$322.3 Million**
  Total Increased/Retained Sales
- **2,653**
  Total Increased/Retained Jobs
- **$58.2 Million**
  New Client Investments
- **$14.8 Million**
  Cost Savings

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.

CONTACT US

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ABOUT BRIGGS AND STRATTON CORPORATION. Briggs and Stratton’s facility in Auburn, Alabama, was established in 1995 and currently employs 430 people. The plant currently produces a V-Twin engine and a larger commercial Vanguard engine for lawnmowers. The Auburn facility is part of the Briggs & Stratton Corporation (NYSE: BGG) headquartered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Briggs and Stratton is focused on providing power to get work done and make people’s lives better as the world’s largest producer of gasoline engines for outdoor power equipment. The corporation is also a leading designer, manufacturer and marketer of power generation, pressure washer, lawn and garden, turf care and job site products. Briggs & Stratton products are designed, manufactured, marketed and serviced in over 100 countries on six continents.

THE CHALLENGE. The Auburn Briggs and Stratton plant was expanding, adding a new production line that would produce Vanguard big block V-twin engines, ultimately creating approximately 50 new jobs for the area and involving a $12 million investment by the company. "We see this as a strategic competitive advantage because we can manufacture close to our customers in the U.S., which allows us to be more price competitive and shortens the supply chain for our customers," said David Rodgers, senior vice president and president of Engines and Power at Briggs & Stratton. As part of this expansion, employees assigned to the new line needed training on how to efficiently operate and maintain it.

MEP CENTER’S ROLE. Over an eleven-month span, ATN utilized four project engineers to provide 305 hours of instruction and/or technical assistance for Briggs in the areas of electrical applications and troubleshooting, electrical wiring, motor controls, programmable logic controllers, and hydraulics. Their employees require these skills to effectively maintain and run production lines.

"Over the last 10 years ATN has been a valued partner with Briggs & Stratton, Auburn Plant, for a large portion of our Technical Training. The instructors are subject matter experts not only in a classroom setting but how the training applies on the plant floor. Being a 24/7 operation, they are willing to meet our team members schedule to deliver the training. Would highly recommend to others."

-Jerry "Cisco" King, Human Resources Manager

RESULTS

$15,000,000 in new products

$15,000,000 in new investment

12 new or retained jobs