

**Greater New Bedford Workforce Investment Board
Greater New Bedford Manufacturing Partnership (GNBMP)**

Project Focus:

The GNBMP is a partnership that is focused on training and educating entry-level and mid-level incumbent manufacturing workers as well as a cohort of prospective workers. By training new workers and advancing incumbent workers through a career ladder, manufacturers will see better worker retention, reduced production barriers, and improved job performance which will lead to an increase in production efficiency overall.

The Partnership:

Greater New Bedford Workforce Investment Board
AFC Cable Systems, Inc., a Division of Tyco Flow Control (AFC)
Aerovox, a Division of Parallax Power Components (Aerovox)
Precix
Greater New Bedford Career Center
IBEW Local 1499 (AFC)
Department of Workforce Development Administration
Bristol Community College (BCC)
Community Economic Development Center (CEDC)
Immigrants Assistance Center (IAC)

Project Goals:

The goals of this project are to:

- Increase production efficiency overall
- Improve workforce retention
- Improve job performance
- Reduce production barriers

Enrollment Goals:

- 420 will be enrolled in "5S" training (for manufacturing)
- 150 in ergonomics
- 100 in work/manufacturing readiness
- 100 (approx.) in various computer courses
- 35 (approx.) in supervisory training
- 10 – 30 in ABE/ESOL

Project Design:

The GNBMP will use the model developed by the Southeast Massachusetts Manufacturing Partnership, SEMMC - a project funded under BEST I in 2001. (New Bedford was a member of the SEMMC partnership.) GNBMP will institute the project management principles and methodology developed and tested during that project, and will make use of the *Guide to the Manufacturing Industry Sector Competency Ladder* to help employers identify the competencies their workers need to better perform their jobs and advance to higher positions. Courses will be offered in personal development/work readiness, ABE/ESOL, computer literacy, manufacturing skills and supervisory skills as the need is indicated.