

# SUSTAINABILITY | For a Brighter Future

Sustainability is not a new concept, but many small and medium-sized manufacturers (SMMs) worry that the costs will outweigh the benefits. However, SMMs that integrate sustainability into their business strategy can benefit from lower costs and reduced risk, while increasing efficiencies, improving products and services, and building brand value. Furthermore, a properly implemented sustainability strategy can provide a competitive edge and position a business as a supply chain partner of choice.

Sustainable manufacturing is a broad term that includes making products using less energy and materials, producing less waste, using fewer hazardous materials, or offering products that are recyclable or use less energy. Sustainable manufacturing principles can range from simple process improvements to large investments in new technologies and product redesign.

## IDENTIFIED SAVINGS\*

**\$58 million**  
Energy savings

**\$55 million**  
Environmental savings

**1 billion**  
Kilowatt reduction

## Benefits of Sustainable Manufacturing:



Increase operational efficiency by reducing costs and waste.



Reduce regulatory risk through better management.



Respond to or reach new customers.



Build long-term business viability.



Strengthen brand reputation and build public trust.

\*Based on MEP Center client assessments from 2011 – 2019.

Whether you are looking to improve cost effectiveness or efficiencies in your operation or to comply with sustainability regulations, the MEP National Network's experienced practitioners help SMMs:

- Understand the elements of sustainability most appropriate for their business.
- Improve resource and operational efficiencies.
- Manage energy cost, consumption, and intensity.
- Prioritize improvement opportunities based on ROI and environmental impacts.
- Respond and comply with customer and key stakeholder requests to measure, track, and report on key environmental and social performance indicators at facilities and across the supply chain.
- Stay abreast of emerging and breakthrough material, production, and energy technologies.
- Measure, track and improve supplier sustainability performance.

The MEP National Network understands the importance of measuring the return on investments in order to fully realize the benefits of sustainable manufacturing. Our practitioners can help you track and measure sustainability focus areas to include energy savings, reductions in air emissions, solid waste, hazardous waste, water pollution, and water and energy conserved.

The MEP National Network offers comprehensive sustainability services to help manufacturers create customized plans to be proactive and train employees on how to recognize future areas of improvement. Manufacturers are realizing the many practical short- and long-term financial benefits to implementing environmentally conscious improvements. Such practices help organizations become more efficient, competitive, and profitable.

## WHAT IMPACT DOES SUSTAINABILITY HAVE?



"We were staggered by the results, both in knowledge gained and money saved. The Value Stream and W.A.S.T.E. Stream Mapping exercises taught us how to look with fresh eyes to find and eliminate non-value added activities. Instructors were extremely knowledgeable about alternate materials and processes that would benefit the company. Not only will these changes benefit the environment and our employees, but it will also allow us to be much more efficient and realize savings that far outweigh the small cost of the program."

– Darin McCullough and Jay McCullough – Owners of IN-FAB, Inc.



## CONTACT US:

If you are ready to improve cost effectiveness or efficiencies in your operation, contact us to learn more.



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## THE MEP NATIONAL NETWORK

The MEP National Network is a unique public-private partnership that delivers comprehensive, proven solutions to U.S. manufacturers, fueling growth and advancing U.S. manufacturing.