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Putting the pieces together

Mid-Year



Jerry Murphy New North, Inc. Executive Director

We're already halfway through 2018! The Mid-Year Report always arrives before you know it; it's because we're so busy with great work underway. We've seen extraordinary acceleration due to early success with the Supply Chain Marketplace initiative, our online business-to-business directory of firms supplying or wanting to

supply some great growth markets, including the recent arrival of Foxconn.

New North has always stayed true to our three buckets of work: talent development, business development (including entrepreneurship) and branding. After 12 years, we are introducing work directed at a fourth bucket called "business intelligence." As the name suggests, this is purposeful information gathering that informs our strategies about impending changes, competitive pressures or unique opportunities for the region that lie on the horizon. In this Mid-Year Report, you'll read about this newest initiative.

Learn how your business can tap into our marketing materials around talent. We all know

that finding great talent is the No. 1 issue facing the New North economy and beyond. That's why New North is devoting resources to this.

One sector with a great need of talent is information technology. The report includes a story on the many IT initiatives in the region and what the region is doing to move the needle on developing more IT talent.

We've also included an update on the Supply Chain Marketplace and the role New North is playing in assisting in business attraction in similar fashion to that of the efforts to support Foxconn supply chain requirements.

Our biannual reports include the New North Dashboard, which is a quick update on all of New North's work. You'll see there is a lot going on in our dashboard, much of which is due to many of our partners and volunteer committee efforts.

Lastly, we are very excited for the upcoming 2018 New North Summit, which will be held at the new Fox Cities Exhibition Center in Appleton. Mark your calendars for Thursday, Dec. 6 for what I'm sure will be the best summit yet.



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New North, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, regional marketing and economic development organization fostering collaboration among private and public sector leaders throughout the 18 counties of Northeast Wisconsin, known as the New North region. The counties include Outagamie, Winnebago, Calumet, Waupaca, Brown, Shawano, Oconto, Marinette, Door, Kewaunee, Sheboygan, Manitowoc, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Florence, Menominee and Waushara.

The mission: Catalysts for Regional Prosperity through Collaborative Action.

Core value: Collaboration

New North Promotes:

- Talent Development
- Business Development
- Regional Branding
- Business Intelligence

New North, Inc.

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A real team player

New North expands Supply Chain Marketplace statewide, creates Foxconn directory

By MaryBeth Matzek

Mid-Year

18



hat began as a tool to help Oshkosh Corp. suppliers weather a decline in defense spending now provides businesses statewide a means to learn about opportunities to work with Foxconn.

The Supply Chain Marketplace, a free online tool that allows users to sort entries using a variety of categories, was created using funding from a Department of Defense-Office of Economic Adjustment grant designed to help regional businesses find other markets for their wares. The worry was that the up-and-down nature of relying on Oshkosh as a major customer could force some companies to lay off employees or close altogether.

"We created a tool that allowed us to work with those suppliers and organize it in a way that other manufacturers could look at and see there was a regional business, for example, that could supply them with a part," says Connie Loden, senior project manager with New North Inc. "The tool could also be used to show other industries there were suppliers here — ready to work with

them. The possibilities are endless."

That tool was so successful for New North businesses that the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp. provided the region with funding last year to develop a similar tool for the state's other economic regions.

Last summer when Taiwanese electronics manufacturer Foxconn announced plans to build a \$10 billion manufacturing complex in Racine County, it quickly became apparent the tech giant needed a way to connect with Wisconsin businesses. The Supply Chain Marketplace provided just the answer, says Jela Trask, WEDC's business and investment attraction director.

"After seeing the success of the Supply Chain Marketplace, it made sense to create one just for Foxconn," she says. "It's amazing to see the evolving of supply chain mapping into an actual marketplace."

New North responded quickly, adding a new, Foxconn-specific directory in the Supply Chain Marketplace within a matter of days. The New North could then organize businesses indicating their interest in working with the company, Loden says. Companies interested in supplying Foxconn can add their profile to the Foxconn directory simply by clicking a box if they already have a profile in the marketplace. Wisconsin companies not currently in the marketplace can enter a profile at no cost and be included in up to eight industry-specific sector directories via the one-time profile entry process. New sector directories can be added to the Supply Chain Marketplace, as demand warrants, making it a very dynamic, flexible tool.

"When word got out we were putting together a database for potential Foxconn suppliers, it definitely added interest and more businesses to our supply directory," Loden says.

Trask is working with Foxconn to learn more about its needs and any special certifications its suppliers must have. She can then take that information back to potential suppliers, so they have time to earn any necessary designations or certifications.

"Our goal is to make sure Foxconn has a smooth landing in Wisconsin," Trask says.

Some New North companies are already seeing a benefit from the Foxconn connection.

So far, two companies — Neenah Foundry and veteran-owned trucking company Panacea Group of Seymour — have signed contracts to work on the plant's construction, which is expected to get underway this summer.

New North's diverse manufacturing base offers a strong range of production capacity that can be applied in multiple markets. The Foxconn project demonstrates the appeal of that diverse continued >

"When word got out we were putting together a database for potential Foxconn suppliers, it definitely added interest and more businesses to our supply directory."

-Connie Loden, senior project manager with New North Inc.

range to companies that are new to the state and region.

