



Manufacturing Matters

Updates from CT's Chief Manufacturing Officer, Paul Lavoie

October 4th marks National Manufacturing Day, but in Connecticut, we're celebrating our manufacturing sector all month long. In collaboration with CBIA, American Manufacturing Hall of Fame (AMHoF), CCAT, CONNSTEP, ReadyCT, and many other key stakeholders, we're gearing up

for an exceptional showcase of our industry. From the [Coolest Thing Made in Connecticut Tournament](#) to AMHoF's immersive walk-through of our state's manufacturing history, our partners are hard at work building excitement for an unforgettable month.

The festivities begin on October 2nd with the [Connecticut Manufacturing Summit](#). Then, from October 14th – 18th, we'll embark on a statewide bus tour to spotlight and celebrate our manufacturing companies. Our manufacturing associations are also organizing events to ensure their members are recognized and celebrated.

It's an exciting time to be in Connecticut! The Office of Manufacturing team and I look forward to celebrating with you as we drive economic growth and create life-changing career opportunities through manufacturing.

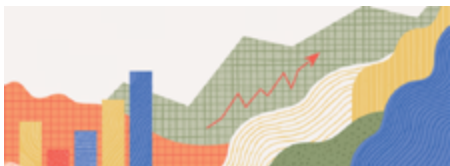


WHAT'S ON THE CALENDAR?

September 4th – CBIA is hosting The Connecticut Economy Conference, where they will explore the state's economic challenges and the opportunities for unlocking Connecticut's enormous potential. [Register here.](#)

September 26th – ReadyCT is hosting the final stop in the 2024 Careers Roadshow at Dodd Stadium. Learn more [here.](#)

October 2nd – Join us at the Connecticut Manufacturing Summit, a groundbreaking event showcasing Connecticut's innovation! Secure your spot [here.](#)



Manufacturing Innovation Fund (MIF)

MIF UPDATES

An additional \$750K has been added to the popular **Digital Transformation Program**, administered by CCAT. Under the DTP, we offer a voucher program – direct manufacturer funding – to adopt and integrate IoT solutions with grants up to \$25K. Explore funding [here](#).

The Manufacturing Innovation Fund Advisory Board approves **GreenGAIN**, a program administered by CT Green Bank and the CT Sustainable Business Counsel. GreenGAIN provides access to training, subject matter expertise and financial resources, via mini grants, to help small companies merge energy efficiency and resilience with economic gains.

The **Faculty Fellowship Program**, developed and administered by CCAT, launches with a call for applications. The program engages full time faculty members in engineering, computer science, and manufacturing disciplines and programs at Connecticut Colleges and Universities. The program aims to promote digital thread practices at a larger scale by partnering with local and regional college and university networks with the end goal of reaching hundreds of next generation engineers and manufacturing personnel with digital thread and Model-Based Enterprise industry-ready methods and tools.



CCAT

It's feeling like "Back-to-School" season at Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology. CCAT's Talent and Training (TnT) Accelerator—Classes and Pathways are in full swing, with representatives from CT's Manufacturing Ecosystem leading the Model-Based Definition (MBD) and digital transformation charge. With pathways supporting Digital Design and Costing, Digital Manufacturing, Digital QA & Inspection, and deeper dives into Additive Workflows (launching September 24th, 2024), CCAT's TnT Accelerator offers the technical and hands-on training and support organizations seek.

To learn more, register, or get support from CCAT to develop a strategic training and implementation plan for your MBD Maturity journey, connect [here](#).



INDUSTRY NEWS

"I Got It Made"

The Office of Manufacturing premiered its new "I Got It Made" marketing campaign at the latest Manufacturing Ambassador event, hosted at Birdon Group's Portland, CT facility.

[READ MORE](#)

Expanding Workforce

Electric Boat is actively expanding its workforce and enhancing its outreach and training initiatives to meet the demands of its submarine programs. This includes

significant recruitment, robust training programs, and efforts to maintain production pace amid increased funding and new challenges.

[READ MORE](#)

Get to the chopper

Sikorsky delivered a new fleet of VH-92A Marine One helicopters to the U.S. government, completing a significant modernization of presidential transport.

[READ MORE](#)

Looking to grow

The Office of Manufacturing is seeking \$100 million in state funding over six years to support growth of the manufacturing industry.

[READ MORE](#)

Go team

Athletic Brewing Company was named the Official Non-Alcoholic Beer Partner of Arsenal Football Club.

[READ MORE](#)



MANUFACTURER SPOTLIGHT

Company:

Freeflow Fabrications

Owner:

Matt Quinlan

For 28-year-old Matt Quinlan, manufacturing is more than just a career—it's where his two passions converge. A Simsbury, CT native, Matt studied Industrial

Design at Thomas Jefferson University, specializing in design visualization. Over the years, he mastered computer-aided design (CAD) systems and delved deep into manufacturing methods, building a career as a design engineer. This role saw him tackle complex projects, from crafting metal coating fixtures for jet engine turbine blades to designing specialty packaging for explosive devices. Yet, beyond his professional achievements, Matt's true passion lay in motorcycles and the art of creating custom parts.

In 2023, Matt founded [Freeflow Fabrications](#), a company that embodies the perfect blend of his interests. By leveraging the latest in additive manufacturing technology and combining it with traditional methods, Matt has created a space where innovation and creativity meet. Freeflow Fabrications is not just a business; it's the culmination of Matt's vision to merge his passion for design and motorcycles through the transformative power of manufacturing.