



Manufacturers' Digital Whistle

November 2025 Newsletter

Giving Tuesday – December 2nd

The Manufacturers' Council, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is asking for your support to help fund scholarships for students pursuing industry certifications in manufacturing and technical trades. Your donation equips local talent with the skills employers urgently need, strengthens the regional workforce, and creates life-changing career opportunities.

A contribution today delivers immediate impact—helping students succeed and ensuring a stronger future for Inland Empire manufacturing.

[Donate Now](#)

Automation Training Programs



With everything already on your plate, researching automation or mechatronics training programs can feel impossible—too many options, too many buzzwords, and not enough time to figure out which programs actually produce job-ready talent. Every college promises “hands-on learning” and “future-ready skills,” but as an employer, how do you know which ones truly deliver?

One of the most reliable shortcuts is to look at how the program is certified. National frameworks like SACA (Smart Automation Certification Alliance) and MSSC (Manufacturing Skill Standards Council) hold institutions to rigorous, industry-driven standards that translate to stronger performance, faster onboarding, and better long-term workforce results.

In our region, Moreno Valley College and Norco College offer multiple programs aligned with at least either SACA or MSSC—two high-quality, local options for hiring new talent or upskilling your existing workforce.

Stay tuned for MCIE’s upcoming guide to SACA and MSSC certifications to help you navigate training decisions with confidence.

Host a Manufacturing Factory Tour

We invite local manufacturers to open their facilities for an upcoming series of factory tours. These tours are designed to help manufacturers learn from one another by showcasing operations, products, and innovations happening right here in our region.

If your company is interested in hosting a tour, we'd love to highlight your work and connect you with fellow manufacturers. To participate or learn more, please contact us at contact@mfgcouncilie.com.

For Coming Events - [Click Here!](#)

Event Recap: MCIE Holiday Mixer – Jingle & Mingle



Thank you to everyone who joined us on Thursday, November 13, for an unforgettable evening at Left Coast Brewing Distillery Smokehouse in Ontario. Our MCIE Holiday Mixer, Jingle & Mingle: brought together manufacturers, industry partners, and community leaders from across the Inland Empire to celebrate another successful year.

Guests enjoyed craft beer, festive bites, and plenty of holiday cheer as we kicked off the season in true MCIE style. The energy in the room was fantastic, with great conversations, new connections, and a strong sense of community throughout the evening.

Event Highlights Included:

- A spirited Best Holiday Outfit Contest
- Engaging conversations with regional manufacturers and partners
- A warm, collaborative atmosphere celebrating the strength of our local manufacturing ecosystem

We extend a special thank-you to everyone who participated and helped make the night memorable. Your support continues to advance MCIE's mission of strengthening the region's manufacturing sector and creating pathways for the next generation of talent.

Tee Up for a Great Cause

Lock in Your Early Bird Pricing by November 30 for MCIE's 2026 Golf Tournaments



Join us in fueling the next generation of manufacturing talent! Celebrate, connect, and make an impact.

Don't Miss Out — Secure Your Foursome and Sponsorship Today!

1. **Early Bird Special:** Register your foursome by **November 30, 2025** for just **\$600** (*regularly \$800*).
2. **Sponsorship Opportunities:** Lock in your 2026 sponsorship now and **Make Your Company Part of the Story** — while helping to advance manufacturing across the Inland Empire.

A portion of the proceeds directly funds scholarships for students pursuing manufacturing careers through technical trade schools, apprenticeships, and career pathway programs.

Register Here:

[June 1, 2026 – 3rd Annual Manufacturing Charity Golf Event](#)

[October 26, 2026 – 1st Annual Southern Inland Empire Manufacturing Golf Classic](#)

This is more than golf—it's about investing in the next generation of skilled workers who will power the future of our industry.

New Member Spotlight



People First Employment is a Southern California–based staffing agency dedicated exclusively to the manufacturing industry. Our leadership team brings over 60 years of collective experience, allowing us to deliver skilled talent with precision, compliance, and speed. From entry-level production roles to C-suite leadership positions, we provide a seamless recruiting experience tailored to each client's operational goals. We take pride in our manufacturing-focused approach, providing white-glove service that keeps production lines running efficiently and teams operating at their best.

