Competition is no longer between companies; it’s between supply chains. Our volatile economy means that manufacturers have to be much more agile, flexible, and responsive to external pressures. This overview demonstrates the benefits and the approach of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Supply Chain Optimization program that helps reduce risk, increase visibility and builds stronger manufacturers.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM**

- Demonstrate the enemies of supply chain effectiveness including, destabilizing effects of dependency, variation, lack of supply chain visibility and forecast inaccuracy.
- Provide an understanding of MEPs Supply Chain Optimization process.
- Introduction to a roadmap intended to guide companies towards improved collaboration and supply chain integration.

**THE WORKING SESSION IS COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING KEY EDUCATIONAL ITEMS**

1. Examine the strategic implications of a poorly functioning supply chain
2. Contrast (or compare) the attributes of supply chain development vs optimization
3. Overview of supply chain fundamentals
4. Introduction to application of Constraint Theory to supply chains
5. Interactive simulation demonstrating the Bullwhip Effect on supply chains
6. Introduction to the MEP Supply Chain Optimization methodology and roadmap
7. Discussion of supply chain successes and lessons learned

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND**

This half-day event is intended for manufacturers, MEP centers, economic development representatives and academics interested in learning how to create a stronger base of manufacturing through Supply Chain Optimization.

**WHAT WILL YOU GAIN**

After this half-day session you will understand the advantages of incorporating a strategic approach to supply chain management, and how it can positively impact local and state communities, as well as to create national economic value through increased competitiveness.

For more information, contact IMEC at 888-806-4632 or info@imec.org.