

MEP Advisory Board

Aug. 31, 2021

FACA Board Meeting

This is a simplified version of the presentation for website purposes.
A full version may be requested by emailing Cheryl.Gendron@nist.gov



MEP • MANUFACTURING
EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

NIST
National Institute of
Standards and Technology
U.S. Department of Commerce

FACA and the Advisory Board

- The MEP Advisory Board is authorized under Section 3003(d) of the America COMPETES Act (Pub. L. 110–69), as amended by the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act, Public Law 114–329 sec. 501 (2017), and codified at 15 U.S.C. 278k(m), in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C., App.

Welcome from Board Chair

- Matthew Newman, MEP Advisory Board, Chair

Welcome (and Welcome Back) Two New MEP Advisory Board Members

- Bernadine Hawes, Econsult Solutions
- Miriam Kmetzo, Welding Technology Corp.

MAB Meeting Details

- **Tuesday, August 31, 2021**
- Board Meeting Opening/Logistics
- Welcome and Introductions
- Opening Remarks
- Welcome from NIST and NIST MEP Leadership
- Board and Audience Introductions
- NIST MEP Senior Management Update
- Working Group Update: MEP National Network™ Strategic Plan 2023-2028
- Overview of Afternoon Discussion Areas
- Board Feedback and Discussion

Welcome and Introductions

- Mojdeh Bahar, NIST, Associate Director, Innovation and Industry Services
- Rob Ivester, Acting Director, NIST MEP

Roll Call

- MEP Advisory Board
- Meeting host will read the list of attendee organizations registered for the meeting
 - Virtual and in-person

In Memoriam

- Mark Sessumes, TMAC Center Director

NIST MEP Senior Management Update

- MEP Program Budget Outlook / Spend Plan
- MEP National Network Update
- NIST MEP Operational Update
- MEP National Network Strategic Plan Update

MEP Program Budget Outlook (as of Aug. 31, 2021)

FY 2021 Appropriation Status	FY 2022 Appropriation Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Base funding: \$150 million; \$4 million increase over FY20.• Center funding not subject to cost share requirements; elective for Centers receiving state funds conditioned on federal cost share requirement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• President's budget includes \$275 million appropriation for MEP; increase of \$125 million.• House appropriations bill also set at \$275 million for MEP.• House bill includes same cost share provisions as FY21 appropriation.

NIST MEP FY 2021 Projected Spend Plan

<u>Available Funding:</u>	\$ Millions
Full Year Appropriation	150.0
Carryover from FY 2020	7.3
Recoveries from Deobligations (anticipated)	1.0
Funding from Other Agencies*	0.0
Total Available Funding	158.3
<u>Planned Expenditures:</u>	\$ Millions
Center Renewals	130.0
Strategic Competitions	3.4
Contracts	4.5
NIST MEP Labor	10.8
<u>NIST and Program Overhead</u>	<u>9.6</u>
Total Planned Expenditures	158.3

Projected FY 2021 Efficiency Rate = 11.48%; actual FY 2020 Efficiency Rate = 9.03%.

* Funding from DOD for Contracts and Project Support

MEP Program Potential Increase in Federal Funding-How Might Such Funding be Distributed?

- **Increase to Center operations base funding**
 - Cost share depends on appropriation
 - Percentage of increase will be applied to base, not total increase
- **Through the existing/modified strategic competitions structure**
 - Exploring an increase to the maximum award amounts under CAP NOFO
- **Additional potential funding around areas of strategic focus**
 - Manufacturing technology/MTDFs, workforce, supply chain

And on the Legislative Front

- Congress and the Administration has kept us very busy—And THAT'S A GOOD THING!

Congress in a Nutshell

- To explain how Congress works is a hundred slide study in archaic and formal—both bodies, the Senate and the House are by design, reactive.
- Both bodies have:
 - **Authorization committees (with subcommittees broken out by agency or topic)**. This is where what we consider “laws” are drafted.
 - **Appropriation committees (with subcommittees broken out by agency or topic)**. This is where the money is put to these laws.
- Authorization bills contain dollar amounts which are not real; they simply state what the boundaries are for appropriations.
- Appropriations bills contain amounts of real money to be spent by the federal government, normally on an annual FY basis starting Oct. 1.

Congress in a Nutshell

To explain how a bill is passed, this too can be an exercise in complicated parliamentary rules, but basically, in an ideal scenario...

