

## FORT WORTH GASKET AND SUPPLY ENHANCES MISSION READINESS WITH AI CHATBOT, ROBOTIC PROCESS AUTOMATION, AND POWER BI

**ABOUT FORT WORTH GASKET & SUPPLY.** Fort Worth Gasket & Supply (FWG) is based in Fort Worth, Texas, and has more than a century of experience manufacturing high-quality gaskets, fluid-sealing components, and hardware for defense, aerospace, and industrial applications. As a long-standing supplier to the Department of Defense and major prime contractors, FWG plays a critical role in the Defense Industrial Base (DIB)—ensuring readiness and reliability across a range of mission-critical platforms. Certified as a small business, FWG serves federal agencies, OEMs, and defense contractors nationwide. The company has earned national recognition from the Defense Logistics Agency and the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City for its operational excellence and contributions to strengthening the U.S. supply chain.

**THE CHALLENGE.** FWG identified an opportunity to modernize its internal processes to increase operational efficiency, improve accuracy, and minimize errors. By eliminating redundancies and automating repetitive tasks, the company aimed to streamline daily workflows, boost team productivity, and enhance responsiveness to customers.

This transformation effort was designed not only to support long-term scalability but also to uphold the high standards expected by defense and government clients.

**MEP CENTER'S ROLE.** FWG's collaboration with TMAC highlights the MEP National Network's ability to help small, legacy manufacturers adopt emerging technologies. Together, they have launched a series of innovation initiatives with tangible operational benefits:

**AI Chatbot Prototype.** TMAC is assisting FWG in developing a secure, on-premises AI-powered chatbot that enables staff to quickly retrieve technical data from internal sources—including purchase orders, MIL-SPECs, and inspection reports. This tool accelerates RFQ response times and significantly reduces manual data retrieval time.

**Robotic Process Automation (RPA).** TMAC built an RPA proof of concept using Microsoft Power Automate to streamline back-office tasks. The solution pulls data from FWG's internal SQL database to automatically generate accounts receivable updates and delivery reminders—reducing administrative burden and human error.

**Descriptive Data Analytics.** Two custom Microsoft Power BI dashboards provide FWG's leadership with real-time visibility into key operational metrics, including historical sales and order status. These tools enable faster, evidence-based decision-making across departments.

FWG is becoming a model for how small manufacturers in the DIB can strategically integrate digital tools such as AI, automation, and business intelligence to remain competitive and agile. Their use of a secure, in-house AI chatbot exemplifies alignment with the federal government's goal of leading in artificial intelligence adoption. Innovation at FWG is not aspirational—it is active, measurable, and results-driven.

With support from TMAC and the MEP National Network, FWG is blending tradition and transformation to strengthen national supply chain resilience.

## RESULTS



\$12,000 in estimated annual savings



Data-driven decisions



Improved process time by 10%

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"TMAC helped us modernize with Power BI, Power Automate, and AI—improving visibility across operations, simplifying tasks, and helping our teams make confident decisions."

-Derek Boone, Owner