

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA MANUFACTURING WITH CUTTING-EDGE PRECISION.

DECEMBER 23





NATIONAL AWARD WINNER

Pittsburgh Chapter NTMA member earns top honor. pg. 8



NEW LOCATION PGH NTMA opens the doors to a new facility and new opportunities. pg. 12

nationwide celebration of the industry, which also serves as an opportunity to inspire the students of today to become the manufacturers of tomorrow.

CONTINUED ON PG. 10

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

- 2 PGH NTMA: NEW LEADER, FAMILIAR FACE
- 4 JUMP START ON INTERNS
- 7 WHY WAIT? START YOUR APPRENTICES IN JANUARY
- 13 ADVERTISE IN THE PGH NTMA NEWSLETTER
- 16 PGH NTMA MAKES THE MOST OF PARTNERSHIP

OUR LEADERSHIP IS CHANGING; OUR MISSION REMAINS THE SAME

by Kevin Hartford, President of the Board, PGH NTMA/NTMF

If you've been a member of the Pittsburgh Chapter NTMA for a while, then you have watched our organization expand and mature to meet the needs of our ever-evolving industry.

This past summer, Michel Conklin was named Pittsburgh Chapter NTMA executive director. Many of you know Michel for her work with BotsIQ. She joined our team in 2016 and has been a catalyst for progress ever since coming aboard.

In her seven-year tenure, Michel's focus has been on enhancing opportunities in manufacturing and STEM careers. She has successfully secured more than \$4 million in funding and expanded the staff to a team of eight. Under her leadership, BotsIQ has seen impressive grown and the development

of various educational program and initiatives including: BotsIQ Academy, Close the Loop, BotsIQ Summer Internship Program, Robotic Technician Pre-Apprenticeship Program, National Endorsement from ARM Institute, BotsIQ Cobot Challenge and RoboRecharge. If you're interested in learning the specifics of any of these programs, you'll find descriptions at www.botsiqpa.org.

In addition to these major initiatives, Michel has also created various hands-on STEM opportunities for students of all ages in the region, including summer camps, the Girls Exploring Series, after-school programs and MFGexplore. These programs are designed to make learning fun and engaging while encouraging students to discover and explore the world of manufacturing

and STEM.

Michel's leadership has had a significant and positive impact on the BotsIQ program, enhancing educational opportunities for students and preparing them for successful careers in manufacturing and STEM fields. Michel has embraced Manufacturing Day and turned it into a yearround event by taking high school students into our member shops and introducing them to



athletic training and a master's degree in secondary education. Prior to joining BotsIQ, Michel was employed for 12 years as a middle school science teacher. Michel resides in



precision manufacturing.

One of Michel's most dynamic skills is networking. She serves on the National Board of Women in Manufacturing Education Foundation and is affiliated with other groups and associations.

She attended Duquesne University and earned a bachelor's degree in Wexford, Pa. with her husband and two sons.

The Board is excited to have Michel as our new chapter executive. We look forward to a bright future for the Pittsburgh Chapter NTMA as we continue to do what we've always done best—create opportunities to help our members build their best business.













in business!



Providing precision machining and fabrication of plastics and non-ferrous alloys since 1981.

Specializing in:

- Milling
- Turning
- Water Jet Cutting
- Turret Punching
- Busbar Punching and Forming
- Die Cutting
- 3D Printing
- Assembly

toll-free: 800-827-1900

email: mikec@metplas.com

www.metplas.com

27 Years of Membership



3 Acee Drive, Natrona Heights, PA 15065

EARLY BIRD PLANNING FOR SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

hy should your company provide summer internships? Interns are a source of valuable support for businesses and their existing employees. Internships allow companies to invest in their



own future success and discover new talent and future leaders.

Internships are also a mutually beneficial arrangement for both companies and interns. Interns provide companies with significant assistance, a potential talent pipeline and opportunities for growth and innovation. Internships are a mutually beneficial arrangement for both companies and interns.

