



Vice President of Manufacturing Job Posting

Do you want to help shape the future of manufacturing in West Michigan? Are you passionate about empowering small and mid-sized manufacturers to innovate, grow, and remain competitive in an ever-changing economy? Do you thrive on leading teams, building partnerships, and advancing cutting-edge manufacturing initiatives? If so, we want **YOU** to be our next **Vice President of Manufacturing**. This is a unique opportunity to lead a talented team and play a central role in strengthening the region's manufacturing economy.

About Us:

Since our founding in 1985, **The Right Place, Inc. (RPI)** has been dedicated to driving sustainable economic growth and shared prosperity for all in the Greater Grand Rapids region. Our positive impact on the region's economy and our tangible results in the community are only possible because of a talented, flexible, and mission-driven team.

Our team members help shape a workplace culture that values, nurtures, and leverages diversity and inclusiveness in all we do. Anchored in our core values of **Caring Teammates, Courageous Leaders, Can-do Attitudes**, and **Collaborative Doers**, we're excited to welcome a new member to our team. Every role at RPI matters—and as our **Vice President of Manufacturing**, you'll have the opportunity to make a real impact and see the results of your work firsthand.

Position Summary:

The **Vice President of Manufacturing** leads the MMTC-West team and ensures that manufacturers across West Michigan have the support, resources, and expertise they need to succeed. This role sets strategy, builds partnerships, and drives initiatives that help small and mid-sized manufacturers embrace continuous improvement, talent development, and advanced technologies. As the leader of the MMTC-West team, the Vice President will guide team members, cultivate key relationships, and represent the organization across the region and state.

Key Responsibilities:

- **Leadership & Team Development:** Provide visible leadership and mentorship to the MMTC-West team, empowering staff to excel while ensuring alignment with organizational and program objectives.
- **Strategic Planning & Execution:** Set departmental goals, manage budgets, and design initiatives that help manufacturers improve, grow, and adopt advanced technologies to stay competitive.
- **Industry Expertise & Resource Guidance:** Stay ahead of manufacturing trends and emerging technologies, advising manufacturers on solutions that drive innovation, efficiency, and long-term success.
- **Partnerships & Collaboration:** Cultivate relationships with manufacturers, industry leaders, state and regional partners, and other stakeholders to create shared value and drive regional impact.
- **External Representation:** Represent MMTC-West and The Right Place at industry events, forums, and conferences, serving as a visible advocate for manufacturing in West Michigan.

Skills and Experience:

- Bachelor's degree in business, engineering, or a related technical field (or equivalent combination of education and experience).
- Minimum 10 years of management experience in a manufacturing setting, including at least 5 years of supervisory leadership.
- Proven ability to set vision and strategy while executing effectively to meet detailed metrics.
- Deep knowledge of manufacturing processes, continuous improvement methodologies, and advanced manufacturing technologies.
- Strong leadership, mentoring, and collaboration skills.
- Exceptional communication, negotiation, and relationship-building abilities.
- Experience managing budgets and ability to ensure compliance with contract requirements.
- Comfortable with frequent regional travel, occasional overnight travel, and evening events.

Benefits:

- Two medical plan options, plus stand-alone FSA medical and dependent care plans.
- Free dental, vision, short-term disability, long-term disability, and life insurance.
- Paid vacation, sick time, holidays, and parental leave.
- 401k retirement plan with 5% employer contribution.
- Employee assistance program, wellness reimbursement stipend, and paid parking.
- Culture Team activities, professional development opportunities, and vibrant organizational culture.

The salary range for this role is \$105k - \$120k, with exact compensation varying based on skills and experience.

Join Our Team:

We welcome you to apply for this position so that you can join us in making a positive impact on the economic health of Greater Grand Rapids and to collaborate with the best and brightest business minds.

To apply, send your cover letter and resume to hr@rightplace.org.