



# explore

the new manufacturing

a program of the WVMA Educational Fund, inc.

Student educational programs that are fun and exciting help students discover potential career pathways. With the assistance of industry and education partners, Explore the New Manufacturing engages middle and high school students to improve understanding of West Virginia's manufacturing career opportunities.



Regional learning events to introduce 7th & 8th grade students to the diverse and amazing career opportunities that help West Virginia manufacturers deliver their products to the world. A group of manufacturing partners host 30-minute labs, during which representatives provide snapshots of the manufacturing process through hands-on activities.



One-hour interactive assembly for middle school students. Explore Workshops are an introduction to manufacturing, the innovation involved in the industry, and how student interests might align with careers in manufacturing. Our team will develop a team challenge enrichment activity that reflects the workshop partners' manufacturing process.



Manufacturing Day Virtual Labs that offer students a virtual tour of manufacturing facilities across the state. Each lab, hosted by a West Virginia manufacturer, is formatted to include information about the company's products, interviews with employees, and a hands-on classroom activity. Each lab is available to middle schools in all 55 counties throughout the school year.

# WHAT'S SO COOL ABOUT MANUFACTURING?



A first-hand glimpse into modern manufacturing with the What's So Cool About Manufacturing? Student Video Contest. Seventh and eighth-grade students partner with local manufacturing companies to showcase why good workers are critical to the production process. Over five months, each team develops a video about the company, its employees, and what's so cool about the manufacturing process to submit for the contest. Each contest culminates with an awards ceremony for team members, their parents, and manufacturing partners.



## MANUFACTURING INNOVATION CHALLENGE

A challenge to high school teams to find solutions for real-world manufacturing problems they are experiencing in their facilities. Over an 8-to-10-week period, team members hone their skills to develop solutions. Students prepare a formal presentation of their solution for their manufacturer and discuss the feasibility of implementation. The challenge concludes with a special presentation to middle school students.



High school student teams participating in a skill and design challenge. Over the course of 4 or 6 hours, teams work with donated scrap manufacturing material to create artistic designs based on a theme. Teams are judged on their skills, innovation, safety standards, and execution during the competition. Manufacturers get involved by providing materials in addition to serving on judging panels.

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