

# *News of Interest to EAMA RSP*

October 2024

1. *CBIA article (10/4/24)*: The winner of the statewide challenge “What’s the Coolest Thing Made in Connecticut” was announced at the CT Manufacturing Summit on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. With over 115,000 votes cast, EAMA RSP member Electric Boat was crowned the winner for their Virginia class submarine. Read more about the competition [here](#) or watch this [Fox 61 Video](#).
2. *CBIA article (10/4/24)*: The [2024 Connecticut Manufacturing Report](#) has been released by CBIA. The report reviews the current state of Connecticut’s manufacturing sector, examines the scope of the post-pandemic recovery, and explores the future outlook, including growth factors, policy priorities, hiring and investment trends, and challenges and opportunities.
3. *CT Mirror article (10/2/24)*: Gov. Ned Lamont’s workforce strategy for the manufacturing sector has pivoted in the past year, as his administration increasingly points to productivity improvements and automation as ways to bolster industry while deemphasizing job growth. Read the article [here](#).
4. *Hartford Business Journal article (10/1/24) (Paywall)*: The U.S. Small Business Administration has awarded Connecticut a \$240,000 grant to support and promote small business exports. Administered by the CT Dept. of Economic & Community Development (DECD), eligible funding activities include trade shows, trade missions, marketing and internationalization, U.S. Department of Commerce services, export training opportunities, website translation and export business-to-business matchmaking. Read more [here](#). Find the grant application [here](#).
5. In this 9/29/24 News [Channel 8 Interview](#), Chief Manufacturing Officer Paul Lavoie discusses why manufacturing can be a lucrative career choice over college.
6. *Governor Lamont Press Release (9/27/24)*: On January 1, 2025, Connecticut’s minimum wage will increase from \$15.69 per hour to \$16.35 per hour. The change is required under a state law Governor Lamont [signed](#) in 2019 ([Public Act 19-4](#)) that connects the state’s minimum wage to the percentage change in the federal employment cost index, which increased by 4.2% over the twelve-month period ending on June 30, 2024. Read more [here](#).
7. *Norwich Bulletin article (9/16/24) (Paywall)*: This [article](#) about the Explore Manufacturing Expo gives a good preview about the variety of hands-on activities and demonstrations which were planned for the event including 3D printing and virtual reality simulators. The event, which was held on September 26 at Dodd Stadium in Norwich, was very successful with 18 manufacturers, mostly EAMA RSP members participating. 900+ middle and high school students attended, exceeding all projections.
8. *The Day article (8/31/24)*: EAMA RSP member Pursuit Aerospace has collaborated with the state Dept. of Correction to open a \$4 million advanced manufacturing training facility on the grounds of York Correctional Institution. Once fully operational, the center will employ 32 incarcerated women guaranteeing them a job when they leave prison. Read the article [here](#).
9. *Hartford Business Journal article (8/15/24) (Paywall)*: The state of CT launched the “I Got It Made,” multimedia and digital marketing campaign to showcase the different types of jobs available in Connecticut’s manufacturing industry. View the website [here](#). Of particular interest is the [Digital Lookbook](#) included on the site.

Calendar of Events can be found at: <https://www.ewib.org/EAMA-RSP/Events-News>