

GEORGIA MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP (GAMEP)

The Georgia Manufacturing Extension Partnership (GaMEP) is a program of Georgia Tech's Enterprise Innovation Institute and is a member of the National MEP network supported by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The GaMEP has been serving Georgia manufacturers since 1960. The Center offers a solution based approach through coaching and education designed to increase top line growth and reduce bottom line cost. GAMEP has ten regions across the state of Georgia. Each region has a dedicated regional manager that specializes in project management and implementation, as well as resources to serve the manufacturing industry. They are ready to meet with you, at your convenience, to understand your needs, and recommend a customized solution that best fits your goals and objectives.

The GaMEP has established partnerships within the economic development, government, industry, and private sectors that have complementary missions. These relationships help ensure that all applicable state and private support services are easily accessed to help improve and grow your organization.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

MEP Center impacts are based on clients surveyed in FY2023



\$741.9 Million

Total Increased/Retained Sales



2,046

Total Increased/Retained Jobs



\$89.7 Million

New Client Investments



\$51.2 Million

Cost Savings

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GaMEP
Georgia Manufacturing
Extension Partnership

LONGTIME PARTNERSHIP LEADS TO IMPACTFUL RESULTS FOR MANUFACTURER

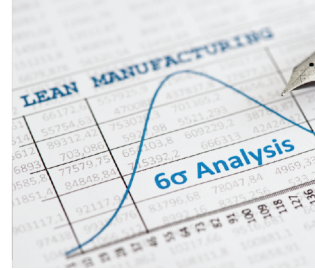
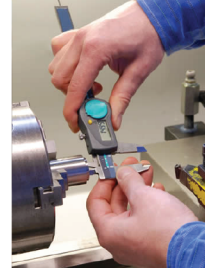
ABOUT GROOV-PIN OF GEORGIA. Groov-Pin Corporation, located in Newnan, Georgia, specializes in manufacturing industrial fasteners such as Grooved Pins, Tap-Lok Threaded Inserts, Speedserts, Precision Turned Components, and Barb-Serts. The company was founded in 1926 and has served multiple industries including automotive, aerospace and defense, and telecommunications for more than 95 years.

THE CHALLENGE. Groov-Pin's goal is to continuously improve its processes to produce immediate results and prevent future problems. To help achieve this goal, the company has been a long-time member of the Georgia Manufacturing Extension Partnership (GaMEP) at Georgia Tech's Advanced Manufacturing Consortium. The Consortium is a member-based peer-to-peer learning group committed to driving innovation and continuous improvement through shared knowledge and experience. The Georgia Manufacturing Extension Partnership (GaMEP) is a program within Georgia Tech's Enterprise Innovation Institute and part of the MEP National Network™. Through participating in this program, the company identified some specific projects that they needed help with and called in Sam Darwin, GaMEP operational excellence project manager, to assist with their lean implementation efforts.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. Darwin worked with the company to improve different operational areas by introducing 5S principles, conducting multiple Kaizen events to create a more efficient and safer workspace, and establishing a Training Within Industry (TWI) program to capture knowledge from retiring employees. The efforts were so successful that the company now has Kaizen events regularly scheduled every 6 months to tackle projects.

"I like working with GaMEP folks... they push us and ask open-ended questions to try and get people who are in the event to get information and ideas out of their head. They keep everyone engaged and let them know that they are an important part of the process. I like their style."

-Scott Bunn, Operations Manager



RESULTS



Reduced delivery time for one of their main product lines from **14** weeks to 6 weeks.



Created a quick-ship program by cataloging similar product parts into a "kit".



Improved overall delivery time from **72%** to 96%



Reduced machine set-up time from **8** hours to 2 hours.



Established a leadership group for an ideation Kaizen project to help brainstorm new products.



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