



# Manufacturers' Digital Whistle

July 2025 Newsletter

**Register Today for All Upcoming Events:**

## **Port of Los Angeles Boat Tour & Networking Event**



Join the Manufacturers' Council of the Inland Empire for an unforgettable **Boat Tour of the Port of Los Angeles** – one of the world's busiest and most strategic ports powering Southern California's manufacturing sector.

Set sail with manufacturers, suppliers, and service providers as we explore the heart of regional logistics and gain a fresh perspective on global trade—all while enjoying

brunch, beverages, and unbeatable views.

**Tuesday, August 5**  
**9:30 AM – 12:00 PM**  
**Port of Los Angeles**

**Space is limited – Secure your spot now! [REGISTER HERE](#)**  
**Want to attending at a member discount or interested in sponsoring?**

Contact Sarah Johnson at [sjohnson@mfgcouncilie.com](mailto:sjohnson@mfgcouncilie.com) or call (253) 880-2333.

Expand your network—bring a peer or partner in manufacturing who could gain from this behind-the-scenes tour.

**Why You Should Attend:**

- Experience a private boat tour with brunch and beverages onboard
- Gain insight into port operations and the logistics that drive regional manufacturing
- Connect with key industry professionals in a relaxed, scenic setting
- Learn how this vital hub supports business growth, trade, and innovation

**Featured Speaker: Elizabeth Glynn, MIM, CGBP**  
*President & Advisor – Export Strategy & Operations*  
**EMG Global Business Solutions, Inc.**

**Topic: Navigating the Global Marketplace**

- Managing export operations
- Supply chain delays & backlogs
- Increased global competition
- The impact of U.S. tariffs

Whether you're shipping goods, sourcing components, or managing operations, this conversation is a must-attend for staying ahead in a rapidly evolving landscape.

**Want to promote your company to manufacturers and other businesses?**

**[Click here](#) for Sponsorship information and benefits.**

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Regional Chamber of Commerce

## Cheers to Next Steps: An ESOP & Succession Strategy Social



**Thursday, August 21 | 3:00 – 5:00 PM**

**Victoria Club | Riverside, CA**

**Spots are limited—[REGISTER HERE](#)**

**Free for MCIE Members | \$10 for Non-Members**

(Members: Contact [sjohnson@mfgcouncilie.com](mailto:sjohnson@mfgcouncilie.com) for your discount code.)

Are you a manufacturing executive, business owner, or financial decision-maker thinking about what's next for your company?

Join us for an insightful and engaging afternoon focused on **succession planning** and the power of **Employee Stock Ownership Plans (ESOPs)**. Hosted by the **Manufacturers' Council of the Inland Empire (MCIE)**, this social event combines networking, education, and strategy—all in a relaxed, upscale setting.

- Enjoy complimentary drinks, appetizers, and valuable conversations
- Learn from industry experts at **Roorda, Piquet & Bessee, Inc.**
- Connect with peers exploring long-term growth and ownership transition

# Save the Date: Top Golf Networking Event



**Thursday, September 18 | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM**

**Location: Top Golf | 1050 N Archibald Ave, Ontario, CA 91764**

**[REGISTER HERE](#)**

WiM or MCIE Members: \$10 | Non-Members: \$20

(Members: Contact [sjohnson@mfgcouncilie.com](mailto:sjohnson@mfgcouncilie.com) for your discount code.)

Join the Manufacturers' Council of the Inland Empire (MCIE) and the Women in Manufacturing (WiM) California Chapter for a fun, co-hosted social event at Top Golf in Ontario!

Whether you're an industry leader or a college student exploring a future in manufacturing, this is a great chance to connect, network, and unwind in a casual setting. Enjoy great conversation, light refreshments, and a little friendly competition—all while building meaningful relationships across the manufacturing community.

