

PLAN.  
IMPLEMENT.  
EXCEL.

# Agenda

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- Presenter Introduction
- Who is the Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC)
- IMECs process
- Case Studies
- Questions



# Presenter Introduction



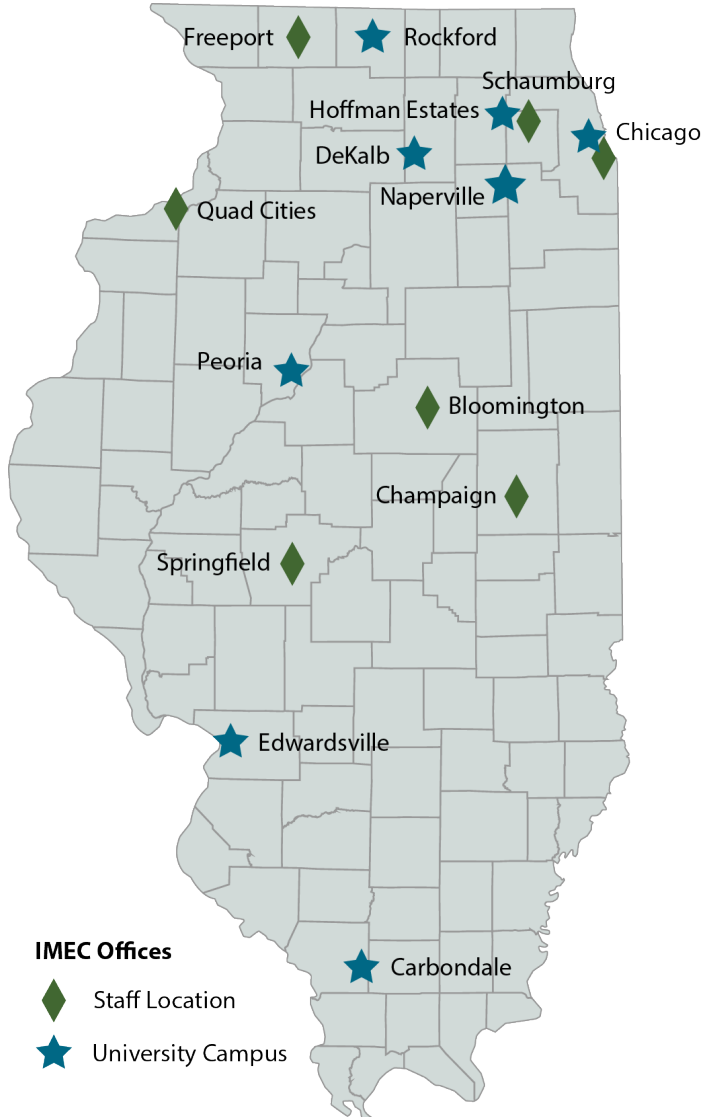
**Mikey Garrett**

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Regional Manager

**Who is the Illinois  
Manufacturing  
Excellence Center  
(IMEC)?**

# Igniting Illinois Manufacturing Excellence and Global Competitiveness



With more than 50 full-time staff and partners positioned statewide, IMEC assists more than 1100 companies each year with successful improvement and innovation projects.



Northern Illinois University

SIU Southern Illinois University  
CARBONDALE

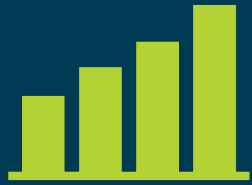


## IMEC Offices

- ◆ Staff Location
- ★ University Campus



# 2020 Client-Reported Impacts



**\$1,565,873**

Average New & Retained  
Sales



**6,176**

Jobs Created & Retained



**1,144**

Companies Assisted



**\$79,640**

Average Cost Savings



**\$19:1**

Return on Investment

**\$646,455,900**

Aggregate Impact to Illinois Economy



# Industries

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- **Manufacturers**
- **Distribution Centers**
- **Machine Shops**
- **Hospitals**
- **Schools**
- **Small facilities**
- **Large facilities**



# IMEC Processes

# A Validated Leading Edge Model

## Strategy

- Mission, Vision, Values
- Strategy Development & Implementation

## Customer Engagement

- Products/Services
- Voice of the Customer (Current and Potential)
- Marketing & Sales
- Customer Segments

## Operations

- Process Design
- Process & Innovation Management
- Supply Chain
- Safety & Emergency Preparedness

## Leadership

- Development
- Succession
- Societal Responsibilities



## Workforce

- Capability & Capacity
- Engagement
- Learning & Development

## Technology and KPIs

- Cybersecurity
- Technology Scouting
- Industry 4.0

# The IMEC Process

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*By working alongside you to identify metrics for success, craft actionable strategies, implement new ideas, and evaluate their effectiveness –  
**Together we can drive innovation and excellence.***

