

Meet Your MEP Supply Chain Optimization (SCO) Team

The MEP SCO team, strategically located across the country, assists manufacturers, large and small, through a comprehensive, yet customizable approach, to create stronger, more collaborative supply chains.



Gary F. Aicher, Senior Advisor, GENEDGE (Virginia's Manufacturing Extension Partnership)

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Gary Aicher is a consultant with over 30 years' experience in multiple defense and commercial businesses. He has been successful at making significant improvements to top line growth and improved profitability by driving continuous improvement in all related business aspects.

Gary held engineering and management positions with Texas Instruments in both defense and commercial businesses. He progressed through the ranks at ITT, from a senior engineer to the senior management and executive levels. After the successful leadership of multiple divisions, he assumed the role of Senior Vice President, responsible for integration and execution of multiple business entities in Eastern Europe. Gary led in the creation of ITT's corporate wide Value Based Six Sigma (VBSS) program that identified, trained and deployed high potential employees to drive continuous improvement across the corporation.

After an honorable discharge from the U.S. Army, Gary graduated from Southern Technical University (a division of Georgia Institute of Technology) with a BSEET degree, completing all course requirements for nuclear safety, information technology and electrical engineering technology. He has completed graduate level courses at Abilene Christian University and Hardin Simmons University. Gary is a certified Value Based Six Sigma Champion, an ASQ certified Quality Engineer, and an ASQ certified Reliability Engineer.



David Boulay, President, Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC)
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David leads IMEC, a public-private partnership with the mission to be a catalyst for transforming the state of manufacturing. In this role, David focuses his passion at the intersection between economic development, workforce development, and manufacturing competitiveness. David has been immersed in the development and deployment of the MEP Supply Chain Optimization program, in an effort to create supply chains that function at higher levels.

Prior to joining IMEC, David held leadership positions with several manufacturing companies, primarily in the food industry. He also worked at The Ohio State University South Centers, leading a mixed used incubator, Small Business Development Center, and a Rural Cooperative Development Center. He also served as deputy director at North Carolina State University's Industrial Extension Service, where he managed an 80-member staff who provided outreach services to the state's manufacturers, operated a mineral research center, and a technology incubator.

David holds a PhD in workforce development and education, an MBA, and a BS in operations management.

David has created and implemented several initiatives to increase the flow of state and federal funding to manufacturers for projects to improve energy efficiency, update worker skills, and help smaller manufacturers adopt new technology and business practices.



Chris Buthe, Supply Chain Specialist, California Manufacturing Technology Consulting (CMTc)
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Chris works with U.S. manufacturers and their customers to support and align corporate strategies that result in profitability, competitiveness and customer satisfaction. By integrating many practical methods from lean enterprise, lifecycle management, and program management, his clients develop sustainable relationships and effective collaborations in the Supply Chain. Chris is a new addition to the MEP Supply Chain Optimization (SCO) program.

Prior to joining CMTc, Chris was co-owner of Lean Enterprise Development (LED), working with small-to-medium size suppliers to develop continuous improvement plans and collaborative relationships that

exceeded OEM expectations. He has worked with leaders and cross-functional teams to have measurable impact by adopting Lean and Hoshin Kanri methods that align strategies with operations. Previous to LED, Chris was with Levi Strauss & Co for over thirty years, covering all facets of Customer relations while providing supply chain services to the largest national retail groups in the U.S. He also enjoyed volunteer work for the Employer's Support of the Guard & Reserve (ESGR).

Chris earned a B.A. from UCLA. Beginning in 2011, Chris participated in a two year joint program of MIT's Lean Advancement Initiative, PMI and INCOSE that resulted in the "Lean Enablers for Managing Engineering Programs". He is also a member of ASQ, NDIA, and ESGR.



Anthony 'Tony' Cerilli, Engagement Manager, GENEDGE Alliance (VA)
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Tony manages a portfolio of enterprise-wide process improvement and growth solutions services. Working one-on-one with senior management, he serves clients with the objective of supporting organizational transformation, competitiveness, and business growth. Tony has been instrumental in developing the MEP Supply Chain Optimization program's Total Cost of Ownership calculator, and works directly with manufacturers to help implement a deeper understanding of overall costs.

