

2021 NEWSLETTER

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We are welcoming people back on campus slowly. The GLBMA golf outing was a great success with beautiful weather. We have partnered with Michigan Works! Great Lakes Bay Region to bring employers and employees together. We hope that this event help easy the pain in finding talent to fill the many open positions in the region. We look forward to July and mark your calendar to save Thursday, September 30th open for the GLBMA Casino night! Stay safe over the upcoming holiday weekend!

NEW MEMBER

Welcome

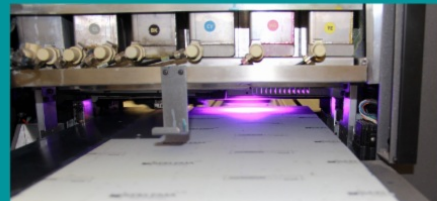


Saginaw Bay Plastics Inc. is a global provider of injection-molded plastic parts since 1978. We are focused on quality and on-time deliveries for our customers.



Saginaw Bay Plastics is located in Kawkawlin and is happy to help you with any of your plastic needs.

FEATURE ARTICLE



GLBMA receives MEDC Grant for Industry 4.0 Readiness Education

The Great Lakes Bay Manufacturers Association (GLBMA) is pleased to announce they have been selected to receive the regional Industry 4.0 Readiness Initiative Grant from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC).

The regional grants will help drive Industry 4.0 readiness in small and mid-sized manufacturers statewide. The GLBMA was one of the ten organizations to be awarded monies. The grant amount received is \$106,175 to study the Industry 4.0 readiness of prosperity region 5 covering Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland, and Saginaw counties.

As a result of the grant, the GLBMA will partner with the local Resource and Economic Development Partners: Bay Future, Middle Michigan Development Corporation, Midland Business Alliance, Saginaw Future, Gladwin County EDC, Greater Gratiot Development Inc., Arenac County Economic Development Corporation, Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center, Michigan Works!, Small Business Development Center, Central

Michigan Manufacturers Association, Saginaw Valley State University, and Saginaw ISD to develop an Industry 4.0 readiness questionnaire, informational webinars, manufacturing roundtables, and a regional Industry 4.0 event.

Serving on the regional grant team are as follows:

Jim McBryde, Middle Michigan Development Corporation

Bob Balzer, Gladwin County Economic Development Corporation

Steve Jonas, Saginaw Future

Matt Shoffner, Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center

Jennifer Geno, Saginaw Intermediate School District

Joe Kaczmarek, Michigan Works! Great Lakes Bay Region

Harry Leaver, Central Michigan Manufacturers Association

Beth Roszatycki, Michigan Small Business Development Center – Northeast & Great Lakes Bay Region

Tanya Blehm, Great Lakes Bay Manufacturers Association

Taken from the MEDC press release from April 27, 2021

The Michigan Strategic Fund today approved nearly \$2 million in grants for 10 nonprofit organizations around the state to provide regional Industry 4.0 programming and services to increase manufacturers' readiness to adopt Industry 4.0 technologies. The funding is part of an MEDC-led effort to ensure that 50 percent of Michigan manufacturers – or 6,200 businesses – are prepared to adopt Industry 4.0 technologies at some level by 2025. MEDC issued a Request for Proposals on December 8, 2020, soliciting proposals from Michigan-based nonprofits and Michigan-based governmental entities currently engaged in economic development activities to develop and implement regional activities that encourage innovation and increase manufacturers' awareness and readiness to adopt and implement Industry 4.0 technologies.

Grants will be used for a variety of efforts to further Industry 4.0 readiness within each specific region, including technology demonstrations and pilots, outreach and education efforts, readiness assessments, and awareness-building activities. These projects range in scope from establishing regional consortia and roundtables to supporting pilot projects and planning, and physical infrastructure and equipment to provide sandbox opportunities. Industry 4.0 is defined as the convergence of digital and physical technologies, including artificial intelligence, 3D printing, robotics, augmented and virtual reality, the Cloud, and cybersecurity. Approximately 42 percent of Michigan's current labor force could be negatively impacted by automation, and with MEDC's strategic focus on retaining companies and fostering high-wage skills growth in target industries such as Advanced Manufacturing, there is a strong need for a multipronged effort to ensure Michigan's small to medium-sized manufacturers adopt Industry 4.0 technologies.