The intern will gain practical experience and expand their professional network for future employment.

Could your company benefit from providing a 2024 Summer Internship opportunity for a BotsIQ intern candidate?

Contact Maria Campieri at campieri@botsiqpa.org to learn more and begin planning for next summer.

Minimizing Risks in an Ever-Changing Market

Frost Brown Todd is a full-service law firm serving some of America's top corporations. Our manufacturing attorneys excel in areas such as:

- Labor & Employment
- Litigation
- Antitrust
- Intellectual Property
- · Supply Chain
- · Transactions
- · Construction
- Environmental
- Real Estate
- · Government Relations

Jordan S. Blask | Member | Pittsburgh 412.513.4268 | jblask@fbtlaw.com





Host a BotsIQ Summer Intern

Benefits for Companies

Community Engagement



Cost Effective



Fresh Perspective



Support with Tasks & Projects



Talent Pipeline



Skill Development





We learned just as much from the interns as we hope they learned from us. They brought fresh eyes to projects and asked questions that we may have missed. It was a win-win!

Jessica Gardner, General Carbide

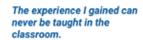






Not only does having a BotsIQ intern help your company get work done in the summer, it also opens your company up to new ideas/perspectives and helps promote careers in manufacturing. It's not just a win for your company, it's a win for the industry and community as a whole!

Emily Keating, Hamill Manufacturing









College Cohort
Internship begins in May



High School Cohort Internship begins in June BotsIQ's internship program introduced me to careers that could fit my future perfectly.



Ryan Murtha



For more information, email Maria Campieri campieri@botsiqpa.com www.botsiqpa.org

APPRENTICE COMPETITION

by Liz Blashock, Program and Events Coordinator, PGH NTMA

T's almost that time of year again! The Annual Pittsburgh Chapter NTMA/MSC Apprentice Competition is set for Friday, Feb. 16, 2024, at the Westmoreland Advanced Technology Center. The best of the best will square off for the title of "Best Metalworking Apprentice" in the region.

The competition begins with a timed written exam to assess content knowledge. Each competitor then competes in the hands-on portion of the competition where they will be judged on the precise production of both a manual mill part and a manual lathe part.

Apprentices are given never-before-seen blueprints with a complete toolbox and material to manufacture



these machined parts.
Participation is open
to all apprentices of
the Pittsburgh Chapter
NTMA Apprenticeship
Program and any
apprentice employed
at an NTMA Member
Company. First and second
year apprentices must have
earned at least five NIMS
credentials to qualify. The



winner will be announced at our June Graduation Banquet and they will walk away with the prestigious title, "Best Metalworking Apprentice" plus an H. Gerstner & Sons Tool Box.

Contact Liz Blashock at blashock@pghntmf.org or (412) 212-6868 if you have an apprentice interested in competing.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Increase your company's visibility and support the future of manufacturing through sponsorship.

MULTIPLE LEVELS AVAILABLE.

For more information:
Liz Blashock
Blashock@pghntmf.org
(412) 212-6868



Year 1 Fast Track Training is Back!

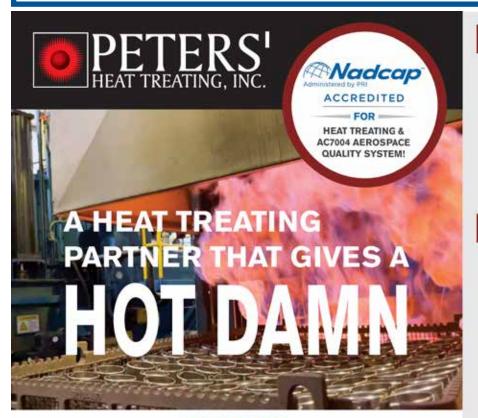
Don't wait until NEXT September to enroll your new machinist apprentices.

