



TECHHELP

From offices in Boise, Post Falls and Pocatello, TechHelp Manufacturing Specialists help Idaho manufacturers, food processors and inventors/entrepreneurs improve their competitiveness through continuous product and process innovation. Our services fall into three primary areas of practice that include:

- New Product and Market Development
- Operational Excellence
- Food & Dairy Processing

The words EXTENSION and PARTNERSHIP capture the spirit of what we do:

- We extend our people, services, resources, knowledge and expertise to help Idaho manufacturers, processors and inventors improve competitiveness and profitability
- We can be an extension of your company and of your staff. Call us when you need us
- TechHelp gives you access to a deep pool of local and national resources through our university, private sector and national MEP partners
- TechHelp Manufacturing Specialists are available statewide thanks to our university partners

The Center serves approximately 1,794 small and medium-sized manufacturers in the state.

• As part of the COVID-19 crisis, TechHelp is providing its resources to maintain the viability of the state's manufacturers. It is linking them within the supply chain to support the critical needs of the state and the nation in the manufacture of key supplies for the medical response.

• In addition, TechHelp is providing services to identify manufacturing opportunities to diversify the manufacturing base in the state as a result of our national critical equipment and supplies vulnerabilities.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

MEP Center impacts are based on clients surveyed in FY2023



\$105.5 Million

Total Increased/Retained Sales



410

Total Increased/Retained Jobs



\$48 Million

New Client Investments



\$30.8 Million

Cost Savings

CONTACT US



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ACCELERATING PRODUCTION WITH ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING

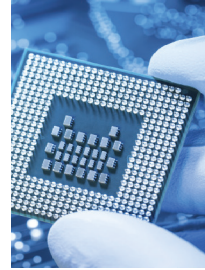
ABOUT SEAT CONCEPTS. Seat Concepts, located in Caldwell, Idaho, develops and manufactures seat foam and cover products for dual-sport, adventure, and street motorcycles at an affordable price. Seat Concepts employs 50, offering seats and seat kits, with each seat model specially designed to increase comfort without compromising rideability. The more aggressive the bike, the more aggressive the seat kit, which can be either self or professionally installed. They supply a full line of OEM replacement seats designed to match the OEM specs of width and height but incorporate their high-quality covers and adjustable density foam.

THE CHALLENGE. Seat Concepts' ownership aimed to explore the potential of integrating industrial 3D printing technology into their production process. The primary focus was on automating the creation of seat molds and developing a streamlined method for scanning existing foams or molds to accelerate the replication process. Ownership reached out to the engineering team at TechHelp, a member of the MEP National Network™, to help pinpoint opportunities for integrating 3D printing within Seat Concepts' manufacturing workflow.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. The primary initiative aimed at automating the production of custom motorcycle seats by integrating cutting-edge 3D scanning technology and an industrial-grade 3D printer to fabricate molds for both current and legacy seat designs. This forward-thinking approach yielded remarkable results, with turnaround times improved by over 200%, marking a significant leap in efficiency. Leveraging state-of-the-art additive manufacturing capabilities, high-quality molds with exceptional precision were produced, revolutionizing the manufacturing process. By automating mold creation through 3D scanning and printing, production workflows were streamlined, eliminating the need for manual mold fabrication. This breakthrough resulted in a more agile and responsive manufacturing process, enabling Seat Concepts to meet customer demands with unparalleled speed and efficiency. In addition to the company's engineering endeavors, TechHelp graphic designers significantly impacted Seat Concepts' digital presence. Through strategic interventions on social media and the website, Seat Concepts' branding and engagement were enhanced, ensuring a cohesive and captivating online experience for their audience. This comprehensive approach not only transformed manufacturing processes but also elevated Seat Concepts' brand visibility and customer interaction, reinforcing their commitment to excellence and innovation across all facets of the project.

"Aligning ourselves with TechHelp has been one of the best decisions we've made as an organization simply because they helped us change our most vital process (moving away from handmade fiberglass molds to 3D printing molds) for the better. I'm not sure where we'd be right now if it weren't for working with Tech Help. We are definitely looking forward to working with Tech Help more in the future."

-Chad Zulian, Owner



RESULTS



40% increase in jobs



80% increase in cost savings



20% increase in sales revenue



Hired the first TechHelp intern as an industry partner benefit

TECHHELP
Idaho Manufacturing Specialists