

Focus On Manufacturing

Workforce Solutions for NW Indiana's Employers

September 2016 - Issue 1

*From the NW Indiana Workforce Board
on Behalf of the Manufacturing Consortium*



NWI Manufacturing Consortium: Creating Workforce Solutions

Last fall a small group of Northwest Indiana employers met to discuss the mutual workforce needs of the manufacturing sector. With staffing support from the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board, the group has expanded its participation and identified initial priorities for meeting, hiring, and training needs in the sector. The result has been the creation of a Manufacturing Consortium as an ongoing platform to guide training and employment programs and initiatives, and to engage employers in forming connections to schools to ensure that a reliable talent pipeline will be maintained.

[Read more about the NWI Manufacturing Consortium](#)

[View our 2 minute informational video for a quick understanding of the SKILL UP Indiana Grant](#)

A recent article by Joel Simon of the Council on Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) in Chicago zeros in on the value of engaging employers in planning on an industry sector basis to look below the official labor market data to gain insights that can only come from talking directly with employers. By doing so in an organized and ongoing manner, we can better align programs and funding sources for maximum impact.

[Read full article](#)



SKILL UP!- Think about upskilling your current workforce

In February of 2016, the Department of Workforce Development announced that the Northwest Indiana Manufacturing Consortium was awarded over \$400,000 to train under-

skilled and incumbent workers. The consortium built foundational coursework that employers agree are most critical for new employees. The long-term goal is to have entry level workers demonstrate proficiency in these foundational skills when seeking any manufacturing job open in Northwest Indiana.

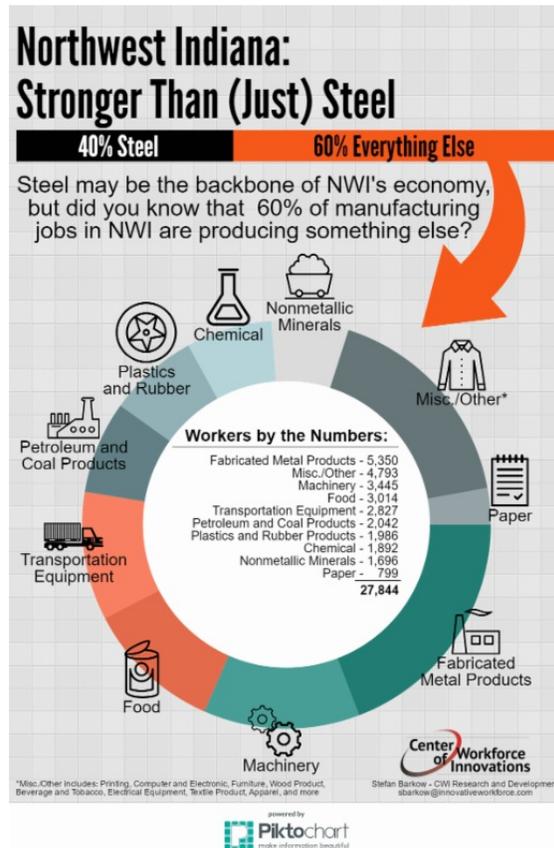
[Read more about our plans and goals for the SKILL UP Grant](#)

[View our 2 minute information video for a quick understanding of the SKILL UP Indiana grant](#)

The program has openings for incumbent workers to participate in upcoming classes in November and January. Contact Allison Bertl 219-462-2940, ext. 41 or abertl@gotoworkonenw.com

What do we manufacture in NWI?

There's a good reason that Northwest Indiana is known for its steel mills: 40% of regional manufacturing jobs are producing metal. That means that the other 60%—a strong majority—is producing other goods entirely. What else do we make in NWI? This month's infographic has the answer.



Manufacturing Day 2016- Inspiring the next generation

ManufacturingDaySM is a celebration of modern manufacturing meant to inspire the next generation of manufacturers. Although Manufacturing Day officially occurs on the first Friday in October—this year is **October 7, 2016**—any day can be a Manufacturing Day.

[Click here for more information and to find out how you can get involved](#)

Employer Spotlight

American Licorice's, Steve Nunberg, Human Resource Manager, discusses their collaboration with WorkOne and Ivy Tech to offer the CPT Program to advance their



employee's work skills.

[Read more here](#)

Click on our logo to learn more about the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board (NWIWB)



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