



# The Center to Advance Manufacturing Monthly News

August 2024

Dear Associates,

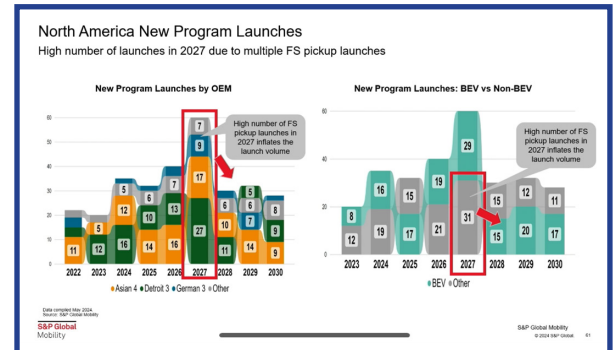
Each year the Center for Automotive Research (CAR) hosts the Management Briefing Seminars (MBS) in Traverse City, Michigan. The MBS is a gathering of thought leaders in the automotive industry from manufacturing, government, economic development, and higher education. For those of you that could not attend, I would like to provide a quick overview of what was discussed and how the Center is working to strengthen the automotive industry.

This year the theme was “Engage, Embrace, and Embark: Navigate the Future of Automotive Together.” While attending sessions, I paid particular attention to all the changes occurring in the automotive world: global supply chain disruptions, electrification (or not), energy, workforce training, safety, consumer patterns, cyber security, reshoring, lightweighting, and the list goes on. These generational changes are the exact reason the Center to Advance Manufacturing is partnering with CAR to conduct a Regional Automotive Manufacturing Impact Analysis.

This year during the automotive forecast session a few items piqued my interest. Original Equipment Manufacturer's (OEM) are planning to regionalize their supply chains around their battery electric vehicle (BEV) and internal combustion engine production plants. In addition, there is a trend of OEMs vertically integrating high value items of the vehicle, which impacts the suppliers who had traditionally sourced high value items. One of the driving factors for the supply chain is the announcement of new vehicle launches. The chart to the right provided by S&P Global, details the new program launches. The best forecast in most years is cloudy and always subject to change. With a Presidential election on the horizon, as well as high interest rates and consumers still debating the utility of BEVs, the forecast is even more difficult.



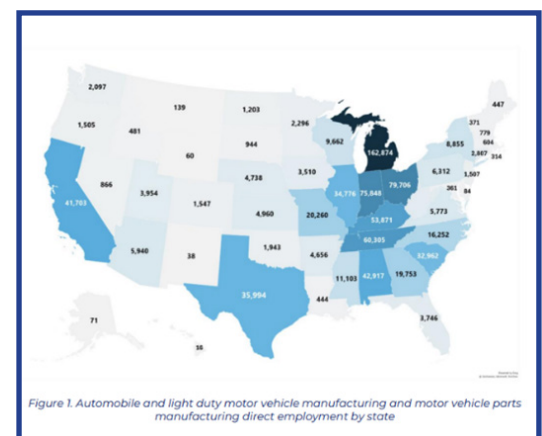
The Center is proud to be a partner of the Center for Automotive Research.



Despite all the challenges within the automotive industry CAR reminds us each year how important the industry is to the Midwest. The graphic to the right details the total direct employment by State. Center Program Manager, Ford Weber, is leading our regional automotive study (RGP territory) and in partnership with our local economic development directors, they have identified over 270 companies in the automotive manufacturing sector. Our study will result in the most comprehensive listing of automotive companies ever established in Northwest Ohio, analyze opportunities and threats, and ultimately align resources to support the automotive industries capital intensive investments and ever-changing skills required to compete globally. We look forward to further analyzing the automotive industry in the region.



Tim Mayle  
Executive Director  
419-788-0490





## Wood County Advanced Manufacturing Camp

Mayle attended the conclusion of the Wood County Advanced Manufacturing Camp at Owens Community College (OCC) in late July. The Center is a proud sponsor of this program, which introduces our youth to different industries. Through field trips to local manufacturing plants and hands-on activities, attendees learned about STEM topics and manufacturing, all while working together as a team.



*Senator Sherrod Brown and Owens Community College President, Dr. Dione Somerville met with attendees on the last day of the Advanced Manufacturing camp.*

## APT Manufacturing Technology Day

Center Workforce Training Coordinator, Jeri Steinbrook, attended APT Manufacturing Solutions Technology Day in Hicksville, Ohio. APT hosted a day full of presentations and hands-on learning with several robots. The event also allowed Steinbrook to engage with industry leaders.



