



Accomplishments

About ERMP

ERMP was formed in 2014 by a group of 20 local manufacturers that in total employ approximately 9,000 individuals, to develop and implement a plan that will result in the ability to identify, qualify, and recruit individuals for manufacturing employment. In addition ERMP aims to create greater opportunities for individuals in the community to enter into and advance along manufacturing career pathways. This grassroots effort is led by industry partners to collectively identify needs and champion solutions as it relates to developing a robust pipeline and producing a skilled workforce.

Founding ERMP companies include: American Turned Products, Bliley Technologies/Sunburst, Custom Engineering, Erie Concrete and Steel, Erie Forge & Steel, Erie Press Systems, Erie Strayer, Eriez Magnetics, FMC Technologies, GE Transportation, Industrial Sales & Mfg., Knox Western, Lord Corporation, Machining Concepts, Inc., Maple Donuts, McInnes Rolled Rings, Modern Industries, PSB Industries, Reddog Industries/PHB Incorporated, and Zurn Industries.

Words of Support

“Our goals are to grow the pool of skilled labor to fill manufacturing labor needs of today and in the future,” said George Currie, Executive Vice President of Erie Press Systems and Chair/President of ERMP. “We will do this by working with related community stakeholders, developing a workforce roadmap with dynamic goals and measurements, and opening plants to educate students, teachers, guidance counselors and others by illustrating family sustaining opportunities in the manufacturing workplace.”

“For the Erie Area to survive, it is imperative that we retain, grow, and strengthen manufacturing,” said Roger Schultz, Manager of Technical Training at Lord Corporation and Vice Chairperson of Erie Regional Manufacturer Partnership. “It is only with a continuous supply of individuals who have the basic skills and the desire to embrace lifelong learning that this will occur,” added Schultz.

Collaborative efforts such as ERMP give the Erie Region a competitive edge. “These partnerships can allow for more opportunity to leverage government and community assets in a cohesive way,” said Jim Rutkowski, Jr., Industrial Sales & Manufacturing Inc. General Manager and Treasurer and ERMP Secretary. He continued, “With this collective force, we can enhance our community’s world class workforce to bring more business to our community.”

Erie Regional Manufacturer Partnership Officers

- **Chair / President** - George Currie, Executive VP of Erie Press Systems
- **Vice-Chair** - James Rutkowski Jr., General Manager of Industrial Sales & Mfg.
- **Secretary** - John Stull, Human Resource Manager of Lord Corporation
- **Treasurer** - Timothy Hunter, President of McInnes Rolled Rings



Accomplishments

GE Transportation \$10,000 Donation (December 2015)

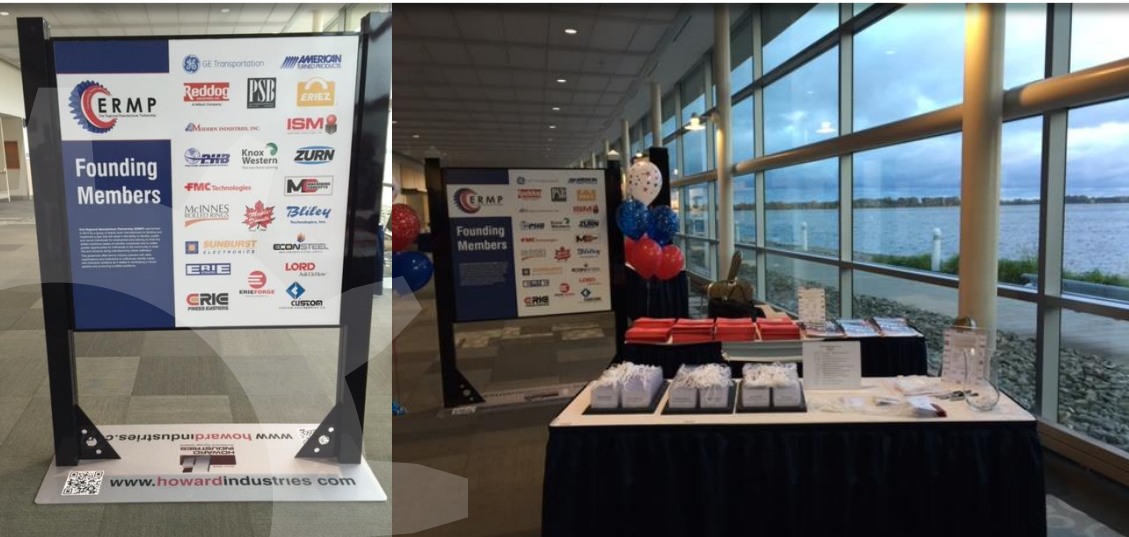
GE Transportation made a \$10,000 donation to the Erie Regional Manufacturers Partnership (ERMP) to support ERMP's work in addressing the recent growth of manufacturing and declining pipeline of skilled manufacturers in Erie County. GE Transportation is a founding member of ERMP and has contributed to the funding, planning and participation of this summit.



Erie Community Foundation Grant Awarded (October 2015)

The Erie Community Foundation awarded ERMP a Helping Today grant to support the development of this action plan and initial organization of an implementation structure.

ERMP Manufacturer Workforce Summit (October 2015)



ERMP worked in conjunction with the Manufacturer & Business Association, Erie Community Foundation, and the Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership to host the Erie Regional Manufacturer Workforce Summit on Thursday, October 1 at the Bayfront Convention Center in Erie.



Accomplishments

2014

20 Manufacturing Companies Committed (Fall 2014)

A group of committed, local manufacturers joined forces to form the ERMP, contributing \$6,000 each as seed funding to support the initial formation and coordination of the organization. These companies now serve as ERMP's Board of Directors.

2015

Assets Identified (January 2015)

ERMP identified community assets that could complement and support their efforts and catalogued their strengths, services, and resources for alignment with the Partnership's goals.

Initial Planning Sessions Held (March/April 2015)

ERMP engaged other key stakeholders in two initial planning sessions about manufacturing workforce challenges. This session generated key themes and useful insight into the underlying root causes. Stakeholders also began to connect the dots and uncover opportunities for alignment of resources, ideas and best practices.

Initial Action Underway (July / August 2015)

While it is important to complete the overall planning process to establish common goals, strategies, and priorities, ERMP also recognized the need to initiate immediate action. ERMP began working with existing programs and initiatives and have challenged the Board of Directors to have 100 percent participation by the end of September. These programs include: MBA's Employer-Student Connection, PA CareerLink®, and Career Street.

Expanded Stakeholders (September 2015)

TPMA expanded its list of community leaders who will be essential for ERMP success. The list includes stakeholders from education, workforce development, economic development, community-based organizations, and other manufacturers.

U.S. Department of Labor American Apprenticeship Initiative Grant Awarded (September 2015)

USDOL awarded the Greater Oh-Penn Apprenticeship Network—of which ERMP was a principal partner—a **\$2.99 million grant to expand manufacturing apprenticeships**

ERMP Manufacturer Workforce Summit (October 2015)

The Summit successfully engaged a wider group of approximately 200 interested regional manufacturers, educators, workforce and economic development professionals, government officials, and other community leaders to discuss ideas, establish workforce priorities, and develop a comprehensive action plan for moving forward.

2016

ERMP Strategic Action Plan (2016)

ERMP has synthesized the ideas from the Summit into a comprehensive action plan that provides strategic direction for the Partnership defining ongoing collaborative activities to connect more individuals in the community with manufacturing career pathways.