Maine MEP Hosts Networking Session for Manufacturing Consultants


The session was designed to give Maine MEP project managers and senior management an opportunity to meet third-party contractors and evaluate their experience and skills for possible future projects. It also gave the organization an opportunity to discuss Maine MEP’s mission with newer consultants who had no prior experience working on projects with Maine MEP.

Maine MEP President Muriel Mosher expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the event and the broad range of experience represented by consultants attending the session. “The networking session provided a great opportunity for the Center’s entire staff of project managers to meet a select group of manufacturing consultants and discuss their backgrounds and credentials. The depth of experience represented at the event was truly impressive,” Mosher stated.

The manufacturing experts participating in the session came from diverse industries and brought with them a wide range of specializations, including: operation management, production and inventory management, supply chain, strategic planning, business analysis, lean manufacturing, software, human resources, accounting, finance, management services, professional development and succession planning.

“Networking sessions are an important tool for us to identify the best talent available in the state to assist us on projects with Maine manufacturers,” Mosher noted. “Our federal mandate calls for MEP centers to utilize third-party consultants, and through these sessions consultants have a chance to pitch their skills to us.”

“The networking session was a critical part of the Maine MEP strategy to provide a greater diversity services to its clients,” stated Center Director Larry Robinson. “Consultants are a key element in the success of Maine MEP’s mission. We don’t have in-house every skill set that a manufacturing client might need, but through third-party agreements we can bring in consultants with the experience and background needed to achieve the project goals of our clients.”

The networking session was hosted at TechPlace, the technology accelerator opened in February 2015 on the grounds of the former Naval Air Station Brunswick. The conversion of the building and the services offered to manufacturing startups located at
the facility have been supported by a federal Make It In America challenge grant that Maine MEP and its partners were awarded.

**About Maine MEP**

The Maine MEP is a program of the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development and an affiliate of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) under the U.S. Department of Commerce. The national MEP system is a network of manufacturing extension centers that provide business and technical assistance to smaller manufacturers in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Through MEP, manufacturers have access to more than 2,000 manufacturing and business professionals whose job is to help firms make changes that lead to greater productivity, increased profits and enhanced global competitiveness. For information on the Maine MEP program, please visit [www.mainemep.org](http://www.mainemep.org), or phone 1-800-MEP-4MFG.