- Both the Senate and House subcommittees would pass a bill which would be “marked up” (just like it reads) for the full committee to vote upon.
- The full committee then votes for the bill and it goes to conference where both Senate and House members sit as conferees to negotiate a compromise bill.
- That bill then goes to the floor of both bodies to be passed and then it is forwarded to the White House for presidential signature—at which time that bill is now law.
- Of course, this ideal scenario never happens. So there is much more sausage making that we can go into offline.
- *Appropriations bills work basically the same way, except that we have not had the 13 separate appropriations bills fully passed and signed by the POTUS since roughly 1996.*

On the Legislative Front in this, the 117th Congress

1. Some Major Legislative Actions
2. Budget FY 2022 & Cares Act IG Report
3. Other Important Activities

1. Some Major Legislative Actions

Congress is currently on recess until after Labor Day

- **The U.S. Innovation and Competition Act (USICA) Senate Bill—S. 1260**
 - Allows for a substantial increase in the NIST MEP budget authorization to \$480 million
 - Contains a new Expansion Awards program allows NIST MEP to commence to issue additional funds

*As passed by the Senate; the House has not brought the same bill up

- **The House Science Committee did mark-up a bill to reauthorize the functions of NIST**
 - Contains a PILOT Expansion Awards program allows NIST MEP to commence to issue additional funds, including language about the amounts, duration, and selection criterion for such awards
 - Included language to allow NIST MEP to more easily receive monies from other sources
 - Clarifies throughout that NIST MEP helps U.S. based manufacturers

2. The Budget Outlook for FY 2022 and CARES Act

The House Mark—\$275 Million for NIST MEP in FY 2022

- Appropriation is the same as the President’s Budget request—or \$125M more than FY 2021
- Appropriations language states that the entire proposed mark is cost-share exempt
- The Senate Mark has not been released; both the House and the POTUS being the same is a good signal of what’s to come

Cares Act Inspector General (IG) Exit Conference Briefing:

“As I noted during our call in May, we do not have any reportable findings. The final Evaluation memo summarizes the results of our work and is very positive in nature. Accordingly, we will not require any written response from NIST management. As you know, our core focus was on the implementation of the CARES Act to include the pre-award and award phases of the grant lifecycle; overall, we were impressed with how quickly NIST advertised the CARES Act funding, provided training/outreach to prospective grantees, and awarded the funds (while adhering to the DOC Grants and Cooperative Agreements Manual and the Uniform Guidance requirements), all while dealing with the fallout of the pandemic. Well done!”

3. Other Important Activities: Congress and the Administration

- A national supply chain database remains a priority for Congress, the Administration and NIST MEP.
- The major Infrastructure legislation which just passed the Senate contains provisions for NIST MEP.
- The CHIPS Act remains front and center.
- NIST MEP is working on three additional fronts: supply chain, technology and workforce.
- NIST MEP anxiously awaits the final appropriation for NIST MEP, however knowing it could come much later than Oct. 1, 2021.
- We will continue to monitor these and other actions.

AND, The POTUS recently issued a proclamation announcing...

CARES Act Update: Highlights of Funding Initiatives

- **Working directly with state governments**
 - Linking state government policies and programs to manufacturers by participating in emergency task forces to address challenges and issues
 - Connecting the manufacturing industry and state procurement efforts
 - Managing state-level supply chain portals, linking manufacturers to demand and organizing them to deploy as needs change
- **Addressing issues with manufacturing PPE, medical supplies and medical devices**
 - Helping manufacturers meet the country's urgent needs for PPE and medical devices by guiding them to information and solutions about testing protocols, quality testing and required certifications
 - Helping address issues of potential legal liabilities arising from the production of PPE and medical supplies and devices
- **Serving Manufacturers**
 - More than 414,000 manufacturing establishments contacted
 - Over 21,000 projects completed
 - Project end date Sept. 30, 21 – over 80% of funds allocated by MEP Centers

Strategic Competition Update

- **New CAP NOFO released Dec. 28, 2020**
 - 14 eligible applications in review
- **FY21 funding could provide significant funds for strategic competitions**
 - Strategic competition NOFO format
 - Increased amount available
 - Potentially increased amount per award
 - Will communicate key topics that we will be expecting through NOFO(s)
 - Workforce
 - Supply chain
 - Technology adoption

Strategic Competitions and Network Learning

- **Close-out meetings for concluding CAPs will be open to the Network**
 - Communicate programs and materials for the benefit and use of National Network
Projects that will be highlighted in the coming months
 - **New York MEP:** Capital Region Innovation Resource Center
 - **Georgia MEP:** Food Safety Compliance and Management for Small Food and Beverage Processors
 - **Innovate Hawaii:** Smart Talent
 - **University of South Dakota:** Technology Adoption Center for Increased Competitiveness
 - **Missouri Enterprise:** Food Safety in the Heartland
 - **Montana MEP:** NW Food Safety Modernization Act
 - **MMTC:** Cybersecurity for Defense Manufacturing

Network Learning: Connect, Communicate and Collaborate

Knowledge sharing is an essential component of the MEP National Network – solving problems, introducing technologies and reengineering processes require seeing the world through a new lens and taking the opportunity to act.

- **New Network Learning Corner in the Network News**
 - To effectively share, transfer and discuss NIST MEP’s vision, learnings, distinctive practices, meeting and webinar recordings, programs, success stories, and special announcements
- **New Network Learning section on MEP Connect**
 - Knowledge sharing from NIST MEP — working groups, extension services, competitive awards projects, distinctive practices, helpful resources and more
 - Competitive Awards Program highlights
 - Funding opportunities
 - Project outcomes and deliverables

Board Support

NIST MEP Network Learning has been coordinating MEP Center Board support since 2017.