Learn more at www.peoplefirstemployment.com

Economy and Regulations:

- (Nov 20) – Due to the government shutdown, the September jobs report has just been released, with the October report to be published with November's next month. In September, the US economy added 119,000 jobs, more than projected by the private providers last month. The unemployment rate remained flat at 4.4%. Job gains occurred in Healthcare, Food & Beverage, and Social Assistance. Job losses occurred in Logistics, Warehousing, and Federal Employment. (*Bureau of Labor Statistics*)
- (Nov 19) – The Federal Open Markets Committee is slated to meet again on December 9-10, and the consensus of economists and market analysts predicts that another rate cut is likely. There is one more opportunity for the FOMC to meet this year aside from this meeting, and soft indications have been made that the committee could still make one more cut this year, a departure from their policy of holding rates steady for most of the year. Meanwhile, inflation metrics for September were announced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, with inflation constant at 3.0%. (*Forbes, Bureau of Labor Statistics*)

- (Sep 19) – California’s employment and unemployment information for September, initially postponed to November 21 on grounds of the impact of the Federal sequester has been postponed further under the same guidance. No new due date has been published. (California *EDD*)
- (Oct 7) – Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 1280 into law. Authored by Assemblymember Robert Garcia (D–Rancho Cucamonga), the bill expands incentive programs for the deployment of clean industrial equipment through the California Energy Commission’s Industrial Decarbonization and Improvement of Grid Operations grant program (INDIGO) and the IBank’s Climate Catalyst Fund. The bill was sponsored by Industrious Labs and Earthjustice. (*Earthjustice*)
- (Nov 16) – Southern California logistics (referred to as “industrial” in the commercial real estate industry) development slows amid economic uncertainty. There was a post-pandemic construction boom for the Inland Empire, which added 100 million square feet of warehouse space since the beginning of 2021. At the end of the third quarter, there were 4.9 million square feet under construction. The high cost of construction due to labor and material costs, along with a vacancy rate above recent historical averages coupled with uncertainty regarding economic factors, contributed to the temporary pause. The Inland Empire industrial vacancy rate climbed to 7.8% and the availability rate, which measures space that is occupied but may become vacant in the future, jumped to 11.5%. As a result of the industrial slowdown, asking rates dropped for ten consecutive quarters in the Inland Empire and the \$1.16 per square foot per month asking rate is down 9.4% year over year. (*Los Angeles Times*)

Ready to make a difference?

Join the Manufacturers’ Council – Be Part of the Movement Shaping the Future of Manufacturing in the Inland Empire

Become a Member Today at <https://mfgcouncilie.com/membership>

Since 2005, the Manufacturers’ Council of the Inland Empire (MCIE) has supported a thriving manufacturing economy by securing over \$50 million in workforce training, production innovation, and industry growth.

With nearly 95,000 manufacturing jobs in our region and continued growth projected in 2026, MCIE is committed to building a skilled, sustainable workforce and shifting public perception about the importance of manufacturing in our community.

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, MCIE connects manufacturers with education, workforce programs, and regional resources, while promoting career pathways for the next generation of talent. Now is the time to get involved. Become a member and help drive real impact.

[READ MORE](#)

Sponsorship Opportunities

As you begin planning your 2026 marketing and community engagement budgets, we invite you to consider partnering with us as a **Yearly Sponsor** for our upcoming events and initiatives for the year.

The MCIE is proud to host a variety of impactful events that bring together business leaders, community members, and changemakers across the region. Sponsorship provides a unique opportunity to:

- Build brand awareness
- Connect with targeted audiences
- Align with meaningful causes and business development efforts
- Gain year-round visibility across digital and in-person platforms

Upcoming 2026 Opportunities Include: Visit the MCIE events page here for all events.

[Events – MCIE](#)

Included are sponsorship packages to fit a range of goals and budgets—including early visibility opportunities for companies who commit now.

[View Packages](#) | [Download Flyer](#)

For questions and to move forward with sponsorship, please contact Sarah Johnson, Events Operations Director at sjohnson@mfgcouncilie.com | (253) 880-2333

Thank you for your continued support of our mission—we look forward to collaborating with you in the year ahead.

Have a profitable December!

Molly

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