Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium

What is it and why?
In November, 2011 the State of Massachusetts launched a new partnership, the Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative to

1. Promoting Manufacturing
2. Workforce & Education
3. Technical Assistance and Innovation
4. Cost of Doing Business
5. Access to Capital

(Keep in mind – average wage in durable good manufacturing is 46% higher than the overall average wage in Massachusetts)

Regional Collaboratives developed to support these efforts closer to the manufacturing industry. LEAD BY BUSINESS, members include WIBs, Career Centers, Community Colleges, Vocational Technical Schools, and Business Organizations.
Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium:

- MetroNorth, Greater Lowell, Merrimack Valley, North Shore WIB regions (28% of all manufacturing establishments in the state)
- Location quotients: 1.61 (computers); 1.57 (food); 1.54 (machinery); 1.41 (electronics); 1.34 (chemical)

As its initial focus, the NAMC is concentrating on the second of the statewide strategies to obtain the following outcomes:

**Workforce & Education**

a. Providers of educational and training services will work more cooperatively with employers.
b. Increase the supply of qualified employees for advanced manufacturing openings.
c. Craftsmanship recognized as a value-adding and job-creating component of the state’s manufacturing enterprise.
So what’s the problem?

Manufacturers express concern about skill shortages due to:

1. Lack of alignment between education/training providers and employer needs
2. Lack of understanding by the general public of career opportunities

NAMC is working to address this through:

1. Brokering relationships between manufacturers and the workforce/education/economic development worlds (Manufacturing Market Manager Grant - EOHED)
2. Educating the public about careers in manufacturing (Amp It Up – MassDevelopment – and other sources)
3. Translating manufacturing skill needs and sponsoring training/education programs that address skill needs (WCTF/WIA Training Project - EOLWD)