Every Tuesday and Thursday evening from January 30 to May 30 at **Westmoreland's Advanced Technology Center**

Our SPECIALIZED CURRICULUM is taught by quality instructors with industry experience!

CONTACT LIZ BLASHOCK FOR MORE INFORMATION (412) 212-6868 or BLASHOCK@PGHNTMF.ORG WWW.PGHNTMA.ORG





CONTACT US

814-333-1782

11010 MCHENRY STREET, MEADVILLE, PA 16335 sales@petersheattreat.com | petersheattreat.com

WHY CHOOSE US

- Local Pickup & Delivery Service
- Fast Turnaround and Delivery
- ISO 9001:2015 Certified
- Nadcap Accredited for Aerospace
- Turn Key Solution Provider
- Woman-Owned & Operated
- Real Time Job Tracking System
- Our Customers LOVE us

OUR SERVICES

- Age Hardening
- Air Hardening
- Aluminum Alloy Processing
- Annealing
- Black Oxide Coating
- Carbonitriding
- Carburizing
- Cryogenics
- Ferritic Nitrocarburizing (FNC) Stress Relieving
- Gas Nitriding
- High-Speed Steel Hardening
 Tool Steel Hardening
- Hot Working Steels
- Induction Hardening
- · Laser Heat Treating
- Neutral Hardening

- Normalizing
- Oil Hardening
- Rust Preventative
- Sandblasting
- Selective Hardening
- Shotblasting
- Solution Hardening
- Straightening
- Tempering
- Metallography
- Metallurgical Analysis
- · Microhardness Testing
- Vacuum Hardening











GLOBAL/SFC VALVE WINS NATIONAL AWARD

by John Lewis, Marketing and Outreach Coordinator, BotsIQ

he Pittsburgh Chapter NTMA is proud to announce that member company Global/SFC Valve was awarded the William E. Hardman Award for Excellence in Training due to their unwavering commitment to workforce development, as well as their dedication to supporting the manufacturing industry as a whole.

When asked why Global was so committed to workforce development, Sherry Abel, Global's Training Facilitator, said, "We're committed to training because it's very hard to find experienced machinists and welders. We manufacture Navy valves for nuclear submarines and aircraft carriers; the work is very sensitive and it's important we know that our employees are trained properly. There is a lack of people going into manufacturing, so we try to emphasize that the manufacturing industry is a good place to be."

Global joined the NTMA in 2020 to increase their training capabilities. That year, they started a certified apprenticeship program that utilizes the training pathways they've fostered since their company began. As Sherry puts it, "We joined the NTMA because we wanted to use NTMA-U as part of our training program. There isn't enough training available for machinists or quality inspectors, and NTMA-U has a





wide range of classes."

NTMA-U is the on-line curriculum associated with the NTMA, which provides a convenient alternative for companies when the Pittsburgh Chapter's in-person apprenticeship program is too far to attend. Global also allows other local businesses to tour their facilities and interview their employees so that the industry as a whole can become more efficient and successful.

Linda Heining, the CEO and president of Global, says that the apprenticeship program was a long-time dream of the company's former owner Bob Kirst.

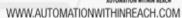
"As he was building the company, he worked closely with economic development and non-profit organizations to inspire and support future manufacturers." Overall, Linda says that the apprenticeship program has been a success, adding that, "Our apprentices are well prepared for their jobs once they finish the program."

Through the efforts of Pittsburgh Chapter NTMA member companies like Global/SFC Valve, the American manufacturing industry is flourishing in the modern world. Thank you, Global Incorporated, for supporting workforce development, and congratulations.

IT'S NEVER BEEN EASIER TO GET AUTOMATED

Labor shortages, optimizing productivity, and increasing efficiency are just some of the reasons to automate your production. From big to small, every shop should be investing in automation. It's easier (and more affordable) than you think.