Prior to joining GENEDGE, he was a ten-year veteran at Continental AG, formerly Siemens VDO. As a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, he led cross-functional teams in delivering complex, integrated projects by streamlining processes to maximize productivity and efficiency. He also held positions as operations manager and process engineer. Previous to Continental, Tony spent three years in commercial nuclear power with Commonwealth Edison, and 14 years in the U.S. Navy submarine nuclear propulsion program.

Tony holds a BS from the University at Albany, State University of New York, and is pursuing an MBA from the Mason School of Business at the College of William and Mary. He has advanced training in design for Six Sigma, transactional analysis, and change leadership. He is also a member of the American Society for Quality.



Bill Donohue, Interim Executive Director and CEO for GENEDGE Alliance (VA)

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Bill leads the network of consulting project managers who are responsible for improving the competitiveness of companies in manufacturing, industrial, government, and not for profit business sectors. Since 2000, GENEDGE services have delivered over \$3 billion of total impact to clients, creating or retaining more than 7,000 jobs as a result.

Bill's current focus is in establishing and refining strategic initiatives for clients to drive innovation, growth and operational excellence throughout their value and supply chains. Bill was instrumental in conducting much of the research surrounding the '*Voice of the Customer*' survey data to determine manufacturers most critical needs surrounding supply chain optimization.

Bill's career began with GE Plastics and Silicones where he participated in the GE management development program where he led a \$120 million dollar global investment program for a \$2.5 billion global business unit. Prior to joining GENEDGE, he completed strategic start-up, expansion and turnaround assignments for Fortune 500 companies in various manufacturing industries.

Bill is a graduate of the University of Rochester and the GE Chemical Management Program. He is a member of Association for Manufacturing Excellence, Society of Petroleum Engineers, and the Association of Internal Management Consultants. Bill is the former chairperson for Danville Utilities, the largest municipally owned utility in Virginia.



Brandon Phoenix, Technical and Management Consultant, Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center (TMAC)

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Brandon has more than 20 years of experience in operations management in multiple aspects of performance improvement, including lean transformation, supply chain optimization, quality systems, strategic planning and project management. Brandon helped develop the MEP SCO program including the creation of a supplier assessment to help suppliers solidify their role within the value chain, and increase potential for additional market opportunities through alignment initiatives.

Prior to joining TMAC, Brandon was a manager of Total Quality Management for Sanden International, a Tier 1 auto supplier. Brandon also served as the Total Productive Maintenance and lean leader for Proctor and Gamble, and worked to help implement lean solutions throughout numerous facilities. Brandon also worked as the operations manager for Mary Kay Cosmetics. He also has 13 years of leadership experience in the United States Marine Corps serving the Department of State by providing services to Embassies and Consulates worldwide.

Brandon served as a Texas Award for Performance Excellence (TAPE) examiner, is an ISO 9001:2000 Lead Auditor and TS16949 certified. He is a Shingo Examiner and a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt. Brandon has a BS degree in operations management and received an instructor certification from the United States Marine Corps.



John Remsey, Senior Manufacturing Specialist, Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC)

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John has more than 19 years of business and manufacturing experience with an emphasis in supply chain optimization, information technology, lean manufacturing and production control. As a member of the MEP SCO team, John has provided leadership to the development and deployment of SCO tools and services throughout the national network of MEP Centers.

He has worked with numerous companies to identify, select, implement, and support manufacturing systems. John also provides in-depth business services in strategic planning, feasibility analysis, financial analysis, and business expansion. His background includes positions in information technology, production control, activity-based management, logistics, and small business counseling.

John has earned a BS in finance, a BS in business economics, and an MBA, from Southern Illinois University Carbondale, and has attended training/education by the Shingo Institute on the Shingo Prize standards for Operational Excellence.



Mark Schmit, National Accounts Manager, NIST-MEP

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As MEP National Accounts Manager, Mark has a successful track record of developing outreach programs and partnerships with private-sector entities that solve real-world competitiveness problems while maintaining a mission-driven perspective.