*Presenters demonstrated how to use several types of robots.*

*Attendees were able to program and test out the equipment on display at the event.*



## Bowling Green State University Research Experience for Teachers

Center staff enjoyed listening to the Research Experience for Teachers (RET) program participants present their summer research projects at the BGSU College of Technology, Architecture and Applied Engineering. The RET program, funded by the National Science Foundation, engaged area high school and community college educators in hands-on research in advanced manufacturing and robotics over a six week period at the University. Program participants had the opportunity to create STEM-related modules that they will integrate into their curriculum in the upcoming school year.



*Center staff Kassie Cooper, Ford Weber, and Jeri Steinbrook pose with one of the STEM modules that featured research on the role of educational robots in a K-12 setting.*

## Owens Community College State of the College

In mid-August, Mayle attended OCC's State of the College event. OCC President, Dr. Dione Somerville (pictured below, left with Tim Mayle) shared their strategic plan, along with increased enrollment and retention numbers. Recently appointed Ohio Association of Community Colleges President, Avi Zaffini (pictured below, right), spoke at the event, which was his first official campus visit in Ohio.







### First Solar

Mayle, along with BGSU President, Rodney Rogers, and representatives from BGSU's College of Technology, Architecture and Applied Engineering, College of Arts and Sciences, and Schmidhorst College of Business visited First Solar to discuss how higher education can support their operations and continued growth.

### CSX

At the Center for Automotive Research Management Briefing Seminars, Mayle connected with one of the keynote speakers, CSX CEO, Joe Hinrichs. Following Joe's presentation, Mayle and Findlay Hancock Economic Development (FHED) Director of Strategic Initiatives, Chris Keller, met with him to discuss how the Center and FHED can assist in leveraging their supply chain and logistics assets to advance manufacturing.



### Center Events



### FREE WEBINAR:

## Ohio TechCred Overview

- ☒ What is TechCred?
- ☒ How can your business apply?
- ☒ What credentials are eligible?
- ☒ Q & A

**Thursday, September 26**  
**9:00 AM - 10:00 AM**

Register today at <https://buff.ly/3XBEYfw>



FEATURING PRESENTERS FROM:



**Governor's Office of  
Workforce Transformation**

## Owens Community College Training Opportunities

Interested in upskilling your workforce? Check out these technical training courses that Owens Community College will be hosting in the Fall!

### Intro to Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) Operator

This course is recommended for students who have a background in electrical work and would like to learn basic PLC operation. Start date: October 3

### FANUC Robotics Training

This course offers hands-on training with lecture, including how to write a program from scratch to how to recover a robot from common fault situations. The course is geared towards students who have zero robot experience and those with a basic understanding. Start date: November 7

### Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Training

Safety and risk management is a priority in the manufacturing industry. Upon the completion of this classroom and hands-on course, the participant will demonstrate the ability to recognize several life-threatening emergencies, provide high quality CPR, properly use an Automated External Defibrillator and relieve choking. CPR classes are offered at the Findlay and Toledo locations. Start date: Varies, several options available



For full class details and to register, visit: [owens.edu/workforce\\_cs/workandplay.php](https://owens.edu/workforce_cs/workandplay.php)

## Are you prepared for the Ohio TechCred September application period?

Ohio's TechCred Program gives employers the chance to upskill current and future employees in today's tech-infused economy. Businesses of all sizes, from any industry, are eligible for up to \$30,000 per round. Employers who submit successful applications will be reimbursed up to \$2,000 per credential when current or prospective employees complete eligible technology-focused credentials. The next TechCred application period is September 2 through September 30. Training must be completed within 12 months from the award date.

Need assistance applying?

Contact our Workforce Training Coordinator, Jeri Steinbrook!

For full program details, visit [techcred.ohio.gov](https://techcred.ohio.gov).



## Contact Us



Tim Mayle  
Executive Director  
[tmayle@bgsu.edu](mailto:tmayle@bgsu.edu)



Ford Weber  
Program Manager of  
Econ. Dev. Partnerships  
[fweber@bgsu.edu](mailto:fweber@bgsu.edu)



Kassie Cooper  
Marketing Projects  
Manager  
[kassiec@bgsu.edu](mailto:kassiec@bgsu.edu)



Jeri Steinbrook  
Workforce Training  
Coordinator  
[jeris@bgsu.edu](mailto:jeris@bgsu.edu)



Danielle Sidebottom  
Assistant to the  
Executive Director  
[dsidebo@bgsu.edu](mailto:dsidebo@bgsu.edu)