Making Advanced Technologies More Easily Available to NYC Manufacturers

As part of New York City’s Futureworks NYC initiative, the New York City Industrial & Technology Assistance Corporation (ITAC) is excited to share that it is leading a multi-faceted program aimed at making advanced technology knowledge and resources – specifically on advanced materials, digital manufacturing, and robotics – more accessible to manufacturers throughout NYC’s five boroughs.

Futureworks NYC was created by the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) to help existing and emerging manufacturers adopt advanced technologies and increase their competitiveness. ITAC’s Business Extension Services program, described below, is one of four programs under the current phase of the Futureworks NYC initiative.

Over the next 18 months, ITAC and its partners will execute a comprehensive program, which includes:

- A detailed survey aimed at identifying the opportunities and unique challenges that NYC manufacturers face related to advanced technologies;
- A series of awareness and advanced workshops, all led by technical experts; and
- Actual advanced technology implementation projects with local manufacturers.

To conduct the program, ITAC is partnering with world-leading technical experts: Cornell University’s Center for Materials Research (advanced materials lead); EWI (advanced manufacturing experts); Rochester Institute of Technology’s Center of Excellence for Advanced and Sustainable Manufacturing (digital manufacturing lead); and New York University’s Tandon School of Engineering (mechatronics and robotics lead).

There will be 18 awareness workshops overall (6 in each of advanced materials, digital manufacturing, and robotics), followed by six advanced workshops (two in each of the same three focus areas), targeting those manufacturers wishing to deepen their knowledge in specific fields. Finally, manufacturers will be encouraged to implement projects that can help them become more competitive. EWI will lead a deep-dive assessment to help one manufacturer develop a detailed technology roadmap based on an in-depth assessment of the company’s assets, processes, capabilities and goals.

ITAC is also proud to have partnered with The Research Associates for the survey component of this initiative; Bureau Blank for branding; and both the Business Outreach Center Network and the South Brooklyn Industrial Development Corporation for outreach to manufacturers.

All NYC manufacturers have a unique opportunity to benefit from working with leading experts and are encouraged to participate in this important initiative.
About the Team

**New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC)** is the City's primary vehicle for promoting economic growth in each of the five boroughs. NYCEDC's mission is to stimulate growth through expansion and redevelopment programs that encourage investment, generate prosperity and strengthen the City's competitive position. NYCEDC serves as an advocate to the business community by building relationships with companies that allow them to take advantage of New York City's many opportunities. NYCEDC is the program sponsor of Futureworks.

**ITAC** is an advisory and consulting firm that connects NYC manufacturing and technology companies to ideas, resources, and experts to help them grow their top and bottom lines, and achieve their strategic goals. ITAC is part of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) nationwide network. Within the Futureworks Program, ITAC will be leading overall program management and execution, and providing NYC manufacturing expertise.

**Cornell University’s Center for Materials Research (CCMR)** is a 56-year-old center funded by the National Science Foundation and Empire State Development, dedicated to cutting-edge materials research, and promoting economic development by offering low-cost world-class, technical expertise in advanced materials to industry. Within the Futureworks Program, CCMR’s role is creating and executing the advanced materials awareness and advanced workshops, and serving as advanced materials technical experts.

**EWI** is the leading engineering and technology organization in North America dedicated to developing, testing, and implementing advanced manufacturing technologies for industry. Through its Advanced Manufacturing Implementation Strategy offering, EWI also helps manufacturers understand how to incorporate innovative technologies into their manufacturing operations to establish competitive advantage and optimize operations in their respective industries. Within the Futureworks Program, EWI’s role will be to lead the deep dive assessment mentioned above, and serve as innovation mindset advisor and technical expert.

**NYU Tandon Mechatronics, Control, and Robotics Lab (MCRL)** provides industrial companies in New York City with access to mechatronics/robotics expertise. Within the Futureworks Program, NYU Mechatronics and Robotics’ role will be creating and executing the robotics/mechatronics awareness and advanced workshops; and serving as the robotics/mechatronics technical expert.

**Rochester Institute of Technology’s Center of Excellence for Advanced and Sustainable Manufacturing (RIT COE-ASM)** fosters collaboration between universities and the business sector to promote the development and commercialization of new products and technologies. COE-ASM experts help companies understand how smart and digital manufacturing technologies connect design, planning, production and distribution to drive process improvements, reduce costs and increase efficiencies. Within the Futureworks Program, RIT COE-ASM’s role will be creating and executing
the digital manufacturing awareness and advanced workshops; and serving as the digital manufacturing technical expert.

**Bureau Blank** is a design consultancy that works with organizations in the GAIN sector (government, academia, infrastructure and non-profits) to tell their stories through good design and great technology. Within the Futureworks program, Bureau Blank’s role is program branding & marketing design.

**Business Outreach Center Network (BOC Network)** is a micro-enterprise/small business development organization delivering customized business services to under-served entrepreneurs in NYC and New Jersey. Within the Futureworks Program, BOC Network’s role is conducting outreach for both the market assessment as well as the awareness and advanced workshops.

**Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development Corporation (SBIDC)** is a local organization promoting economic development by serving small businesses and residents of the Sunset Park, Red Hook and Gowanus neighborhoods in Brooklyn, New York. Within the Futureworks Program, SBIDC’s role is conducting outreach for both the market assessment as well as the awareness and advanced workshops.

**The Research Associates (TRA)** is a market intelligence and strategic consulting firm that creates, implements, manages, and monitors business initiatives for a broad range of organizations in the public and private sectors. In the Futureworks Program, TRA’s role is market assessment development, execution and analysis.

Join our community! Click here to receive the most up-to-date information about our Advanced Manufacturing Futureworks NYC programs!