WHICH AUTOMATION SYSTEM IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Haas Factory Outlet Pittsburgh offers many different options for automating your shop, from automatic part loaders and pallet pools, to fully integrated robot systems. Depending on your shop's needs, there's an automation system that's right for you.



Haas Factory Outlet - Pittsburgh 549-A Keystone Drive Warrendale, PA 15086

800-358-6959 WWW.HAASFACTORYOUTLET.COM

SPEED • POWER • PERFORMANCE



SOLUTIONS









The support you need to Make What Matters



632 E. McMurray Rd. • McMurray, PA 15317 Phone: (724) 942-4451 • Toll Free: (800) 269-4090 • Fax: (724) 942-4453 www.allegmach.com

MFG Day... A Month-Long Success

THE FUTURE OF THE INDUSTRY LOOKS BRIGHT.

by John Lewis, Marketing and Outreach Coordinator, BotsIQ

he Pittsburgh Chapter NTMA's youth workforce development program, BotsIQ, took advantage of October to partner with 21 southwestern Pennsylvania manufacturers to show middle school and high school students what a career in the industry looks like.

From the company perspective, these outreach efforts address the growing need to train future generations of manufacturers. Rebecca Dalton, vice president of finance at MetPlas explains, "After Covid showed the United States that the self-sufficiency of American manufacturing is important, the industry is growing very quickly. There are more positions opening than ever before."
Michael Spena, engineering director at FS-Elliott, believes in the positive impact these events can have. "We at

FS-Elliott participate in the NTMA/BotsIQ MFG Day tours to help high school students in our communities get exposure to careers in manufacturing, engineering and design," said Spena. "We know that seeing these professions in action can help the students decide on their career paths."

Over the course of the month, BotsIQ recruited 52 educators across 30 schools to join in on Manufacturing Month events, offering this opportunity to celebrate the manufacturing industry to an unprecedented number of students. In all, 370 students participated in the celebrations for Manufacturing Month, up from 169 last year, more than doubling the number of potential future professionals who connected positively to the industry. Out of 178 students surveyed at the end of their MFG Day

event, 92 percent felt that the event positively impacted their impression of the manufacturing industry. According to the students, they saw BotsIQ's tours as a chance to "broaden their knowledge" and understand more about the world by taking advantage of "an experience they would never get sitting in a classroom." They mentioned enjoying learning about practically every aspect of the industry, from the capabilities of different machines to the history of the American manufacturing industry. Some students reported that they even enjoyed learning about safety, documentation and other less outwardly glamorous aspects of the industry. This kind of interest is a great sign for an industry on the rise and in need of new professionals.

The teachers connecting their schools to these opportunities had a lot to say,



as well. Darcy Holtzman, a teacher

at Burrell High School, wants to show her students the new manufacturing industry, and share her passion for manufacturing through programs like BotsIQ. Michael Steeber, of Frazier High School, added that "BotsIQ tours have provided Frazier students a motivational and eye-opening experience. They get to see what

people in high-paying jobs."

"We know that seeing these professions in action can help the students decide on their career paths."

66

Michael Spena Engineering Director, FS-Elliott In all, this year's Manufacturing Month celebrations were a resounding success. The students left feeling inspired, the teachers had a chance to give an exciting experience to their students different from their normal curriculum and the participating manufacturers laid the groundwork to connect with the workforce of the future all while sharing their passion for manufacturing with students ready to be inspired. The future of the industry is looking bright.

they do in the modern-day high school technology and engineering classroom being used to solve real problems by



PITTSBURGH CHAPTER NTMA HAS A NEW OFFICE

by Michel Conklin, Chapter Executive, Pittsburgh Chapter NTMA/NTMF

THE NEW OFFICE ADDRESS IS:

100 S. Jackson Ave. 2nd Floor Pittsburgh, PA 15202 t is official— the Pittsburgh Chapter has opened its first office! Through

a partnership with Allegheny Health Network and Highmark Health, the Chapter now resides in the former Allegheny General Hospital in Bellevue, Pa. The 5,000 square foot space includes offices for the BotsIQ and Pittsburgh Chapter staff, a conference

room, storage and the BotsIQ Training & Education Center.