- Offer Board member assessments using an MEP-centric assessment tool. Results are confidential
- Offer action planning sessions as a result of the assessments and workshops targeted to specific needs of Boards. Sessions have covered topics such as strategic planning, advocacy and Board recruitment

34 states (and 37 SRAs) have used board development services

25 assessments **18** action planning consulting **14** workshops **9** individual consults

MEP BoardSource subscription

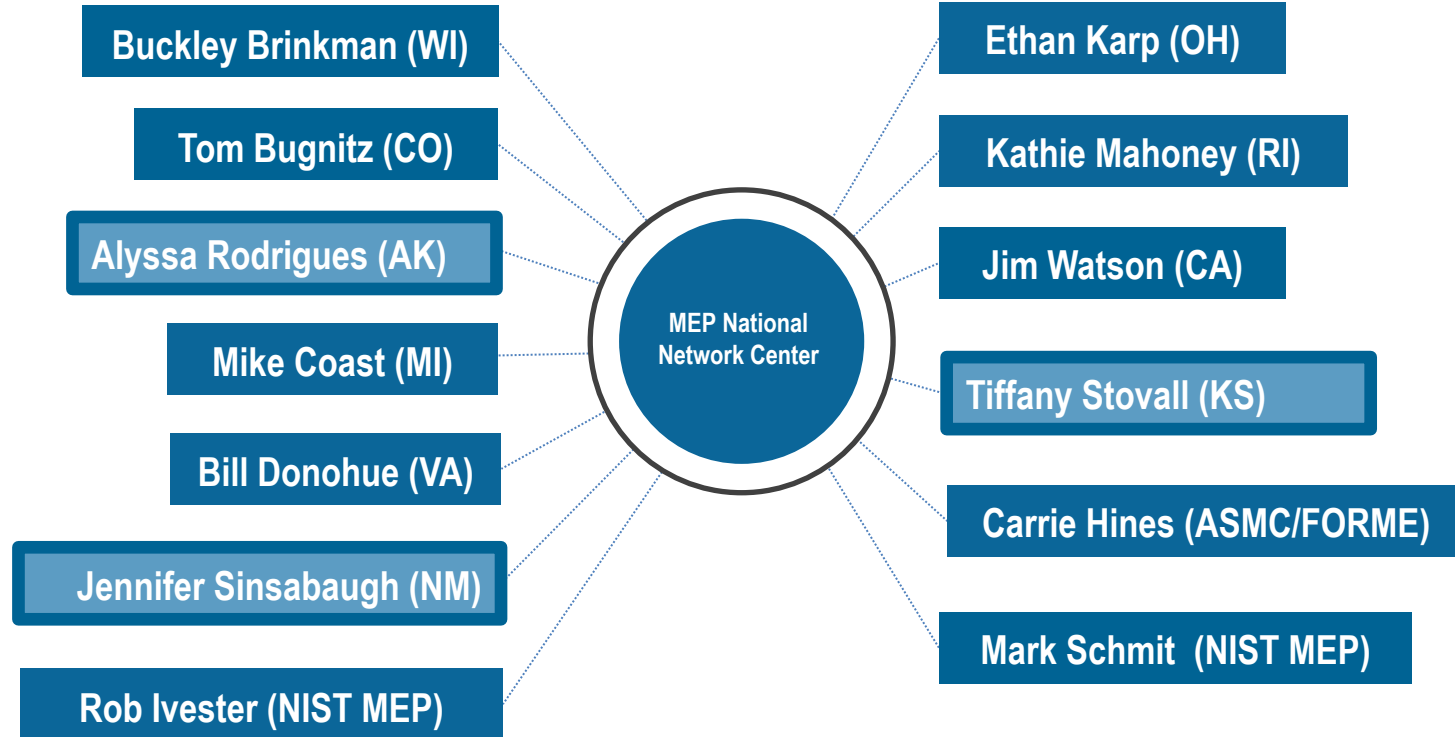
- A nationally recognized organization whose mission is to increase effectiveness in board governance, education and training; valuable for both Center Directors and Center Board members
- Subscription gives access to the various best practices, blogs, studies and various governance materials
- MEP has a dedicated link to access the site in MEP Connect in the Board Governance tab

Order of magnitude funding for the MEP is becoming more likely.

With that backdrop, the CLT is:

- Reimagining the CLT's voice and role to influence the MEP National Network by addressing the five priorities in a way that positions the National Network as the obvious answer to manufacturing policies and advances.
- Building new frameworks and processes that position the MEP National Network to impact American manufacturing while preserving the legacy operations that bring effective solutions to manufacturers
- Creating a new learning space that will allow the MEP National Network to learn about and harness leading edge thinking and practices that will place the MEP at the hub of the major issues facing American manufacturing.

