

The Right Place | The Center – West **MANUFACTURERS COUNCIL**

2023/2024 Chair: Chris Bardeggia, Vice President of Global Quality and Lean, Steelcase

2023/2024 Vice-Chair: James Kolodziej, Operations Manager, Flexco

The Right Place, Inc. convened the Manufacturers Council in 1989 as a way to organize manufacturers' individual interests into a common purpose of improving the local manufacturing economy. Members of the Manufacturers Council have a collective vision "... to advance West Michigan as a global center of manufacturing excellence. From that vision comes the council's mission to inspire a community of dedicated manufacturing-focused companies to deliver solutions and prosperity to its members.

To reach that vision, the Council's strategic plan concentrates on four key areas:

1. **Best Practice Sharing and Learning:** Convene to promote the successful sharing of knowledge, experience, and practices to enable sustainable manufacturing improvement and growth.
2. **Communications:** Establish a meaningful social media presence for manufacturers in West Michigan.
3. **Member Value:** Increase value for The Right Place Manufacturers Council members.
4. **Promote Manufacturing:** Establish a marketing campaign to celebrate and promote manufacturing by reaching a greater audience of West Michigan manufacturers.

Members volunteer from a diverse assortment of West Michigan manufacturing owners and top executives who are willing to actively support the mission through a demonstrated commitment to world-class manufacturing and willingness to engage with peers.

2023/2024 Working Group Initiatives

Talent Working Group: Improving the community workforce development system to better prepare the future local talent pool; particularly through our Discover Manufacturing website.

Best in Class Knowledge Sharing Working Group: Utilizing existing programs more effectively, establish user/work group(s) and education forums, such as the Continuous Improvement Activities work group.

For more information on the Manufacturers Council or its working group activities, contact The Right Place by calling **(616) 301-6247**.

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