"Our team has grown significantly over the past two years, creating the need for a dedicated space for us to work and meet," said Michel Conklin, Pittsburgh Chapter NTMA's chapter executive. "Additionally, this space is creating opportunities for

us to further expand our workforce development initiatives and better reach and train more people in the skills needed by our members."

The Pittsburgh Chapter NTMA joins others in the building, including AlphaLab Health, Catapult

Culinary, Northgate School District, AHN Cancer Institute Exercise Oncology, Inglis Innovation Center Pittsburgh and several local, national and international startup companies.



The History of AHN Suburban

AHN Suburban has served the Bellevue community in a variety of capacities for more than 115 years. Formerly known as AGH Suburban Hospital, and before that Bellevue General Hospital, the nearly 230,000-square-foot facility has experienced significant transformation and revitalization since closing its inpatient units and emergency departments in 2010.

The hospital hosted several doctor's offices, an Urgent Care and a few short-term care facilities, but it was generally empty and abandoned until 2020. Then President of Allegheny General Hospital, Dr. Jeffrey Cohen, saw the opportunity to repurpose the former hospital and transform it into a community resource. Dr. Cohen stepped down as president of AGH with the goal to focus on medical technology and community health. He assembled a team that included Allegheny Health Network and Highmark Health professionals and partnered with tech incubator AlphaLab to create AlphaLab Health.

Today, Dr. Cohen's vision is a reality. The hospital has been reborn— walls knocked down, equipment removed and new partners moving in every month. An official ribbon cutting ceremony and Open House was hosted on Oct. 21, 2023, inviting community members to learn more about the new companies and opportunities. More than 300 people attended.





MAXIMIZE YOUR REACH AND ROI: ADVERTISE WITH THE

PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

NTMA



\$2800

Our Best Value! 8 x 10.5 Inches





Why advertise with us?

The Pittsburgh Chapter NTMA Newsletter is a direct line to 600+ Precision Manufacturing Industry Decision Makers. Appear alongside stories, news, and events relevant to Southwestern Pennsylvania Manufacturers.

Your ad could become a conversation starter!

Respond by January 31st to guarantee your place in our 2024 issues.

MULTIPLY YOUR EXPOSURE

For an additional \$475 annually, we can include your company logo with a link to your website on **EVERY** announcement that goes out to our members via e-mail for the next year.



Price includes 4 quarterly issues.

Ads must be CMYK with a 300-dpi resolution.

Do not use PMS or RGB colors.

PDFs must be high-resolution with all fonts and images embedded.

We will not accept Word, MS Publisher, JPG or CorelDraw files.

CONTACT: OFFICE@PGHNTMA.ORG

CMU SEEKS TO SOLVE YOUR TECHNOLOGY PROBLEMS

by Alexa C. Hansen, The Executive Advantage Program, Carnegie Mellon University



Carnegie Mellon's Heinz College of Information Systems and Public Policy offers semester-long capstone projects where teams of graduate analytics and policy students research and recommend IT and data solutions for organizations.

Submit the on-line proposal for review and acceptance and commit to one touch-base meeting with the student each week for a semester. Students will present mid-term and final solutions to the sponsoring company, which maintains a license to the student work product.

KISKIPRECISIONINDUSTRIES

Industry-specific expertise, proven reliability and an unwavering commitment to quality—we're the partner you want for all your industrial service needs.

The Capstone Project team includes four to six talented master's students and is led by a Heinz College faculty member with subject matter expertise. The project lasts 15 weeks.

Proposals for Spring 2024 capstone projects are due before Thanksgiving. Visit the Heinz College Capstone website for all of the details and the on-line proposal form.