MEP National Network Center Leadership Team (CLT)



The Expanded MEP Program: Extension Services

Focusing on new MEP program initiatives:

- Manufacturing technology demonstration facilities
- Workforce services
- Supply chain development

Current Extension Services Provide Solid Foundation for Program Expansion

Expanding the Base MEP Program

- Continue to provide traditional MEP Center services
- Increase breadth and depth of MEP service offerings

Supply Chain Development

- Starting point: increase domestic content in, and resilience of supply chains determined to be critical to U.S. national/economic security and public health
 - Serve top-of-supply chain entities and individual manufacturers within those supply chains
 - Expand MEP Supplier Scouting
 - Help SMMs increase their resilience
- Serve manufacturers in other U.S. manufacturing supply chains as appropriate

MEP

Manufacturer/Supply Chain Resilience

- Resilient manufacturers are proactive - managing risk and opportunities while operating based upon data-driven business decision-making
- Improving manufacturer resilience at the individual company level is necessary to improve overall supply chain resilience – representing a unique opportunity for the MEP program
- MEP Manufacturer Resilience Framework in development

Current Extension Services Provide Foundation for Program Expansion

Manufacturing Technology Demonstration Facilities

- Build upon ongoing MEPNN work in advanced manufacturing technology, cybersecurity, MATTR, AMTS projects, CAP awards
- Establish and operate manufacturing technology demonstration facilities (MTDFs) around the nation as part of state-based manufacturing ecosystems
 - Each MTDF focused on a specific key product/technology area determined to be critical to U.S. national and economic security or public health

Workforce services

- Working with SMMs to help them identify new opportunities to grow their workforce and talent
- Continue to build upon ongoing efforts to strengthen MEP program impacts on both manufacturers and manufacturing

