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## **Diverse Group of New Hampshire Manufacturers Finding Value in Governor's Manufacturing Leadership Series**

*June 9 Workshop Focuses on Innovation and Competitive Sustainability*

**Concord** – Following a successful debut in April, the second of three "Governor's Manufacturing Leadership Series" workshops will focus on achieving sustainability in a competitive manufacturing market, and embracing technological and organizational changes and advances for New Hampshire manufacturers.

Gov. John Lynch announced the series of three daylong workshops designed to address the needs of the state's manufacturers in March. The sessions are hosted by the New Hampshire Manufacturing Extension Partnership.

A diverse group of manufacturers from across the state participated in the inaugural session on April 21, and look forward to the upcoming workshops to learn more techniques to compete in local, national and international markets.

"After attending the first conference, I feel like we've been given strategies to successfully compete with outsourcing and the international markets in countries like China," said Val Zanchuk, president of Graphicast in Jaffrey, NH, a manufacturer of precision metal parts for large manufacturers.

Mark Godfrey, president of Felton Brush in Londonderry, NH finds the workshops particularly helpful since his company manufactures brushes for personal and industrial applications around the globe. He also believes manufacturers of all sizes will come away with useful and innovative techniques.

"Presenters walked us through ways to identify the strategies to successfully position any size company to come out ahead in the market," said Godfrey, "Workshops like these are helpful because they encourage you to think creatively, and innovation is one of the keys to sustainability in manufacturing."

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The Thursday, June 9 workshop, "Leading the Change, Innovation and Transformation," focuses on how technological advances and manufacturing improvements can help companies stay competitive. In addition, the workshop will focus on helping companies implement Lean manufacturing techniques that streamline and increase the efficiency of manufacturing organizations. Other sessions will focus on product development, commercialization, and company growth.

"Manufacturing is vital to New Hampshire's economy," Gov. Lynch said. "With these workshops, we are working to give our manufacturers the practical assistance they need to compete and thrive in a changing global economy," Gov. Lynch said.

Presenters at the June workshop will include Robert L. Hosford, Ph.D., a consultant to MEP Management Services, Inc. in leadership and organizational development, Zenagui Brahim, director of operations of NH MEP, and Greg King, lead technical project manager for the Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership.

There is a \$50 per-person registration fee for each workshop. Companies can register online at [www.nhmep.org](http://www.nhmep.org) or contact Cathy Doty of the NH MEP at 603-226-3200 or [cathyd@nhmep.org](mailto:cathyd@nhmep.org).

Convened by the New Hampshire Division of Economic Development, the New Hampshire Manufacturing Initiative is a collaborative effort of the Business & Industry Association of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Manufacturing Extension Partnership, the Workforce Opportunity Council, the New Hampshire High Tech Council, the Knowledge Institute, the New Hampshire Small Business Development Center, educational institutions and local manufacturers to continue a dialogue with state public policy leaders on important issues to manufacturers and to provide information on the economic impact of the industry in the Granite State.

NH MEP is an affiliate of the National Institute of Standards and Technology under the U.S. Department of Commerce. The national MEP is a network of manufacturing extension centers that provide business and technical assistance to smaller manufacturers in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Through MEP, manufacturers have access to more than 2,000 manufacturing and business "coaches" whose job is to help firms make changes that lead to greater productivity, increased profits and enhanced global competitiveness. NH MEP works in partnership with the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development. For more information on the services NH MEP project managers provide, contact the Concord office at (603) 226-3200 or go to [www.nhmep.org](http://www.nhmep.org).

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