Interested? Contact Alexa Hansen at: achansen@cmu.edu.

Links:

Heinz College Capstone website: https://www.heinz.cmu.edu/ employers-partners/propose-project

On-line Proposal Form: https:// heinzcollege.wufoo.com/forms/ z1y1blb81trrubj



Precision Machining and Grinding • Welding

Fabrication • Wire and Conventional EDM •
 Assembly • Wiring • Engineering

o o o o kiskiprecision.com o o o o



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Aggressive Grinding Services, Inc. 724-537-7722 • https://www.aggressivegrinding.com/

4413 ROUTE 982 SOUTH, LATROBE, PA 15650

Aggressive Grinding is a leader in precision carbide grinding and advanced ceramic finishing. Serving the oil and natural gas industry, Aggressive Grinding produces quality components that meet or exceed the required tolerances. Aggressive Grinding has the following capabilities: machining, surface grinding, centerless grinding, OD grinding, peel grinding, ID grinding, ID honing, wire EDM and Wheel Dressing.



Accurate Marking and Manufacturing, Inc.

724-337-8390 • http://www.accuratemarkingandmanufacturing.com/ 225 Prominence Drive. New Kensington. PA 15068

Accurate Marking & Manufacturing, Inc. has provided dies, engraved inserts, molds, machining and tooling since 1968 for industrial manufacturers throughout North America. For 1 part or 2,000 parts, Accurate Marking delivers quality products with a fast turn-around.

They produce dies from a variety of metals including steel, brass and copper including hot stamping dies, marking dies, embossing dies and forging dies.

They make engraved inserts, thermoforming molds and custom tooling for industrial manufacturers and the printing industry throughout North America.

EATON CORPORATION

412.893.3000 • HTTPS://WWW.EATON.COM/US/EN-US.HTML 1000 CHERRINGTON PKWY, MOON TOWNSHIP, PA 15108

As a global power management company, Eaton helps their customers solve the greatest power challenges through industry leading electrical, aerospace, hydraulic and vehicle products, and services. For more than 100 years, Eaton has helped people work more safely, be more energy efficient, and live more sustainably.



PITT TOOL AND DIE, LLC

412.824.2266

1261 RODI ROAD, TURTLE CREEK, PA 15145

Pitt Tool and Die produces quality tools, dies, and fixtures for the automotive, electrical, and medical industries. Pitt Tool and Die is a veteran owned business.

Röchling Machined Plastics

724.696.5200 • https://www.roechling.com/us/industrial/ 161 Westec Drive, Mt Pleasant, PA 15666

Röchling Machined Plastics Industrial Division offers a large selection of thermoplastics and composites for technical applications. They supply their products in the form of semi-finished products such as sheets, rods, tubes, flat bars, profiles, and finished castings right through to precise machined parts. They serve a wide variety of industries including oil and gas, electrical, aerospace, healthcare, and nuclear.





IF YOU KNOW A BUSINESS THAT IS INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP, PLEASE CONTACT:

Rich Basalla (216) 264-2855 RBASALLA@NTMA.ORG



CHAPTER

100 S. JACKSON AVENUE, 2ND FLOOR PITTSBURGH, PA 15202

PHONE: (412) 212-6868

E-MAIL: OFFICE@PGHNTMA.ORG

PRST STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 130 GREENSBURG, PA



PGH NTMA CALENDAR:

12/14	Pittsburgh Chapter NTMA Holiday Party
02/16	PGH NTMA/MSC Apprentice Competition
03/07	BotsIQ Prelims at Robert Morris
03/13	BotsIQ Prelims at WCCC
03/14	BotsIQ Prelims at WCCC
03/27	Girls Exploring Tech Day
04/26	BotsIQ Finals Competition
05/18	Tentative 'Burgh Bash Competition
06/05	PGH NTMA Apprentice Graduation

For times, locations and details, please visit:

www.PGHNTMA.org

