

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

2021/2022 Chair: Patrick Greene, President, Cascade Die Casting Group

2021/2022 Vice-Chair: Chris Bardeggia, Vice President of Global Quality and Lean, Steelcase

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 establish the West Michigan region as an international center for manufacturing productivity.” From that vision comes the council's mission to create a collaborative environment in which to promote, facilitate, enable, and advocate for the implementation of “world-class” manufacturing enterprises.

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

1. **Marketing / Image:** Advocate for a positive image of regional manufacturing through the West Michigan Manufacturers Council.
2. **Talent Development:** Enable the growth of regional manufacturing through developing the talent supply chain.
3. **Best in Class Knowledge Sharing:** Facilitate the sharing of knowledge, experience, and practices to solve manufacturing challenges.
4. **Membership Recruitment:** Promote the West Michigan Manufacturers Council membership to provide diverse representation.

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. Working Group activities, the Sunrise Series, and other events are open to all council members.

2021/2022 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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