New MEP Center Directors



Tim Israel



Tom Simpkins



Dayna Blanchard



Staci Miller



Kimberly Ingalls



Kathie Mahoney



Steve Black



Don Cuperus



Dr. Ramon Vega



Beatriz Gutierrez



Paul Lucy



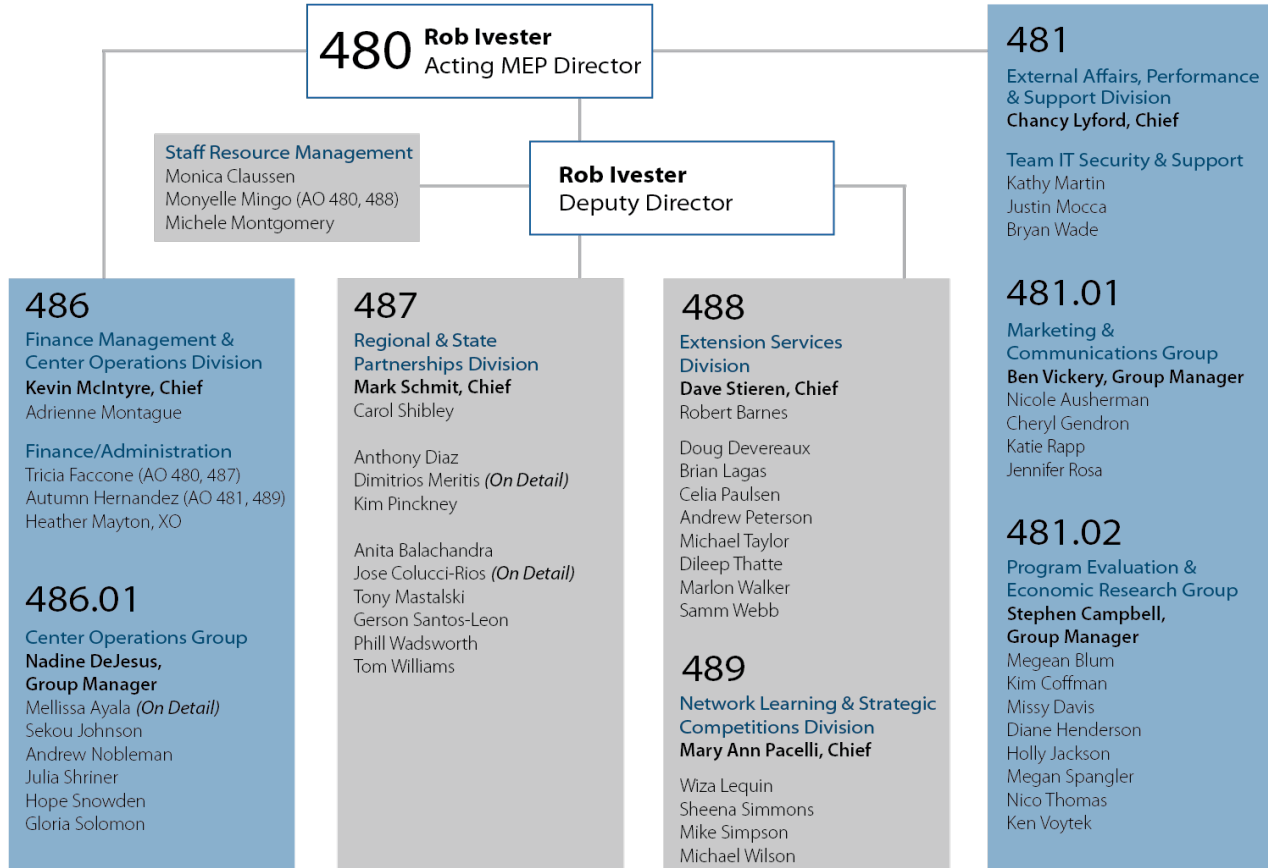
Patricia Giavara



Aaron Patrick - Interim

NIST MEP: Operational Update

NIST MEP Org Chart FY21



MEP National Network Current Strategic Plan

Strategic Plan Update

**Empower
Manufacturers**

**Champion
Manufacturers**

**Leverage
Partnerships**

**Transform
the Network**

1. Strengthening the National Supply Chain

Increase supplier connections

2. Serving the Manufacturing Workforce

Increase client engagement in workforce services

3. Increased Visibility

Amplify and measure Network brand awareness

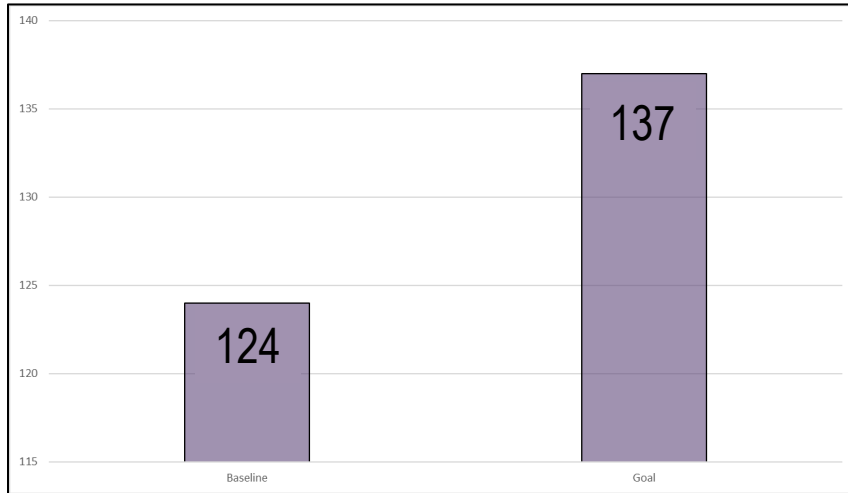
4. Leading in Technology Deployment

Increase client engagement in technology services

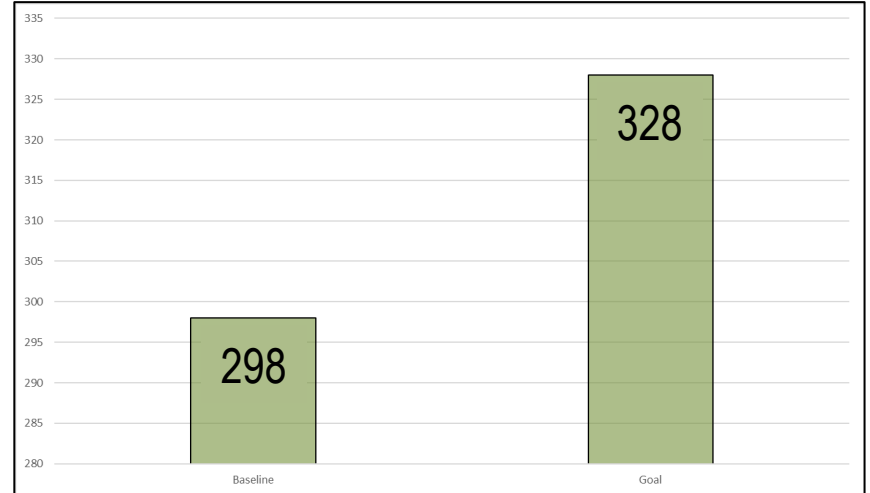
**18 Month
Measures of
Success**

