

NIPPON STEEL PIPE AMERICA

SEYMOUR, INDIANA

Manufacturing Skills for Success Training Increases Productivity and Teamwork

“Purdue MEP gave us a great introduction to many useful tools for success in the workplace. The 5S section alone has helped us introduce many 5S cleaning stations and tool shadow boards to our work areas.”

Michael Wells

Cold Draw Supervisor

Nippon Steel Pipe
America

The Challenge:

The current labor shortage has put a strain on all companies as well as Nippon Steel Pipe America (NSPA). Therefore, NSPA was looking to increase training that would give their associates a broad view of manufacturing disciplines. The idea was to involve associates across different departments and disciplines from within the factory with the hope that they would apply the training to their own areas. The goal was that as each associate went through the training and exercises of various disciplines of manufacturing, they would gain perspective from how other departments view or utilize these manufacturing principles.

The Solution:

Purdue MEP provided training with very experienced instructors for the following topics: Skills for Success, Print Reading for Manufacturing, Measurement for Manufacturing, Quality Tools & Techniques, 5-S The Visual Workplace, Problem Solving: PCDA, A3, and Root Cause Analysis, Critical Thinking, and OSHA 10-Hour General Industry.

The Results:

Eighteen NSPA associates from nine different departments completed Purdue MEP's Manufacturing Skills for Success training program. This training series was funded through Gov. Holcomb's Next Level Jobs - Workforce Ready Grant saving NSPA over \$20,000. Several projects have already taken place because of the knowledge gained from this training, mainly in the areas of 5-S and Safety. These changes will bolster improved productivity and cost reduction within our facility.

Additionally, NSPA hoped for a team-building aspect by having the different departments go through the training together. NSPA reported that this has gone better than expected. There is definitely a greater sense of teamwork among the attendees of this program which has increased collaboration and morale.

Impacts:

- **18 individuals** upskilled through the Manufacturing Skills for Success program
- **Saved \$20,000** due to Gov. Holcomb's Next Level Jobs - Workforce Ready Grant
- Improved productivity and cost reduction
- Increased collaboration and morale

 **NIPPON STEEL**
NIPPON STEEL PIPE AMERICA, INC.

Read more at: <https://mep.purdue.edu/client-successes/nippon-steel-pipe-america/>

ABOUT MEP

Purdue Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) provides high-value solutions to help Indiana businesses maximize their success. As advocates for Indiana's thousands of manufacturers, our staff identifies areas of improvement, streamlines processes, and ultimately increases competitiveness. Purdue MEP serves hundreds of companies annually by implementing continuous improvement principles in the areas of productivity, growth, and technology.