The Industry 4.0 initiative aligns with MEDC's strategic focus area of advanced manufacturing and continues to extend Michigan's rich manufacturing heritage and technological know-how to develop the innovative, high-tech products of the future. With the fifth-largest advanced manufacturing workforce in the country and more than 13,000 workers employed in industries related to Industry 4.0 and automation – the most in the nation – this effort also secures continued opportunity and stability for Michigan's manufacturing workforce for years to come.

GLBMA MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS



What a great day on the course! Thank you to Maple Leaf Golf Course for hosting the 128 golfers and providing lunch for them. Each year our outing gets better and better and we are able to fund more educational programs in the Great Lakes Bay Region. If you have not seen the photos yet check

them out on the GLBMA Facebook page and they will be updated on the website shortly. We look forward to next year and an even better outing. Thank you to our many sponsors that help make this day possible.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



The GLBMA will be highlighting one manufacturer and one associate member each month. We want everyone to know about all the wonderful opportunities in the region.



Blue Thumb

At Blue Thumb we manufacture products to help you design, install, and maintain better water features. This includes fountains, ponds, and waterfalls for both residential and commercial settings. Recently we added retail to our mix. We consolidated by purchased a 126,000 sq. ft. facility located at 2650 Schust Road in Saginaw. This allowed us to consolidate our four warehouses and bring all our employees, inventory, and production under one roof and provides us the room to expand into the future.

Blue Thumb is a family owned locally operated business. Kip and Nicole are focused on providing the best options available in fountains, ponds, and waterfalls.



Qualified Staffing

Since 1988, Qualified Staffing has employed over 200,000 people by listening to their needs and helping them get noticed by great companies. With 30 offices across the United States, we have access to hundreds of jobs. Combine that with the industry's best staffing experts, and the Qualified team has what it takes to make sure you find the best job possible.

Our mission is to empower people to be successful by placing them in the right position with the right client. We do this every day, relentlessly, by building trusted relationships with our employees and clients. When people succeed, families and communities thrive.

PARTNER NEWS



Amigo Mobility International, Inc. is recognized as one of the 2021 awardees for the

Michigan Small Business Development Center Best Small Business award. Amigo Mobility will be honored at the 17th annual Michigan Celebrates Small Businesses gala event on Tuesday, July 20.

Founded with the mission of Improving Lives Through Mobility®, Amigo is a family-owned and operated business. Al continues to run the company, alongside his wife Beth Thieme, and a talented team of employees. Every Amigo continues to be manufactured at our Michigan headquarters and is shipped worldwide. [Read the complete press release here.](#)



The next couple of months are the best time to review and update your training plan. The Michigan Works! offices suggest that you put your plan together now. Should the Going PRO talent fund be approved for the 2022 State budget you will be prepared.



Saginaw Valley State University has hired an experienced leader in business education to serve as the new dean of the institution's Scott L. Carmona College of Business. Jayati Ghosh will head SVSU's business school after devoting more than two decades to a career in higher education, most recently at Widener University in Chester, Pennsylvania. Ghosh said she was excited for the opportunity to join an institution with SVSU's strong

ranking among top business schools worldwide.

"I am honored and excited about the opportunity to lead the Carmona College of Business in its upward trajectory of academic excellence," Ghosh said. "I am impressed by the commitment of the college towards the professional and personal development of students and looking forward to working with the faculty and staff, centers of excellence, and engaging with the community."

Deborah Huntley, SVSU provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said Ghosh brings impressive leadership experience to SVSU as an administrator as well as a strong record of professional service, research, and teaching.

