



## **NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP): Delivering Value to U.S. Manufacturers**

June 7, 2017

1:00PM to 3:00PM

Capitol Visitor Center, Room CVC 268

MEP is a national network of centers located in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. Each center is a public-private partnership between the federal government and a variety of public and private entities, including the companies for which they do work, state, university, and nonprofit organizations. This diverse network, with nearly 600 service locations, has close to 1,300 non-Federal field staff serving as trusted business advisors and technical experts ready and able to assist small and mid-sized U.S. manufacturing companies to grow and thrive. A recent independent study by the W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research shows an economic return of nearly 9:1 for the \$130.0 million annually invested by the federal government.

During this briefing, you will receive additional background information on the MEP program and hear from MEP Centers and their clients on the work they do every day to improve operations, adopt new technologies, expand into new markets and find/retain a high quality workforce. The client companies include defense suppliers looking for new markets, companies in advanced materials and companies implementing new technologies in their products and operations.

**Moderator:** Karen Heins, Executive Director, Foundation for Manufacturing Excellence

Invited Members of Congress: Senator Chris Coons (DE), Representatives Tom Reed (NY), Tim Ryan (OH), Robert Wittman (VA), Don Beyer (VA), Scott Taylor (VA), David Cicilline (RI), Robert Brady (PA)

**Panelists:**

Randall Eberts, W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research (economic impact of the MEP program)

Christian Cowen, Director, Polaris MEP (Rhode Island); Chris Hogoboom, President, Goetz Composites, based in Bristol, RI (focus on workforce issues primarily)

Joe Houldin, CEO, Pennsylvania MEP (DVIRC); Nick Hackett, President, New Way Air Bearings, based in Ashton, PA (focus on technology adoption)

Bill Donohue, President, GENEDGE (Virginia); Gregory Glaros of Synexus, an advanced control technology business, based in northern Virginia; and Bart Heenan, owner of Morphix Technologies, based in Virginia Beach (focus on defense manufacturing and market diversification).

Space is limited. [Please RSVP.](#)