**Want to promote your company to manufacturers and other businesses?**

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## **Manufacturers' Council of the Inland Empire Hosts Educational Event at Aranda Tooling**



*Manufacturers and educators touring the facility of Aranda Tooling with Business Development Manager, Jonathon Mills, an MCIE Innovation Award recipient.*

The Manufacturers' Council of the Inland Empire (MCIE) successfully hosted an educational and collaborative event on Friday, July 25, 2025, at Aranda Tooling, the largest stamp mill in the western United States, located in Chino, California. The event welcomed 23 manufacturing professionals and attendees, including educators from California Baptist University, Boys' Republic School, and Manuel Elias, Assistant Manager of Workforce for the San Bernardino Community College District, which provides workforce development training integral to manufacturers like Aranda Tooling.

The morning began with refreshments, coffee, and networking among participants before opening remarks and a formal presentation by Aranda Tooling's leadership. After a presentation from the Manufacturers' Council by John P. Beall, Jonathon Mills, Business Development Manager at Aranda, and Gerrard Connolly, General Manager, welcomed guests and provided an overview of the company's history and capabilities.

Following the presentation, Mills and Connolly each led small group tours of Aranda's state-of-the-art facility.

Tour participants observed the company's advanced manufacturing capabilities firsthand, including presses multiple stories tall that can shape metal up to ¼ inch thick. Aranda Tooling is renowned for manufacturing a diverse range of products—from paint trays to precision auto components, notably for electric vehicles. Established by entrepreneur Pedro Aranda, the company has grown from a small tooling shop into a national industry leader.

The event emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts between educational institutions and manufacturers in fostering a highly skilled workforce essential to the Inland Empire's manufacturing sector. MCIE continues to champion such initiatives that bridge education and industry, promoting sustainable economic growth throughout the region.

MCIE extends its sincere gratitude to Aranda Tooling for hosting the event and to all participants for their contributions toward building a stronger manufacturing community.

## **Capitol Connect: CA Aerospace Day sponsored by CMTA**

*August 19 | Kimpton Sawyer Hotel, Sacramento*

*Bringing together aerospace manufacturers, elected officials, and agency leaders for critical conversations about California's aerospace priorities.*

[\[Register here\]](#)

## **Coollest Thing Made in California Contest July–Oct & Celebration sponsored by CMTA**

*October 22 | The Citizen Hotel, Sacramento, CA*

Help us celebrate California-made innovation! The **Coollest Thing Made in California** contest runs July–October, and culminates in an awards ceremony during our high-energy **Celebration**. Join us for an inspiring day of networking, storytelling, and

[\[Nominate a product here TODAY\]](#)

[\[Register for the celebration here\]](#)

## New Member Spotlight

### MUN CPAs: Business Consulting & R&D Tax Experts



MUN CPAs provides year-round business consulting-from strategic planning and forecasting to internal controls and exit strategies. They also specialize in the R&D tax credits, helping innovative companies unlock valuable savings while ensuring compliance. As a full-service accounting firm, MUN CPAs delivers proactive, personalized support to help the manufacturing industry thrive.

 Learn more: [www.muncpas.com](http://www.muncpas.com)

## Mike Rowe on Open Jobs in Manufacturing

In a recent interview with Brian Kilmeade, Mike Rowe said, “The missing piece in all the conversations about jobs is that, while we may have a skills gap, **we also have a will gap.**”

He further said, ‘The opportunities alone are not enough to inspire, amplify and motivate this generation to run toward them...There is something missing and it has to do with PR, communication and messaging.’

He is often asked, ‘Do you know where they (future workers) are?’ Mike answers yes – in the 8th grade – that’s where you will find them.