Measure 1 – Strengthening the Supply Chain

- Goal:
 - Increase Supplier Scouting requests by 10%

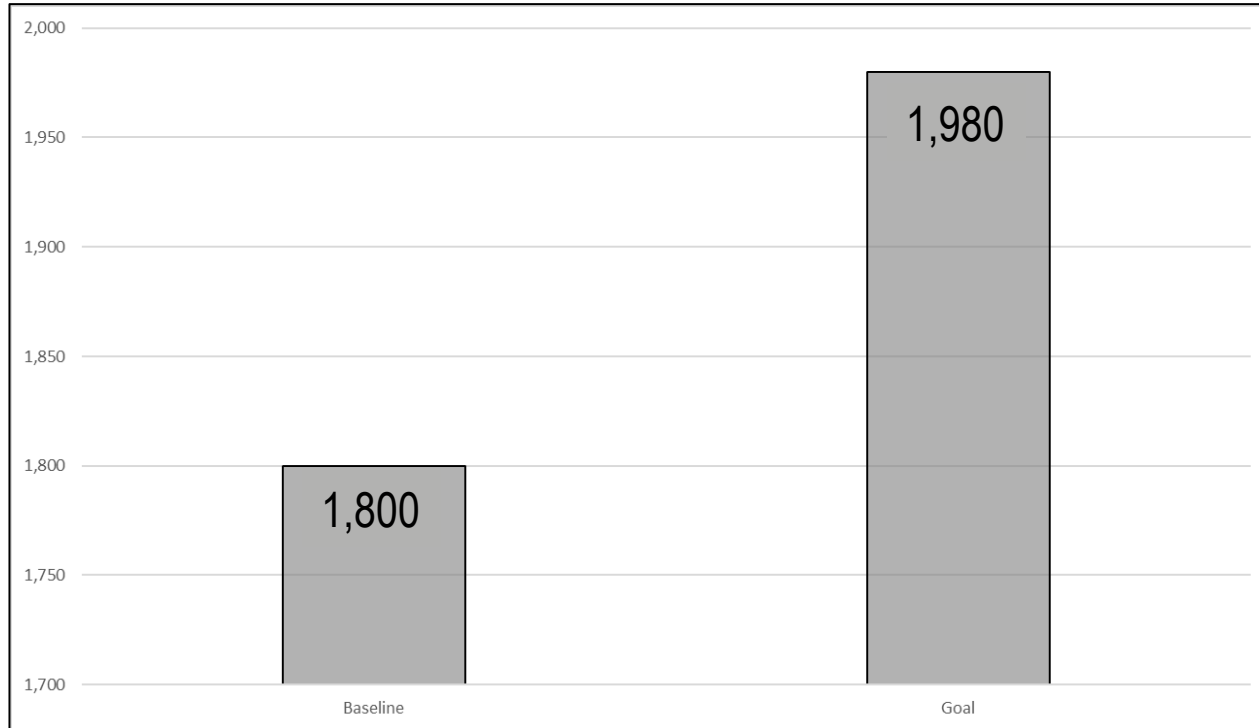


- Goal:
 - Increase successful Supplier Scouting matches by 10%



Measure 2 – Serving the Manufacturing Workforce

Goal: Increase clients engaged with workforce projects by 10%



18 Month Measures of Success — Progress to Date

Measure 3: Increased Visibility by Amplifying Network Brand Awareness by at Least 10%.

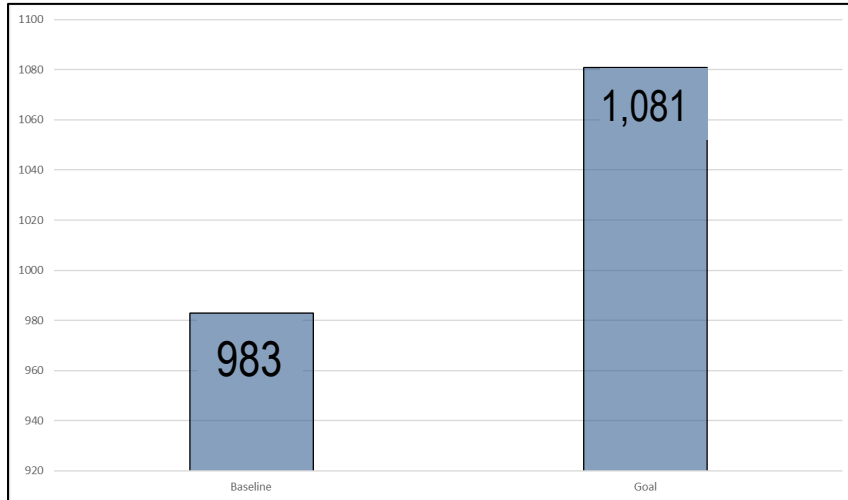
Brand Measure	New Baseline for Next 18 Months	New Amplification Goal with 10% Increase
#MEPNationalNetwork Hashtag Occurrences	567	624
Brand Mentions	194	213
Manufacturing Innovation Blog Subscribers	40,130	44,143
Backlinks	186	205
Social Media Followers	18,419	20,261

*New baseline set based on progress to date for most recent quarter, April 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021

Measure 4 – Leading in Technology Deployment

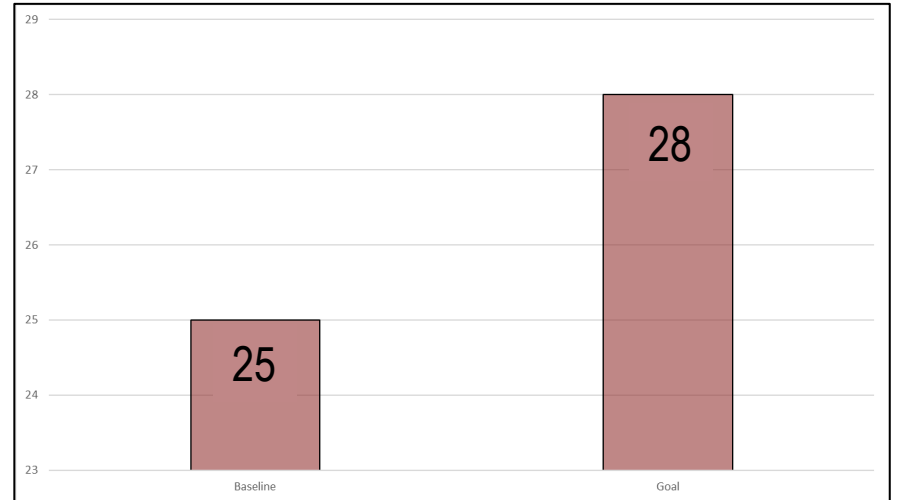
Goal:

Increase clients engaged with technology services projects by 10%



Goal:

Increase MATTR requests by 10%



MEP Advisory Board Working Group Updates

MEPNN Strategic Plan Working Group 2023-2028

EXTENDED

- **Committee Members**

- Board Leadership

Kathay Rennels

- Board Members

Don Bockoven, Kevin Heller, Mary Isbister, Willie May, Matt Newman, Jim Wright

With extended Board member participation, NIST MEP support and partners from the MEP National Network

- **Deliverable**

- To provide long-term program direction, guidance and perspectives for the MEP National Network Strategic Plan for 2023-2028. The WG will consider feedback from Centers, stakeholders, partners, management and staff as the plan is developed.

MEP into the Future; Focus Group Listing

Overarching Resilience

- David Stieren, LaDon Byars, Bernadine Hawes

Reshoring

- Rob Ivester, Don Bockoven, George Spottswood

National Supply Chain

- Mark Schmit, Matthew Newman, Mary Isbister

Workforce

- Mary Ann Pacelli, Kathay Rennels, Jose Anaya, Mitchell Magee

Strategic Planning the Foundation to Support MEP Program's Planned Expansion

- Technology Demonstration Measures
- Supply Chain Measures
- Network Learning
- Workforce

NIST MEP seeks ongoing Advisory Board perspectives on these MEPNN focus areas, approaches, challenges.

Focus Groups: MEP into the Future

Overarching Resilience

- Advisory Board discussion led by the following:
 - LaDon Byars
 - Bernadine Hawes
 - David Stieren

Focus Groups: MEP into the Future

Reshoring

- Advisory Board discussion led by the following:
 - Don Bockoven
 - George Spottswood
 - Rob Ivester

Focus Groups: MEP into the Future

National Supply Chain

- Advisory Board discussion led by the following:
 - Matthew Newman
 - Mary Isbister
 - Mark Schmit

Focus Groups: MEP into the Future

Workforce

- Advisory Board discussion led by the following:
 - Jose Anaya
 - Mitchell Magee
 - Mary Ann Pacelli
 - Kathay Rennels

Supply Chain Development Working Group

- Committee Members

- Board Leadership

Don Bockoven

- Board Members

Ray Aguerrevere, LaDon Byars, Mary Isbister, Matt Newman

- NIST MEP Support

Rob Ivester, Dave Stieren, Mark Schmit

The WG will update the Board on relevant MEPNN efforts relating to supply chain development, emphasizing MEP Program strategies and plans regarding supply chains. WG emphasis is shifting to reflect MEP program expansion plans for supply chains including and beyond previous WG focus on cybersecurity and DOD.

Supply Chains – What, Why and How

GOAL: Improve U.S. manufacturing supply chains so that:

1. U.S. supply chains will be more resilient at the overall manufacturing level and at the individual manufacturer level
2. Key products and critical technologies (EO 14017) will be more effectively and comprehensively sourced domestically

