UM System Manufacturers Partnership

Partnership to Enhance Innovation, Resilience and Agility in Missouri’s Manufacturers

About
The Partnership leverages the expertise of faculty and student teams on the four UM campuses to serve the state's manufacturers through education, topic-focused roundtable discussions, and company-specific projects. The Partnership has been created to address the needs of the more than 5,400 Missouri manufacturers – both urban and rural – by bringing UM resources to the manufacturing companies that need them.

Company-Specific Projects
The Partnership budget includes a total of $250,000 in matching funds to support UM faculty, subject matter experts and students to work on projects that aid the success of your business. University Teams from any of the four UM campuses can be deployed for company-specific projects to enhance competitiveness and resilience. Companies can request up to a 50% match in funding from the Partnership. Projects are selected based on fit with EDA grant guidelines, available funding, and impact. Please contact Partnership staff for more information on company-specific projects. We will coordinate a call and can then schedule a site visit to better understand your company’s needs and identify UM System resources to assist.

Types of Projects Available:

- Custom leadership, management and employee trainings;
- Lean manufacturing in production processes;
- Computer Science Projects: Cyber security; VR/AR environments, artificial intelligence, sensor technology, software engineering, media post-production, web application development;
- Engineering Design and Prototyping;
- Technology exploration and cost assessments for 3-D printing and more.

Project funds cannot be used for:

- Acquisition of physical assets by companies, including machinery;
- New software purchases;
- Private consulting fees;
- Payment to external groups outside of the UM system.

Contact Us
For more information and to connect with the Partnership staff, please visit the Partnership’s webpage: https://extension.missouri.edu/programs/enhance-mo-manufacturers.