

What is the MEP National Network?

The Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) National Network is a federal public-private partnership that provides small- and medium-sized manufacturers (SMMs) technology-based services they need to thrive in today's economy and create well-paying manufacturing jobs. MEP is managed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and implemented through a network of industry-led centers located in every state. MEP centers are not-for-profit corporations that employ industry experts who work directly with manufacturers.



SMMs account for nearly **99%** of all manufacturing firms in the US and MEP is the only federal program dedicated to serving them.

Due to their need for manageable and customized services, they are often overlooked by for-profit consulting and technology firms – but need those services to compete, grow and create jobs.

The MEP centers fill that gap.



In 2018 alone, the MEP network interacted with over **27,000 SMMs**.

PROVEN RESULTS

As a public-private partnership, MEP delivers a high return on investment to taxpayers. Each year, an independent firm surveys manufacturers regarding the impact they have achieved from MEP Center services.

MEP Drives Growth



MEP clients reported **\$16 Billion** new and retained sales in 2018.



\$3.8 Billion, of the \$116 Billion reported, is new sales.



Clients reported **\$4.0 Billion** in new investments directly attributed to their work with MEP.



MEP returns **\$14.5** for the Federal Treasury for every \$1 invested.²

MEP Creates Jobs



Since 1988, MEP clients reported **1,107,346** jobs created and retained, high paying jobs that have a large multiplier effect.



Each of these jobs create **3.4¹** full-time additional jobs, totaling more than 3 million additional jobs in local communities.



MEP clients reported **122,029** jobs created or retained in 2018.



For every one dollar of federal investment in FY2018, the MEP generated **\$29.5** in new sales growth and \$31 in new client investment.

Considering that the average U.S. manufacturing worker earns more than \$83,023 in wages and benefits per year, MEP clients are economic drivers in their communities.

Manufacturers pay to utilize MEP--so it's not free!

SMMs pay for the direct costs of the services they receive, this fee for service...

- Meets the federal cost share requirements
- Requires MEP Centers to offer services that are of value to the manufacturing community
- Encourages SMMs to seek a return on their investment, which is more likely to sustain the improvements and generate local economic impact.

MEP is critical to helping address manufacturing priorities.

MEP plays a critical role in addressing cybersecurity as a national priority, strengthening the defense industrial supply base and addressing the manufacturing skills gap. For example, the Department of Defense recently released its report, "Assessing and Strengthening the Manufacturing and Defense Industrial Base and Supply Chain Resiliency of the United States" which highlights sessions held by MEP with more than 1,000 US manufacturers to familiarize them with DFARs requirements to ensure adequate cybersecurity protections. Examples such as this reinforce the need to maintain and grow the MEP Network.

¹ <http://www.nam.org/Newsroom/Facts-About-Manufacturing/>

² <https://research.upjohn.org/reports/230/>