The arrival of Dr. Ghosh comes at a very important time for our Carmona College of Business," Huntley said. "She brings extensive leadership experience as a dean, and we are counting on her experience and innovative thinking to enhance business education for our students and to collaborate with regional businesses to support the vitality of our region. We have outstanding faculty and a world-class facility, and I know she is excited about the opportunities at SVSU."

MMA and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) have partnered to help manufacturers go global with the International Trade Program. For 10 years, this successful program has helped small and medium-sized businesses diversify their customer base, stabilize sales, and ultimately grow their business through exporting. Attend an upcoming Michigan Roots, Global Research Virtual Lunch & Learn Series session. Each session starts

MICHIGAN ROOTS GLOBAL REACH

KEY STATS



MICHIGAN COMPANIES ASSISTED by the International Trade Program in FY 2020 to increase their export sales to 121 countries.



are the top export markets for MEDC International Trade clients. In 2020, statewide exports increased to Australia and Israel.



IN MICHIGAN EXPORT SALES SUPPORTED by the International Trade Program since its inception in 2012.



TOTAL GOODS EXPORTED FROM MICHIGAN Exports from Michigan companies totaled \$44 billion in 2020, ranking #8 nationally.¹



OF MICHIGAN COMPANIES EXPORTING PRODUCTS to international markets are small and medium-sized (SME) businesses.²



OF MICHIGAN'S GDP IS FROM INBOUND-OUTBOUND TRADE* Michigan has the fourth highest percentage of trade as a portion of its GDP in the nation.

* 2020, tse.export.gov ² 2020, trade.gov



MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

michiganbusiness.org/export

at noon and lasts about 45 minutes.

Session 1: Overview of MEDC's International Trade Program
Tuesday, June 29 | 12:00 pm

Session 2: Stories of Exporting Success
Tuesday, July 13 | 12:00 pm

Session 3: Access Markets in 90+ Countries Around the World
Tuesday, July 20 | 12:00 pm

Session 4: Offset the Cost of Export-Related Activities
Tuesday, August 14 | 12:00 pm

Session 5: Leverage Strategic Partnerships to Increase Export Opportunities
Tuesday, August 24 | 12:00 pm

[Registration link](#)

For additional information contact Sarah Martin at the Michigan Manufacturers Association 517-487-8521 or email martin@mimfg.org



Check out the latest issue of the [MiMfg Magazine](#).

CURRENT EVENTS



June

29 Coffee Clutch

July

14 Hot Topic Discussion

27 Coffee Clutch

August

10 Beverages & Conversation

19 Quality SIG Meeting

24 Coffee Clutch

September

21 Coffee Clutch

30 7th Annual Casino Night

October

1 National MFG Day

5 Plant Tour

13 Hot Topic Discussion

21 Quality SIG Meeting

26 Coffee Clutch

29 MI Career Quest

November

4 Tentative Annual Dinner

10 Beverages & Conversation

30 Coffee Clutch

December

16 Quality SIG Meeting

QUALITY SIG



Our next Quality Special Interest Group Meeting

Topic: Documentation

Date: Thursday, June 17, 2021

Time: 8:00 am to 9:30 pm

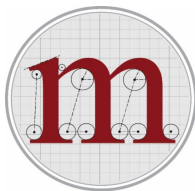
Location: Blended - TEAMS Meeting or in-person at SVSU - CCB313A
(link provided one week prior to the meeting)

Register Link: [Click to register now!](#)

The Quality Special Interest Group (SIG) is a professionally facilitated group of the Great Lakes Bay Manufacturers Association (GLBMA). This SIG focuses on providing a forum to discuss and review quality systems, validate the need, and discuss industry updates, new regulations. It will also serve as a place where Quality employees can discuss issues in a confidential setting.

MFG CHAMPIONS

Learn how to become an MFG Champion!
Support the GLBMA for years to come.
Call Tanya at 989-964-2881 or email tblehm@svsu.edu



MOLTUS
BUILDING GROUP

design build • general construction • construction management

Thank you to our MFG Champions!

If you want to become an MFG Champion, please contact Tanya at the GLBMA office for more details. (989)964-2881.



Proud to Manufacture