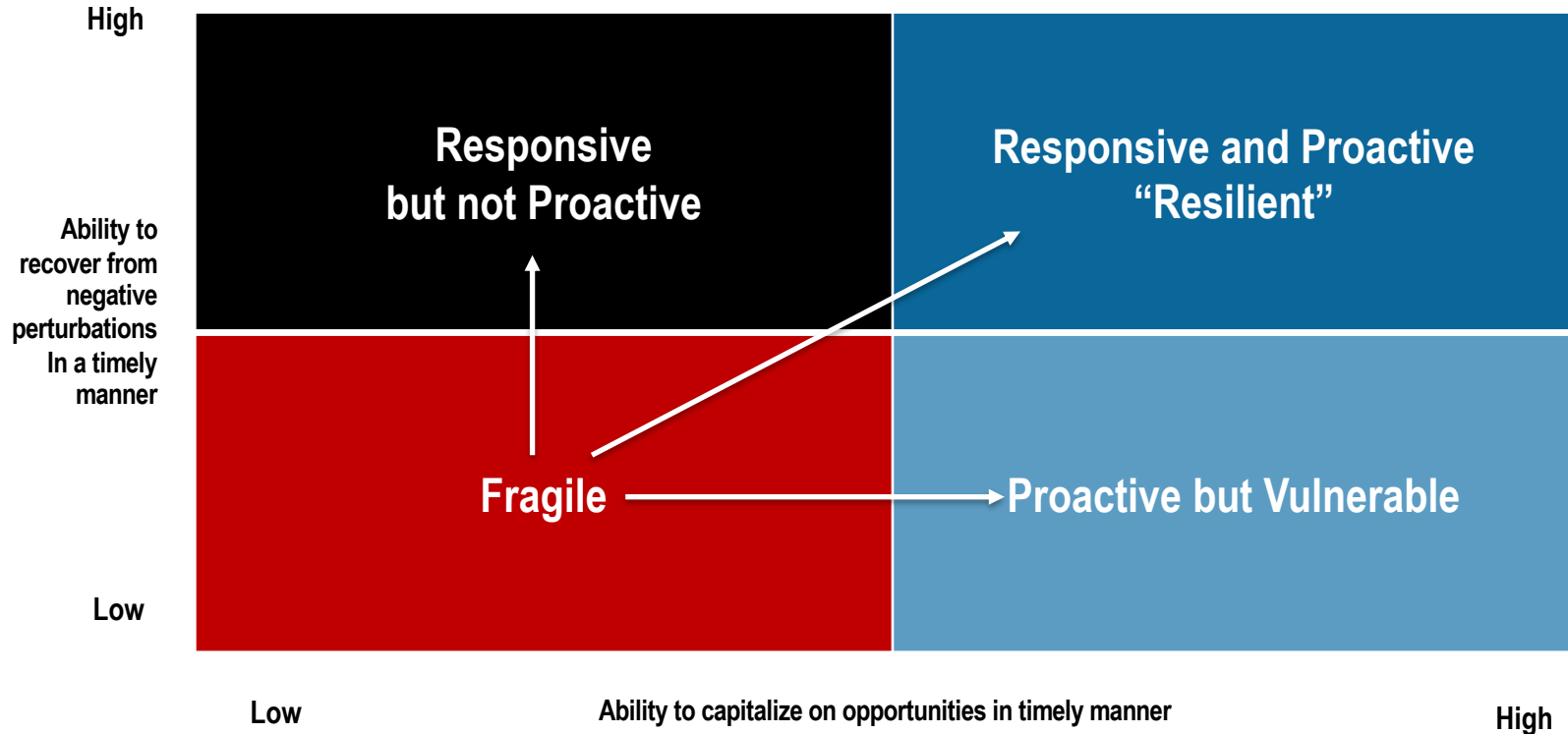
WHY

- Sharp focus **NOW** on U.S. dependence on global supply chains
- U.S. domestic manufacturing base gaps highlight lack of supply chain resilience, undermining U.S. economic, national security and public health

HOW

- Top-down/bottom-up approach
- Expand MEP Supplier Scouting / implement national supply chain database
- Deliver assistance services to SMMs to increase individual resilience and overall supply chain resilience

Resilience



MEP Manufacturer Resilience Framework

- Centers provide many resilience-relevant services that will be leveraged – and highlighted
- Business assessments, business planning, risk management is integral
- Timeliness is important
- The Framework will include:**
 - Repository (assessments, tools, expertise) that can be shared across MEPNN
 - Approaches / playbooks for Centers to help companies implement integrated strategies and tactics to improve their resilience
- Approach can be delivered at bottom-up manufacturer level. Can it also apply at top-down supply chain / manufacturing level?



MEP Supplier Scouting

- **E014005:** MEP anticipates potential significant expansion of Supplier Scouting for federal agencies/procurements
- **E014017:** MEP anticipates Supplier Scouting to be leveraged nationally to analyze / map critical supply chain needs and gaps and help address them
- **Centers use a variety of approaches and tools to do scouting**
- **National Supply Chain Database (NSCDB)**
 - Assist in effective ID of new U.S. manufacturers to enter supply chains at state and national levels
 - No specific platform to be prescribed – NSCDB implementation will need to be interoperable at national level with databases used by Centers at state level
 - NSCDB security and data verification will be critical

Executive Committee Working Group

- **Committee Members**

- Board Leadership

Mary Isbister

- Board Members

Mitch Magee, Pat Moulton, Matt Newman, George Spottswood

- NIST MEP Support

Rob Ivester, Cheryl Gendron, Phill Wadsworth, Wiza Lequin

- **Deliverable**

- Provide guidance on future MEP Advisory Board leadership and membership recruitment, provide insights into cultivating strong Board governance as well as explore ways to expand the MEP Advisory Board's role in regard to the local MEP Center Boards.

MEP Advisory Board: Center Board Outreach Program

Center Board Outreach Program

Fall 2021 and Beyond

The goal is to create a board-to-board exchange of information and communication that will strengthen the MEP National Network.

- Creation of subset of working group for outreach
- Coaching and mentoring to assist with efforts
- New questions developed into the summer/fall

2022 Meeting Schedule*

Planning is Underway: Details Coming Soon

MEP Advisory Board

- Wednesday, March 9, 2022
 - Gaithersburg, Maryland & NIST Campus/prior to Hill Day

MEP Advisory Board

- Wednesday, June 8, 2022
 - Tulsa, Oklahoma – Finally!!

MEP Advisory Board

- Sunday, Sept. 18, 2022
 - Location TBD/Co-Located with the MEPNN Summit

Thank You

For the Full Presentation, Please contact Cheryl Gendron at

Cheryl.Gendron@nist.gov

VISIT OUR BLOG

<https://www.nist.gov/blogs/manufacturing-innovation-blog>

Get the latest NISTMEP news at:

www.nist.gov/mep