



## Chicago Metro Metal Consortium (CMMC)

*Cultivating a World-Class Manufacturing Cluster*

The Consortium is one of 24 'Investing in Manufacturing Communities' (IMCP) named by the U.S. Department of Commerce in June, 2014. CMMC supports and strengthens the region's metal manufacturing cluster.

CMMC offers manufacturers resources to grow their businesses through collaboration and networking, market intelligence, and promotion of the region as a leading center for manufacturing.

3,700 FIRMS  
\$30B ANNUAL REVENUES  
100,000 EMPLOYEES

### Our strategic approach:

CMMC leverages and makes investments in the metal manufacturing cluster by:

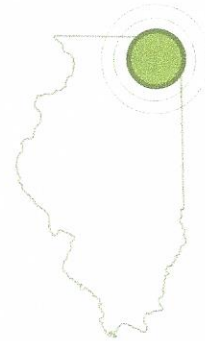
- Targeting the two largest segments of the metal manufacturing cluster: metalworking and production technology / heavy machinery; and
- Prioritizing efforts on growing a skilled workforce, promoting exports, and innovating for the future.

### Current Initiatives

- **Addressing regional gaps in workforce and training** by promoting metal manufacturing careers and strengthening connections among the region's employers, training providers, and workforce.
- **Increase heavy machinery/production technology exports** by partnering with [Metro Chicago Exports](#) to facilitate connections to regional services and reduce costs for entry or expansion into the export market.
- **Accelerating process innovation** by working to identify 'open innovation' strategies in metal manufacturing and engaging SMEs in applied research to increase competitive advantage.
- **Improving the regional supply chain** by hosting 'manufacturer matchmaking' events that connect metal manufacturers and a variety of end users.
- **Identifying and supporting transportation and infrastructure projects** to facilitate worker access to manufacturing jobs and contribute to the region's economic competitiveness.
- **Improving business operations and sustainability** by increasing access to capital.

## The Vision

Increase the productivity of the region's metal manufacturers by advancing innovation, cultivating an interested and qualified labor pool to match demand, and growing exports at rates higher than the national average.



## Our Partners

CMMC is a first-of-its-kind partnership for economic development in northeastern Illinois and brings together over 45 committed partners including all seven counties in northeastern Illinois, the City of Chicago, research institutions, workforce agencies and training colleges, businesses, universities and trade associations and other member organizations.

## Organization and Structure

- **Six subcommittees** aligned with key pillars of the economic ecosystem, each jointly led by content experts and government leaders.
- **Preferential access to federal funding** to support the metal manufacturing sector.
- **Private sector engagement** to help prioritize the regional agenda and facilitate strategic investments and programs for the cluster.



## Resources for manufacturers

CMMC offers metal manufacturers access to a multitude of valuable services and resources across CMMC's six areas of focus. Not sure where to start? CMMC also has diagnostic tools to identify possible areas for improvement based on industry benchmarks.

## Get Involved

Attend events. Join a committee. Take advantage of resources. Learn more.

Contact Derek Walvoord, CMMC Program Manager at [derek.walvoord@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:derek.walvoord@cookcountyil.gov) or [www.chicagometrometal.org](http://www.chicagometrometal.org).



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