



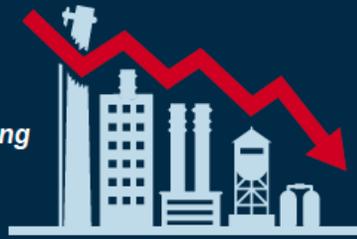
Manufacturing Myths – Debunked!

- THE TRUTHS ABOUT THE INDUSTRY TODAY -



Myth #1

U.S. manufacturing is in decline.



Truth

Employment, shipments, and exports are on the rise.



Manufacturing is 11% of the U.S. GDP when narrowly defined by government statistics including only the value-added of manufacturing facilities



Manufacturing is 1/3 of the U.S. economy when you include facilities **AND** everything they involve:

- Upstream raw materials
- Logistics
- Energy consumed by factories
- Downstream wholesale and retail distribution
- Corporate offices and R&D centers



U.S. is **2nd largest manufacturer in the world**, responsible for **17% of world manufacturing activity**.

Longest continuous post-war expansion of manufacturing employment took place between 2010 and 2019 (prior to pandemic), with modest but consistent gains.



Manufacturers' sales increased by 29% over the decade 2009 – 2019, and **manufactured exports grew by 51%** during the same period.



HOW THE MEP NATIONAL NETWORK HELPS

The MEP National Network™ contributes to the growth of U.S. manufacturing.



\$13 Billion



105,000 Jobs

In FY 2020 alone, the Network helped to generate **\$13 billion** in new and retained sales and create or retain more than **105,000 jobs**.



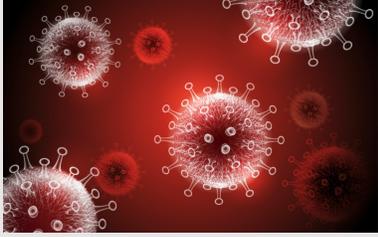
\$127 Billion



1.1M Jobs

Since its inception in 1988, the MEP National Network has helped generate over **\$127 billion** in new and retained sales and create or retain over **1.1 million jobs**.

Click for More Myths



COVID-19 Update: Current Situation in Alabama



Artificial Intelligence in Manufacturing: Real World Success Stories and Lessons Learned



ATN Solutions Provide Extensive Workforce Training, Technical Assistance, & Engineering Services

Team Update | January

Continual Improvement

Happy New Year! And Happy New Forecast! Recently, in North Alabama, we went from almost 80 degrees one day to a couple of inches of snow the next. That old joke is still true – “If you don’t like the weather in Alabama, wait 5 minutes”!

In speaking with companies this past year, changes in business have changed faster than Alabama weather. Long supplier lead times, inflation, changing customer requirements, etc. ... all of these are hard to manage let alone bring success. Let ATN help you with these changes where we can. Our Continuous Improvement (CI) team has the tools and training to help you tackle changes in your company. And if you do not see what you are looking for, call or email as we can work to customize training for you.

Contact us at citeam@atn.org.

Environmental Health & Safety

According to NIOSH (National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health), more than 2 million Permit-Required Confined Space (PRCS) entries occur in the U.S. annually. Unfortunately, statistics also reveal that almost 115 people die performing activities in PRCS each year. Most of those fatalities are due to toxic atmospheric hazards. Such atmospheric hazards are those in relation to gases that are hazardous to our respiratory system, displace oxygen, or create the potential for highly flammable environments.

At ATN our EHS Team has the resources to prepare you and your workforce to enter and work in PRCS safely, controlling those hazards and providing the workers a working environment that is safe and healthy. This starts with proper training and education for employees so that you have a skilled and equipped confined space team. It also involves having a properly written safety program specifically for confined space work, it requires a hazard evaluation of each confined space on your worksite, and it must be controlled by a proper permitting process.

We can provide training, written program assistance, confined space hazard evaluations, and any other assistance you might need with your Permit-Require Confined Spaces. Contact our EHS Team today with any need you might have.

Contact us at ehsteam@atn.org.

Food Safety

ATN is excited to share that a new course will be offered in Spring 2022! The course is an adaptation of the popular 8-hour Continual Improvement course Lean 101: Principles. Like the current course, Lean 101: Principles for Food Manufacturing will have both lecture and hands-on simulation components to introduce standardized work, workplace organization, visual controls, set-up reduction, batch size reduction, point-of-use storage, quality at the source, workforce practices, and pull systems. However, the simulation will be geared specifically to represent a food manufacturing exercise and include additional factors such as Good Manufacturing Practices and comprehensive food safety program requirements.

The content is structured to train employees from any role within a company. The course would be a great application for managers looking for team-building activities for their crew and is eligible for grant funding program assistance!

If your facility has any questions or would be interested in offering Lean 101: Principles for Food Manufacturing to your team, please reach out to us for additional information and scheduling.

Contact us at foodsafety@atn.org.

Industrial Maintenance & Technology

The beginning of a new year is a time of planning and creating goals. Some of the goals for your industrial maintenance team may include training, but you may find yourself in a situation where you simply cannot spare all of your maintenance team at any given time. From time to time, Alabama Technology Network offers Workshops to accommodate companies who may only need to send one or two people for training. We would be glad to work with your company to try to offer an Industrial Maintenance workshop in your area so that multiple companies can send one or two technicians. This type of training is also more cost-effective for the company. Please look over our product offerings at [Industrial Maintenance & Technology | Alabama Technology Network \(atn.org\)](#) and let us know if there is a particular topic that you would like to see offered as a Workshop in your area.

Contact us at imtteam@atn.org.

Leadership & Management Development

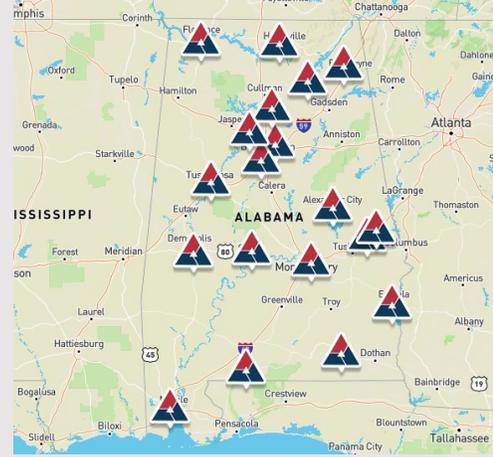
Leadership & Management Development courses are modular 2-hour sessions that can be delivered on-site. The classes are interactive with activities and assessments that help supervisors and managers understand their strengths and possible areas of improvement and to help employees gain a sense of personal leadership. Interactive learning is key to understanding not only your own management skills but also those of your teammates and coworkers.

Contact us at imdteam@atn.org.

With a staff of 53 employees and over 600 years of combined manufacturing experience, ATN has the knowledge and capability to provide Alabama companies with services and private resources to enhance growth, improve productivity, reduce

costs, and expand capacity.

Over the years, ATN has learned to perfect customer service. We pride ourselves on being a trusted local partner, to implement solutions and innovations for your company, to develop and train employees, and to assess and improve processes in the workforce, knowing you can count on us.



[ATN Website](#)

