

The Navigator delivers valuable information and tools that point you in the right direction and help you improve your manufacturing business. As always, [we welcome your feedback](#) on topics, future articles and more.



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Supply Chain 101

Develop a Strategy that Affects Every Corner of your Business



Your supply chain is even more important today than it was during the pandemic. Now, you have an opportunity to take another look at your supply chain from a strategic standpoint. By building in provisions for market, supplier and availability shifts, you can avoid hitting the red button, control your costs, improve your productivity - and perhaps even sleep better at night.

OMEP is here to help. In partnership with CIRAS (Iowa MEP), we're launching a new eight-part cohort series called Supply Chain 101 - coming your way in June.



We will take a deep dive into some of the biggest areas of opportunity, including:

- Mapping out a supply chain strategy based on your product
- How to better identify potential suppliers
- How to deal with underperforming suppliers
- ...and much more!

Blog Post by Shane Steinke

Meet Our Two New Team Members

We are excited to welcome two new team members, Dawn Ratashak and Lori Waters. Not only do they enhance our coverage in Bend and Lane County, but they bring a wealth of workforce optimization expertise to the OMEP organization.



Dawn Ratashak
Senior Workforce Consultant



Lori Waters
Senior Workforce Consultant

Dawn Ratashak is an accomplished executive manager with over a decade of experience in the human resources field. With a passion for elevating the employee experience, Dawn thrives on delivering exceptional value to organizations while leaning on her experience working within manufacturing environments to implement effective workforce solutions. Dawn is based in the Eugene office.

Lori Waters brings over 20 years of leadership and operations management experience, with a significant portion of her career in the manufacturing sector. Her expertise in effective staff management has allowed her to lead units through seamless transitions across diverse industries. Lori's broad industry background enriches her perspective in workforce consulting and project management. Lori is committed to creating pathways to success for companies and their employees through comprehensive training programs and a proactive problem-solving approach. Lori is based in Bend.

Tami Trout Retires After 12 Successful Years at OMEP



It's with mixed emotions that we announce that, after 12 successful years at OMEP, Principal Consultant Tami Trout is retiring. When she started at OMEP Tami brought more than 20 years of experience from her roles at Hewlett-Packard, Galliard Group, and Trout Business Solutions.

While Tami consulted with clients in a variety of sectors at OMEP, she worked primarily with family-owned and closely held manufacturers, maximizing their organizational success and profitability by developing effective human resources systems, workforce hiring and development, and performance management.

Thank you, Tami for all of your valuable contributions to the OMEP team. Good luck on your next adventure. You will be missed.

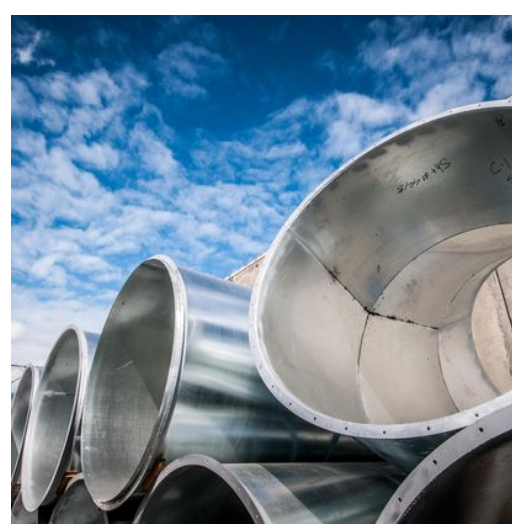


Success Story Summit Truck Body

OMEP has worked closely with **Summit** for years, and as they grew they knew they would need to increase their capacity if they were going to expand into new markets. In fact, they needed a facility that would triple their capacity.

Read this success story and discover how OMEP helped them through the process, giving guidance on everything from sourcing the location, working on design, coordinating construction, establishing training for their growing and coaching rising leaders within the company.

Read Their Story



Success Story Streimer

With several key employees in the Fabricated Products Department preparing to retire, **Streimer** faced an extraordinary knowledge and skill gap. OMEP helped Streimer capture intellectual knowledge and processes to train new hires and for ongoing training.

"The process mapping and competency models helped Streimer with a transitional time within a department and have been very valuable ongoing with employee coaching and promotion," said Mark Van Sickle, VP of Manufacturing

Read About the Results



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