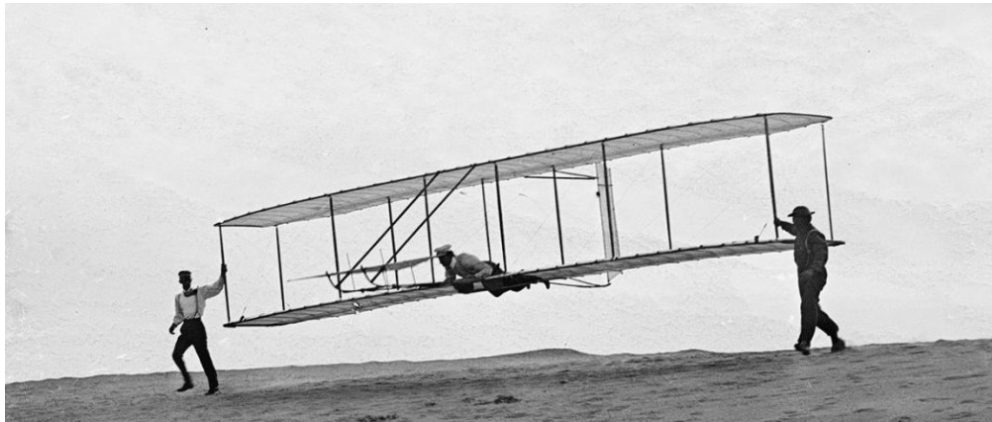
*The end result?*

***Plan** for your future,  
**Implement** strategies to get you there,  
**Excel** to global competitiveness.*




# Continuous Improvement

- Avoid “That’s how we have always done it”
- This is **not** change for the sake of change



# Innovation

- Automation
- Robotics
- Industry 4.0
- Consumer Demands



The electric light did not come from the continuous improvement of the candle.

~ Oren Harari



“

If I had asked people what they wanted, they would have said faster horses.

-Henry Ford

# Case Study 1



# The Situation

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**Striving to stay competitive, Elkay Manufacturing's Water Cooler Facility was focused on controlling operating costs.**

**The company asked IMEC to complete a lean assessment, which led to an E3 (Economy, Energy & Environment) Review, three key areas in which Elkay's executive team was looking to drive efficiencies.**

# IMEC Solution

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The E3 Review involved a hands-on assessment of production processes, recommendations for improvement and assistance with implementing energy-saving projects.

- Value stream mapping was used to identify specific process flow areas and root causes of waste within the facility.
- IMEC spent several days on site assessing various aspects of the company's operations, calling on support from energy and environmental experts.
- The deliverable was a list of specific action items in each area: Economy, Energy and Environment.







# Results

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Facility layout changes yielded better efficiency and less rework

Re-layout of the compressor room improved air flow

Scheduled maintenance checks meant fewer compressor leaks

Installing energy-efficient equipment drove cost savings

More recycling increased revenues

# Case Study 2



# The Situation

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**American Standard Circuits' overall goals were to reduce process waste and to determine cost-saving and efficiency opportunities for their energy-intensive equipment.**

**Illinois Sustainable Technology Center's (ISTC) technical assistance staff facilitated an E3 (Economy, Energy, and Environment) assessment.**

# IMEC Solution

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IMEC provided economic and process efficiency advice. The E3 assessment team reviewed the entire facility with particular emphasis on the drilling center and plating/water treatment area.

- ASC showed its commitment to the E3 process by involving top management, engineers, and floor supervisors in assisting the E3 team.
- Following the assessment, the team reviewed its recommendations with ASC decision-makers and produced a final list of specific action areas in each of the three areas of focus.





# Results

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Replaced old T12 fluorescent fixtures and metal halide lighting with LED lighting

Replaced standard exit signs with LED signs, and installing occupancy sensors

Newer, high-efficiency chiller

Replaced open tube air guns with OSHA-compliant, energy-efficient safety air guns

Installed automated flow controls on a little-used scrubbing station, eliminating continuous flow of rinse water when not in use

# Additional Success Stories

<https://www.imec.org/client-successes/>



## ELMHURST HOSPITAL

Employee pair guides organization-wide approach to excellence with evidence-based framework.



## MIDWEST AERO SUPPORT, INC.

Machesney Park manufacturer achieves cybersecurity compliance goals to meet Department of Defense security requirements.



## VMC CHINESE PARTS

Carbondale manufacturer grows online sales with streamlined Search Engine Optimization (SEO) strategy.

# Questions



# Thank You!

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