



SOUTH DAKOTA MANUFACTURING AND TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

The South Dakota Manufacturing and Technology Solutions' mission is "To provide solutions which will assist all of South Dakota manufacturers to prosper and grow". We support industry and business in the workplace—whether that's in the office, on the factory floor, at a hospital, in a bank, or on the job site. With our manufacturing experts and network of industry resources, we provide the change that makes the significant difference between surviving and thriving. Our tailored solutions, university and community connections, and engineering know-how can help your company stay abreast of the latest technologies and best practices in engineering and business management. Ultimately, our aim is to help you increase productivity, efficiency, safety and quality. As a result, your profits rise and your business thrives. Our vision is "To be the first choice of South Dakota manufacturers, as a trusted partner, to advance their economic prosperity and become best in their markets". Backed by National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), South Dakota Manufacturing and Technology Solutions has access to a vast number of both public and private resources and certified trainers with experience in business and industry.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

MEP Center impacts are based on clients surveyed in FY2023



\$5.6 Million

Total Increased/Retained Sales



44

Total Increased/Retained Jobs



\$5.6 Million

New Client Investments



\$1.2 Million

Cost Savings

CONTACT US



1201 Arrow Avenue
PO Box 730
Watertown, SD 57201



(605) 882-5284



www.sdmanufacturing.com



sdmts@sdmanufacturing.com



LEAN TRANSFORMATION DRASTICALLY REDUCES LEADTIME FOR SD MANUFACTURER

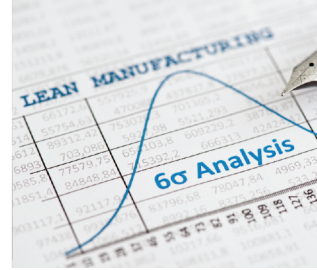
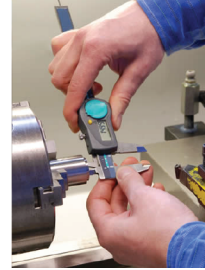
ABOUT C4 FABRICATION. C4 Fabrication specializes in products for Toyota off-road/overland vehicles with over 15 years experience in the off-road and manufacturing industry. Based in Sturgis, South Dakota, they are an industry-leading off-road supplier of Toyota bumpers, sliders, armor, bed racks, rock sliders and more. Designed and manufactured in the USA, C4 delivers the highest quality products in the Toyota off-road/overland industry. C4 is a trusted company that has been built on a reputation of extremely high-quality products that are always delivered within the advertised lead times. C4 offers a quality product that fits their customer's application, whether they are an avid off-roader, over-lander or just a weekend adventurer.

THE CHALLENGE. C4 was looking for a way to increase efficiency throughout the plant and reduce lead times in order to better serve their customers. For help the company turned to SD Manufacturing & Technology Solutions (MTS), part of the MEP National Network™.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. C4 was introduced to MTS by a friend of the owner, whose own business had engaged with MTS in the past. A few members of the C4 team completed the Lean 101 and Lean Certification offerings, but in order to get the whole team on board with lean concepts, it became evident that the best course of action would be to engage the whole team with the course. MTS provided a private Lean 101 training to C4 to familiarize their entire team with lean concepts and help transform the organization. As a result, lead-time was reduced from 14 week to 8 weeks, with a goal of further reduction to 4 weeks by the end of the 2023.

"The 1-piece flow concept helped break up the task for the welders and make their day more enjoyable, while simultaneously moving product out the door more quickly."

-Brian Beaudin, General Manager



RESULTS



Leadtime was reduced from **14 weeks** to **8** - with a goal of **4 weeks** by the end of 2023.



1-piece flow created a more enjoyable welder experience and moved product out the door more quickly.

