

We are Minnesota's resource for manufacturing career promotion. We lead the annual Minnesota Statewide Tour of Manufacturing and offer FREE resources such as:

- A Multi-layered Manufacturing Career Tool, including an interactive quiz
- Teacher Guide curriculum including worksheets, activities and facts about MN manufacturing
- Digital Badge Pathway career exploration system, including an opportunity to win a scholarship to our very own manufacturing certificate program, ETECH.
- Library of career videos

To learn more or become a sponsor please visit us at www.mnmfg.org

700,000
MN MANUFACTURING WORKERS
PLAN TO RETIRE OVER NEXT DECADE

64% OF
MANUFACTURERS SAW
THEIR LARGEST CHALLENGE
ATTRACTING AND RETAINING A
QUALITY WORKFORCE

IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS
4.6 MILLION JOBS
NEED TO BE FILLED IN MANUFACTURING ALONE

40% OF
MINNESOTA MANUFACTURING BUSINESSES
ABILITY TO GROW WILL BE IMPACTED
BY THE SHORTAGE OF QUALIFIED WORKERS

October 2020



Celebrating MANUFACTURING MONTH

Local manufacturers are celebrating **Minnesota Manufacturing Month** during October!

The Brainerd Lakes Area is known for great lakes and recreational activities, but our best kept secret is the thriving Manufacturing industry.

With the public health emergency creating uncertainty for many, the Lakes Area Manufacturing Alliance members faced the challenges head on, balancing the need for worker safety with keeping our country's critical manufacturing flowing smoothly by making products our country needs.

Each of the eight members featured in this piece are representative of how manufacturing played a critical role in our nation's response to the pandemic, while at the same time rising up to offer care and support to our family of employees.

Learn from their stories and join us in celebrating manufacturing workers for their contributions to our local, state and national economy and workforce.

Work with us! Many local manufacturers have excellent job opportunities available. Check out their website for more details.

Deborah Hoel, *Chairperson*
Lakes Area Manufacturing Alliance
Human Resource Manager
Pequot Tool & Manufacturing, Inc.



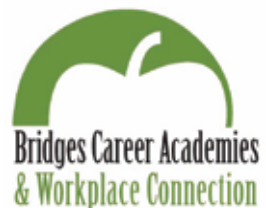
MANUFACTURING CAREERS START HERE!

- **CNC Technologies**
- **Machine Operations**
- **Mechatronics**
- **Robotics/Automated Systems Technology**
- **Welding and Fabrication**

www.clcmn.edu

CLC CENTRAL LAKES COLLEGE

Connecting **students** and **business** to:
explore career pathways,
promote regional career opportunities,
enhance partnerships, and
inspire innovative ideas.



BridgesConnection.org



Stronger Together:

strengthening businesses that strengthen our communities.



BRAINERD LAKES
Chamber of Commerce

BrainerdLakesChamber.com

LAKES AREA MANUFACTURING ALLIANCE

Manufacturers — become a member! Join now by contacting Mary Gottsch (Mary@BridgesConnection.org, 218-855-8161)

The manufacturing industry supports 33% of all Minnesota jobs.

At the start of the pandemic, **Lexington Manufacturing** formed a COVID-19 Task Force that developed response plans and enacted policy to assure the safety of all Lexington's employees and enable uninterrupted operations. Lexington is an "Essential Manufacturer" due to its **production of materials for commercial doors, including fire-rated doors.** Lexington's Brainerd facility is the largest North American supplier of components to the commercial door industry, used by hospitals, schools, and government offices. Without Lexington's employees' dedication, buildings could become unsafe to occupy.

Work here! www.lexingtonmfg.com/nowhiring



Precision Tool Technologies produces a variety of products for the medical and safety industry, including **parts for medical devices, ventilators, medical fixtures, and prescription eyewear** deeming it an "Essential Manufacturer." Working with other area manufacturers and local organizations allowed Precision Tool to adapt safety protocols for their employees quickly. Even in challenging times, manufacturing's greatest asset are it's people and community now more than ever.

Work here! www.precisiontooltech.com/careers



Pequot Tool & Manufacturing developed robust plans and procedures to help manage the impact of COVID-19 for staff while also responding to our nations call for essential manufacturing contributions. As an "Essential Manufacturer," **Pequot Tool supported the country's critical need for medical ventilators** by quickly ramping up production to ship parts while also meeting the goals of existing customers with minimal interruption in service. The strength, resilience and focus of their employees demonstrates what manufacturing is all about: working together for the greater good to get the job done.

Work here! www.pequottool.com/employment



Celebrating their 25th year in business, **Stern Companies** was deemed an "Essential Manufacturer" due to their production of plastic and polymer parts needed to keep all Americans effectively operating day-to-day. **Stern Companies supplies critical parts for agriculture and emergency medical vehicles.** Stern has maintained operations while also keeping employees healthy and safe by adopting face coverings and social distancing measures.

Work here! www.sternindustries.com/employment.html



Located in the vacationland community of Nisswa, **Viking Label & Packaging** produces pressure sensitive labels, tags, and printed packaging materials for a variety of industries including food and beverage, chemical, medical, and transportation. COVID-19 has created disruptions in the raw material components needed for food labeling, but the Viking Label team has responded to meet the demands of their customers — working longer hours and weekends, which in turn, keeps all consumers safe. Viking Label has adapted by allowing remote working, providing protective gear, changing procedures to minimize personal interactions and increasing cleaning routines.

Work here! www.vikinglabel.com

For 50 years, committed, quality-minded, service-focused employees at **Clow Stamping Company** have been producing parts for Original Equipment Manufacturers. As an "Essential Manufacturer" **in the agriculture, transportation and energy supply chains.** Clow embraced social distancing, masking and additional cleaning requirements to continue operations. When the pandemic triggered a slow down in supply chains, employees who continued to work received a full paycheck even if schedules were reduced to 24 or 32 hours. Many employees volunteered to support the community during this time of need. Clow Stamping's orders have now surpassed pre-pandemic levels and like many manufacturers, they are actively seeking new employees who want to make a difference.

Work here! www.clowstamping.com/opportunities

Early in the pandemic, **LINDAR** joined in the battle against COVID-19 **to produce and supply face shields for area healthcare facilities.** Personal protective equipment (PPE) was in high demand and short supply. Being classified as an "Essential Manufacturer," LINDAR's thermoforming capabilities were well suited to fill the need. LINDAR's face shields are now in use beyond the healthcare industry. Many school districts have approved them as a replacement or supplement to a standard face mask and they are in use in workplaces, retail outlets, restaurants and more. The company has also seen increased demand for commercial paint and food packaging products. With this increased demand, LINDAR is experiencing accelerated growth and looking to welcome new team members.

Work here! www.lindarcorp.com/team

Brunswick New York Mills produces the famed Lund and Crestliner aluminum boats that are seen throughout the waters in Lake Country. To maintain a safe work environment within the high demand recreational industry, every employee was provided a face mask and given additional paid time off to adapt to the new reality of COVID-19. A safe work environment is key to supporting their dedicated team.

Work here! www.lundboats.com/careers

Local manufacturing jobs pay 24% higher than the average wage.