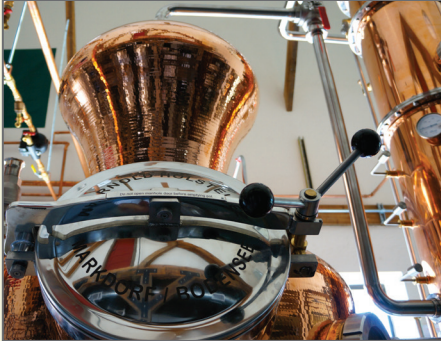


MMEC

Montana Manufacturing Extension Center



Call now for an initial consultation, at no obligation to you. Our experts and network can provide you with the guidance and resources you need to innovate, grow and profit.



Montana Manufacturing Extension Center



MONTANA
STATE UNIVERSITY

College of
ENGINEERING

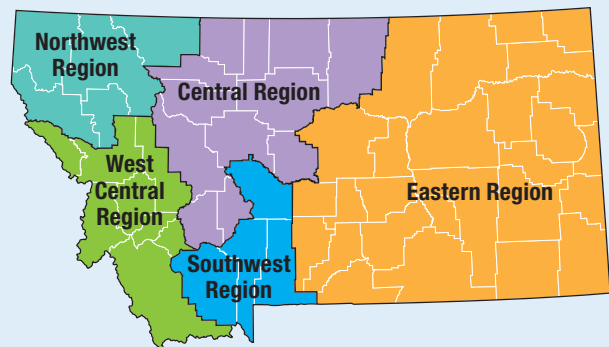


Montana State University's Montana Manufacturing Extension Center: Serving Montana manufacturers since 1996

MSU's Montana Manufacturing Extension Center (MMEC) is an outreach arm of Montana State University dedicated to helping Montana businesses grow their revenue, solve their problems and reach their full potential.

Headquartered at Montana State University's campus, the MMEC has field offices in Billings, Bozeman, Great Falls, Kalispell and Missoula, and has served nearly one third of all manufacturers in the state. The MMEC is fully equipped to assist with your business needs:

- Our staff has more than 200 years of combined manufacturing experience in multiple industries.
- MMEC is part of the national Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) and has access to nearly unlimited technical resources, databases and service provider information.
- If we don't know the answers to your questions, we can quickly assist you in finding someone that does.
- We specialize in assisting Montana manufacturers with finding new markets, increasing production capacities and reducing production costs.



No matter your industry or your challenge, MMEC consultants will collaborate with you to deliver solutions that work.

Here's what our clients are saying:

Willie's Distillery | Ennis



Willie's Distillery is a small-batch liquor distillery in Ennis. Beginning in 2010, Willie's worked with Headwaters RC&D to lay a business foundation that helped them secure a Rural Business

Enterprise Grant (RBEG), which supports the development of private businesses in rural areas. MMEC acted as a manufacturing consultant to work on site design and implementation to ensure that best practices were used in all areas. Willie's opened its doors in 2012 and now employs 10 people. The distillery prides itself in using Montana-grown grains, honey, and native berries and currently manufactures four staple products: moonshine, whiskey, brandy, and liqueurs.

Impact

- Saved \$1M in startup costs
- Created 10 new high paying jobs in a small community
- Ranked 3rd among Montana craft distilleries in sales

"By helping us plan a good layout and room for expansion, MMEC saved us a million dollars in startup costs counting hours saved, unneeded overbuilding, and site location potential and value."

GTUIT | Billings



GTUIT, a Montana manufacturer of well-site flare reduction and gas processing solutions, required assistance in building a robust supply chain and product support network in order to expand and meet their international business goals.

GTUIT engaged MMEC to assist them in developing a better understanding of international supply chain structure and management as well as tools to evaluate true cost of ownership.

MMEC has worked closely with multiple elements of the GTUIT production system in order to assist them in becoming a world-class supplier of well-site gas solutions.

Impact

- Reduced production costs
- Improved quality and lower operating costs
- Faster system delivery, commissioning and start-up
- Enhanced ability to react to global market changes and regional requirements

“MMEC helped us build the foundation for growth, making sure we get these processes and procedures and plans in place before we really take the major steps to grow. Now we have created an effective plan to develop a robust global supply chain for our company so we can move forward.”

Among the many areas with which the MMEC can assist your manufacturing business:

- Production capacity improvements and Cost reduction
- Intellectual property evaluation and management
- Supply chain optimization
- New or existing facility design enhancement
- Capital equipment justification and selection
- Lean Manufacturing implementation
- Focused improvement events
- Organizational structure development and optimization
- ISO and other certification and registration
- Energy auditing and facility efficiency optimization
- Workforce training
- Succession planning
- Business valuation assessment
- ... and many more

Pasta Montana | Great Falls



Pasta Montana manufactures more than 70 dry pasta shapes, which are sold worldwide. In order to expand into new markets, it needed a Global Food Safety Initiatives (GFSI) certification under a

very tight deadline. MMEC coordinated internal and external resources to meet the GFSI requirements ahead of schedule.

Impact:

- Achieved the highest rating possible during the certification
- Retained \$5M in sales annually
- Increased sales by \$1.5M annually
- Cost savings in excess of \$275,000
- New investments of over \$300,000

“When we lost our GFSI coordinator to a sudden illness, we turned to MMEC to provide the expertise and assistance to get our program written, trained against and implemented. Their ISO expertise combined with our Food Safety expertise to make an almost impossible project, possible. We passed our audit with the highest grade possible.” –Claude Smith, former plant manager.

Applied Materials–Semitool | Kalispell



Applied Materials is a world leader in manufacturing of precision semiconductor manufacturing equipment. In 2009, they purchased Semitool, founded in 1979 and based in Kalispell, Montana. Both prior to and

since the acquisition, MMEC experts have worked with the leadership team in Kalispell on a variety of projects to help the organization. Initially, MMEC worked with Semitool to develop and implement an auditable ISO 9000 Quality Management system, as well as lean manufacturing, ISO 14000 Environmental Management implementation, inventory systems and production layout. In more recent years, MMEC has continued to work with the Kalispell team on quality auditor training, lean enterprise certification, lean product development and strategic planning.

Impact:

- ISO 9000 implementation opened up a global market in Asia, resulting in approximately 60 percent of Semitool's overall sales
- Significantly lower operating costs and improvements to quality
- Reduced environmental impacts through ISO 14000 implementation
- Energy savings opportunities through DOE-funded partnership

“MMEC has been a trusted and dependable partner for us for more than a decade, and has worked with almost every department in our operation. The training and application of ISO quality systems and lean manufacturing processes have allowed us to grow, reduce costs and provide consistently high-quality products to our customers.”

Mystery Ranch | Bozeman



Mystery Ranch needed an appropriate facility to fit its needs and goals. MMEC worked with staff to map a manufacturing process flow to meet production needs and future growth.

The process flow map made

production more efficient and is helping grow the business. Since then, MMEC has worked with Mystery Ranch to develop lean manufacturing processes through training, assessments and planning; and has assisted with ISO 9001 certification in support of the company's strategic growth plans.

Impact

- \$1.5M in retained sales
- 6 new jobs created
- Over \$180,000 in new investments

“MMEC's assistance with our ISO needs has been invaluable. The LEAN manufacturing seminars helped all of our employees think about efficiency. Your services are key to improving our business continually!”

Call now for an initial consultation, at no obligation to you. Our experts and network can provide you with the guidance and resources you need to innovate, grow and profit.

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