Watch the full interview on Fox News, Brian Kilmeade Show, here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GdNJIOq2RDo&t=20s>

# Economy and Regulations:

**U.S. manufacturing outlook rebounds regionally:** The Philadelphia Fed's July manufacturing business outlook survey (July 7–14) shows a return to positive territory. Current activity, new orders, and shipments rose, and nearly 41% of firms expect further growth—stronger than June's pessimistic trend. (Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia)

## CEQA Reform & Advanced Manufacturing Exemptions

- **Major overhaul of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)** took effect around **July 1, 2025**, when Governor Newsom signed two budget trailer bills (including AB 130/AB 131). These changes exempt advanced manufacturing facilities (e.g. semiconductor fabs, EV plants) in industrial districts from full CEQA review—streamlining permitting but drawing criticism from environmental and labor groups concerned about pollution oversight.
- Projects that nearly meet exemption thresholds remain subject to limited environmental review for specific issues, and some internal agency records may be shielded from disclosure depending on the project type. (Cal Matters)
- **AB 863**, converting carpet stewardship into an EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) program, demands manufacturers include **≥ 5% postconsumer recycled carpet content by 2028**, with implementing regulations following in late 2026. (Beveridge & Diamond PC)
- (Jul 3) – The national unemployment rate in June fell from 4.2% to 4.1% according to the Labor Department. Employers added 147,000 jobs last month. State Government and Healthcare led the increase, with little change among the remaining industry sectors. (*Bureau of Labor Statistics*)
- (Jun 23) – The Federal Open Markets Committee met on June 18 and held rates steady, although the week after the Fed Vice Chair made a public statement in support of a rate cut in July, in view of weakness in the labor market. Meanwhile, inflation metrics have held steady at 2.4% for the third consecutive month, only 40 basis points away from what economists call the “target inflation rate” at 2.0%. (*USA Today*)
- (Jul 18) – California's unemployment rate increased from 5.3% to 5.4%, shedding 6,100 jobs in June. Private Education and seasonal gains in Leisure and Hospitality led the gains, while Manufacturing was down 6,400 jobs, among the six sectors with net declines this month. (*California EDD*)
- (Jul 1) – Major changes to the California Environmental Quality Act include an exemption for high-tech industrial plants and other projects. The move, fast-tracked under pressure from Gov. Gavin Newsom, sparked fierce pushback

from environmental, community and labor groups. The changes to the California Environmental Quality Act were embedded in a last-minute budget bill that sailed through the Senate and the Assembly. The new law exempts nine types of projects from environmental reviews: child care centers, health clinics, food banks, farmworker housing, broadband, wildfire prevention, water infrastructure, public parks or trails and, notably, advanced manufacturing. Aiming to streamline and lower the cost of construction in California, the new law also restricts legal challenges under CEQA by narrowing which documents courts can consider. It also allows limited environmental reviews of projects that don't have an array of impacts.. (*Cal Matters*)

- (Jul 15) – Joby Aviation, Inc. (NYSE:JOBY), a company developing electric air taxis for commercial passenger service, today announced the expansion of its site in Marina, California, which will double its aircraft production capacity at that location. The total site now spans approximately 435,500 square feet and will support the scale-up of commercial operations. Joby also expanded its flight test program with the addition of a new aircraft to its growing fleet. (*Joby Aviation*)

## Membership Updates:

- Interested in hosting an MCIE facility tour? Contact us at [contact@mfgcouncilie.com](mailto:contact@mfgcouncilie.com) for more information.
- Interested in exclusive articles and content on business and policy topics? Join the conversation by following us on our [Linkedin](#) page and other social media platforms, [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#), or check out our [Linktree!](#)
- The MCIE is committed to the development of our workforce at every stage, including getting young girls and boys interested in invention, creation, and STEM disciplines. If you know of a library or school near you who might be interested in receiving a book donation to inspire our next generation of young manufacturers, contact us at [contact@mfgcouncilie.com](mailto:contact@mfgcouncilie.com) with your suggestion.

## Additional Resources:

**Wind & Fire Disaster Assistance:** [California wildfires | U.S. Small Business Administration](#)  
**Small Business Loan Program:** [7\(a\) loans | U.S. Small Business Administration](#)

Have a profitable August!

Molly

Molly Burgess

Executive Director

[mburgess@mfgcouncilie.com](mailto:mburgess@mfgcouncilie.com)

Cell: 909.965.6089

Office: 909.474.7120

[Website](#) | [Social Media & News](#)



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