Mark identifies new business opportunities that leverage state and federal funding with the goal of improving the competitiveness of U.S.-based manufacturers. Defined as a next generation strategy, supply chain optimization is a key area of focus for Mark and MEP, respectively. Mark is the key point of contact for MEP Centers across the country, acting as liaison for outreach and deployment for the MEP SCO program.

Mark was manager of strategic partnerships for SelectUSA, a government-wide initiative to attract foreign and domestic investment in the United States, thus stimulating U.S. job growth.

Mark has a BS in Business Administration from the University of New Hampshire and a MS in Business Administration from The John Hopkins University.



Mark Sessumes, Director, Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center (TMAC)

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As director of TMAC – Metroplex, Mark leads the not-for-profit consultative organization providing direction on all strategic operations and engagement activities as well as administration management. Since 1995, TMAC has worked with more than 6,200 companies, resulting in \$2.9 billion in new or retained sales and almost 30,000 jobs, either retained or created.

Mark has 30 years of operations, management and consulting experience working with organizations to accelerate their profitable growth using innovation, productivity, technology and the implementation of management systems.

Mark specializes in leadership development and operations improvement. He draws from several bodies of knowledge to improve business performance including business management, executive coaching and teambuilding, production/operations management, Lean Six Sigma, lean management practices, theory of constraints, supply chain management and Total Productive Maintenance.

Since joining TMAC in 1995, Mark has worked in a variety of manufacturing industries including fabrication, assembly, job shops, remanufacturing, refurbishment, and continuous processing plants. Additionally, Mark has experience in other sectors including healthcare, service, construction, municipal government and administrative operations.

Mark received his MBA at The University of Dallas, and his BBA in production/operations management from North Texas State University. Mark is a certified lean practitioner, Shingo Prize examiner, Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt, and certified in change management.

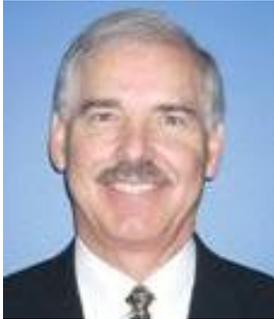


Chuck Spangler, Chief Operating Officer, South Carolina Manufacturing Extension Partnership (SCMEP)
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Chuck has been with the SCMEP for 19 years, initially serving as a manufacturing specialist, field manager, and, for the last twelve years, as COO. Over those 19 years, Chuck has developed comprehensive improvement plans helping more than 600 manufacturers around the country to increase their competitive edge by applying theories such as, supply chain optimization, constraint management, lean manufacturing, lean product development, consultative sales, and other MEP programs.

Chuck helped create the MEP SCO program's Leadership Overview, which provides c-suite executives a concise picture of how the customizable program yields results in visibility, alignment, collaboration and ultimately, optimization. Chuck facilitated extensive pilots for the MEP SCO program and has helped develop and facilitate three supply chain programs for DuPont Solid Surface, DuPont Paint and HanesBrands. The impact from these three programs was \$105 million dollars, over four years.

Chuck has more than 16 years of private industry experience with companies, Milliken & Company, Michelin and Willis Hosiery. Chuck has a BS degree from North Carolina State University.



James Watson, President and CEO of California Manufacturing Technology Consulting (CMTC)

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Jim began his career with CMTC in 1999, as vice president of business development and transitioned to the position of vice president of operations in 2001, which he held for the past 10 years. He assumed his role as president and CEO in 2011.

Jim is responsible for crafting the future vision of CMTC, promoting the importance of the manufacturing sector to state and federal legislators and expanding the awareness of CMTC's capabilities throughout southern California. He also guides CMTC's defense services and healthcare business units. Jim was instrumental in assessing the *'Voice of the Customer'* survey data in order to develop the MEP SCO program.

With over 30 years of management experience in the areas of strategic planning, operations management, organizational design, sales and marketing and cultural alignment, Jim brings a wide range of knowledge to his position with CMTC. He started his career with Western Airlines advancing to vice president of passenger and cargo sales. He transitioned to SuperShuttle International as vice president and general manager before moving to Anchor Audio and assuming a leadership role for a European affiliate.

Jim holds a BS in political science from California State University.