

May 2026



## See Your Operation More Clearly with 5S Visual Management

Walk into almost any manufacturing operation and you can feel pretty quickly whether things are under control. Tools where they belong. Clear pathways. Status visible without asking. Work moving the way it should.

But here's what we observe working with Oregon manufacturers every day: most production floors have pockets of that clarity and pockets where it breaks down. Parts get hunted for. Conditions go unnoticed until they become problems. New employees take longer to get up to speed than they should, because the environment itself doesn't communicate how work is supposed to flow.

Small and medium-sized manufacturers don't have the luxury of absorbing that friction quietly. Every hour spent searching, every error traced back to unclear expectations, and every safety issue that could have been spotted sooner has a real cost. Leadership feels it, even when it's hard to quantify.

5S Visual Management is the structured approach that addresses this directly. It brings order, clarity, and accountability to the production environment in a way that makes the whole operation easier to manage and improve.

Before you can improve a process, you need to be able to see it clearly.

**Discover how 5S Visual Management works and where to start in your operation.**

[Read the full article →](#)



## Upcoming OMEP Events

### Sandler Sales Boot Camps | Bend & Eugene

OMEP's popular Sandler Boot Camp is coming to Bend and Eugene. Our Boot Camp events feature two full days of hands-on Sandler Sales training with OMEP's certified consultants, covering everything from reaching true decision-makers to closing without discounting. Learn more and register today.

[Bend Sandler Sales Boot Camp May 21 & 22](#)

[Eugene Sandler Sales Boot Camp June 25 & 26](#)

### Webinar: Using LinkedIn to Start Better Sales Conversations | Online

LinkedIn is the world's largest referral network, but without a focused approach it can become a major time drain. Join Jeff Schneider, OMEP Sandler Sales Training Consultant, on June 10 from 12:30pm to 2pm PT for a live webinar on how to use LinkedIn more strategically to identify the right targets, build meaningful connections, and start real business conversations. No cost to attend.

[Free Webinar: LinkedIn Sales Conversations June 10](#)



## Upcoming Industry Events

### WiM Oregon | CAIS & Oregon City School District Tour | May 21

The Women in Manufacturing Oregon Chapter is hosting a tour of Clackamas Academy of Industrial Sciences, a 6-12 charter school with pre-apprenticeship programs in woods, manufacturing, metals, and machining. Meet students and explore opportunities to connect your organization to internships, site tours, and workforce pipelines. Registration closes May 19.

[CAIS & Oregon City School District Programs of Study Tour | Oregon City | May 21](#)

### Advanced Manufacturing & Clean Tech Supply Chain Conference | May 29

Prosper Portland is hosting a curated B2B supply chain connections event for Portland Metro businesses in advanced manufacturing and clean technology. The event is designed to help attendees identify new suppliers and customers, develop strategic partnerships with local firms, and uncover opportunities for innovation that can lead to increased sales and profitability. Attendees can expect to meet 15 to 20 local business contacts spanning metals, fabrication, machinery, building materials, logistics, robotics, automation, maritime, infrastructure, and semiconductor and electronics manufacturing.

[Advanced Manufacturing & Clean Tech Supply Chain Conf | Portland | May 29](#)

### WiM Oregon | AI Workshop: Build Real Tools with AI | June 4

Join Women in Manufacturing Oregon and Leatherman Tool Group for a hands-on, beginner-friendly AI workshop at Leatherman's Portland facility. No coding experience required. Participants will learn how AI is being used across manufacturing and operations teams, then build a working prototype of their own with guided support.

[WiM Oregon | AI Workshop: Build Real Tools with AI | Portland | June 4](#)

## Give Your Best People Their Time Back



In many small manufacturing operations, the most experienced people on the floor spend a surprising amount of time away from production work. They're walking new hires through processes they've done a hundred times. Answering the same questions over again.

When standard work lives in someone's head rather than in a system, that person becomes the system. And that creates a ceiling on how fast your operation can grow.

OMEP's STNDRD platform gives small and mid-sized manufacturers a practical way to build, manage, and deliver digital standard work accessible on any web-enabled device. Built on proven Training Within Industry (TWI) methodology, STNDRD connects the "what" of each task to the "why" behind it. Content is visual and engaging by design, using photos, video, and audio in place of text-heavy binders. For operations ready to go further, STNDRD supports AR-enabled guidance viewable hands-free at the point of work.

New employees get up to speed faster, quality becomes more consistent, and your most experienced people get back to the work only they can do.

**Discover how STNDRD can benefit your team as well as your operation.**

[Read the full article →](#)

## Stuck in Operational Firefighting?



Is your team spending more time reacting than improving? OMEP's experienced operations consultants are ready to work with you to build smoother, more reliable systems, so work gets done on time, quality improves, and your team stops feeling overwhelmed.

We offer complimentary, no-cost assessments to identify your greatest opportunities for improvement. Whether the challenges are on the floor or in the office, we tailor our approach to your unique business challenges.

**Schedule time with our OMEP consultants and get a clear picture of where your biggest gains are hiding and how to unlock them.**

[Book Your No-Cost Assessment](#)