GEMX
IMPACT REPORT 2023
ENCOURAGING INDUSTRY & EDUCATION TO HELP ONE ANOTHER

GEMX exists to bring education, industry and leadership together to nurture a vibrant, thriving engineering and manufacturing community in the North West region. In order to get the right people into the right roles with the right skillsets at the right time we need to adopt a multi-faceted and collaborative approach. We strive for an increased acknowledgment of engineering and its various fields, viewing them not only as a professional pathway but also as a driving force for innovation. As the demand for engineering and manufacturing skills increases, our network expands accordingly. We collaborate closely with leaders in education, industry, and the community to establish connections, unlock opportunities, and foster economic prosperity for everyone.

Our plan

"Skilled individuals are the backbone of any industry. Investing in education, training and talent development is crucial for sustainable growth and innovation within the Engineering & Manufacturing sector. A well-equipped workforce contributes significantly to the success and advancement of any industry and region."

Paul Kirkpatrick
Capital, Reliability & Maintenance Manager, DuPont
Chair of GEMX

Our objectives

- Promote Engineering & Manufacturing
- Develop a Pipeline of Talent
- Encourage Innovation

Current Network

29 companies:

nuprint, hunter, KES Group, McColgan's, DUPONT, VERTIV, The LYCRA Company, GB Engineering (N.I.) Ltd, Nelipak healthcare packaging, TEREX, GES, Derry Precision Tools, FastHouse, CRANA ENGINEERING, ZEUS, NORTHSTONE, Seating Matters, NORTHBOUND, SEAGATE, WELDITZ, MIM engineering solutions, Fleming, HORIZON, NorthWest Medical, AROLCO, global, FAST, INISHOWEN, Precision Processing Services Limited

23 stakeholders:

MANUFACTURING NORTHERN IRELAND, Engineers Ireland Northern, ATU, Royal Academy of Engineering, Ulster University, InterTradeIreland, Catalyst, Invest Northern Ireland, BORMAC, north west regional college, FUTURECAST, 21 TWENTY ONE TRAINING, 4C UR FUTURE, Staffline, Sentinus, DIGITAL MANUFACTURING IRELAND, Manufacturing Task Force, HELIX, LeanNI, Young Enterprise, CCi UNLOCKGREATNESS, Tecknic, Performance Leaders

Represented on: Education & Skills Delivery Partnership, UU Employer Forum, Smart Industry Board

Our progress

Industry Events

- NowWowHow—partnership with BORMAC, funded by InterTrade Ireland (12 companies, 6 Events)
- Industry 4.0 Showcase—supported by InvestNI, Manufacturing NI, DuPont, NWRC & DCSDC (120 attendees; 18 stakeholders)
- Network visits & collaboration
- Industry surveys

Promotional Material

- GEMs (35 people)
- Classroom resources (6 companies)
- Face of the Week (26 people)
- Apprenticeship Poster (level 2—6, distributed to all NW secondary schools)
- Teacher CPD Events (7 companies; 13 schools; 38 teachers)

Schools Engagement

- 7 trained ambassadors;
- 13 primary school events (345 children)
- 14 secondary school events (approx. 2000 pupils)
- MakeME Academy (6 schools, 300 pupils, 18 month schedule)
- Roadshow (350 pupils)

Industrial Projects

- ImproveIt—partnership with MTC/ InterTrade funding (4 companies)
- Smart Manufacturing Data Hub (4 companies)
- Innovation Boost (1 company + ATU)

Tailored Training

- Advanced Manufacturing Academy (12 students; 2 FT posts)
- ILM (12 companies; 43 people)
- NEBOSH (3 companies; 3 people)
- Digital Catapult Accelerator Programme (5 companies)
- Social Media & Digital Marketing (1 company, 1 person)
- Parametric Modelling (2 companies; 3 people)
- Advanced Welding (2 companies; 3 people)
- Autocad (1 company; 1 person)

Next Steps

Our focus for 2024 will be to continue the expansion of the GEMX network to enable further collaboration and engagement within like-minded companies within the North West. We will continue to work with companies to enhance their image and encourage innovation in relation to operational practice. We will work with education to provide information to enable our young people to make informed decisions with regards to a career within the engineering and manufacturing sector.

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