"Foxconn's supplier requirements run the gamut from raw materials to construction services to components sourced from plastics, metals, electronic firms, to printing, packaging, labeling and more," says Bryan Hollenbach, chief operating officer for Green Bay Packaging. "Green Bay Packaging is a current supplier to Foxconn that is looking at the new production facility as an opportunity for growth here at our facilities in New North."

The ability to present Foxconn — and other companies thinking about moving to Wisconsin — with a list of potential suppliers is a strategic advantage for the entire state, says New North Executive Director Jerry Murphy.

"Very few, if any, states have a marketplace tool like this in place," he says. "Wisconsin is now able to go out to prospects and tell them, 'We have a list here of companies who could potentially serve as suppliers."

Trask agrees other companies and businesses will be able to tap into the directory created for Foxconn and the Supply Chain Marketplace as a whole.

"The Foxconn announcement is about more than just one company; it's a whole ecosystem since some of their suppliers are following them here," she says. "We want to make sure Wisconsin businesses can connect with them, too."

HOW IT WORKS:

Created by New North Inc., the Supply Chain Marketplace allows companies of all sizes to create a profile detailing their capabilities, certifications and contacts. That information is then organized and displayed in separate industry sector and regional directories. Companies are also organized and searchable by supplier categories and keywords, based on type of business and capabilities they provide. After Foxconn announced its plan to build a \$10 billion facility in southeast Wisconsin, the tool was adjusted so businesses could indicate if they were interested in working with the tech giant.

Visit www.wisupplychainmarketplace.com.



Talent ROADMAP





Share "In the New North" Video series

The new, one-minute videos are intended to be shared on social media channels. Post on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, or email directly to potential candidates.







- 60+ companies utilizing videos
- 34,000+ potential recruits viewed the videos
- 10% of traffic from the state of Illinois

Some companies using the video:









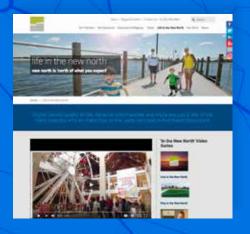
1

Utilize our "North of What You Expect" Recruitment Video to Attract New Talent

Showcased in this captivating video are many aspects of the community that make the New North a place for workers to thrive. Whether your future employees enjoy being outdoors or indoors, downtown or rural, in nature or programming computers, or maybe all of these things — Northeast Wisconsin provides all of these. Leverage our recruitment video by linking to it on your human resources webpage and distributing within your talent pipeline.

Capture Talented Recruits with our "Life in the New North" Interface

If your organization is recruiting from outside the New North, shine some light on the region by implementing our "Life in the New North" tool. This interface was designed by and for human resource professionals in Northeast Wisconsin to entice potential new candidates with the region's offerings. Employ this tool in your search for talent by linking it on your human resources webpage. LifeintheNewNorth.com



All New North recruitment materials can be used by companies in the region at no cost.

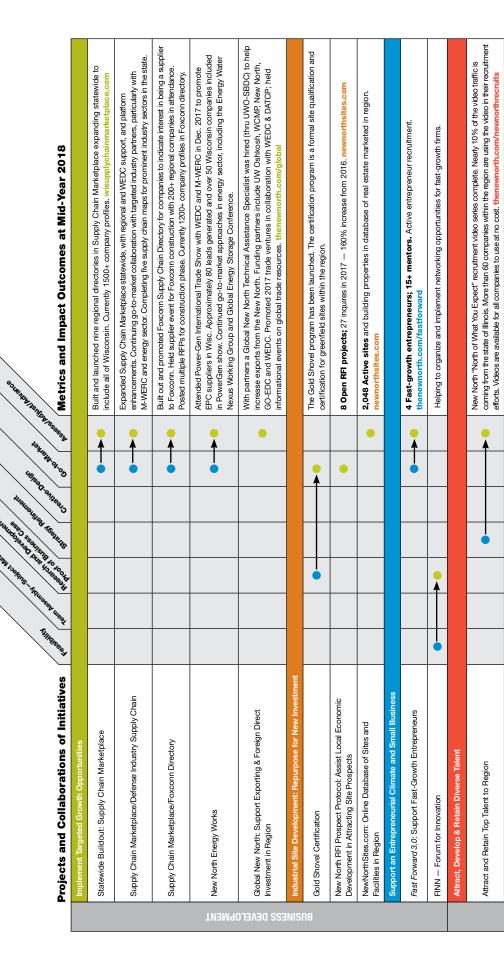
Dashboard of Impact Strategies and Regional Collaborations

QUARTER 1

New North, Inc. tracks metrics and impact outcomes of work programs and regional projects through the use of a comprehensive Dashboard of Initiatives and Regional Collaborations. This Dashboard is published twice yearly, with

mid-year and year-end status reported, and serves to update regional partners, New North investors and leaders in the New North region. The Dashboard highlights work programs, goals and impact outcomes of project work.

Progression



Encourage Educational Attainment



Northeast Wisconsin Educational Resource Alliance (NEW ERA): Support work programs



NEW Manufacturing Alliance: Our vision is that every Northeast WI manufacturer will find the talent it needs

in Northeast Wisconsin Career Expo' at Greenville Middle School. In addition, the 244 Current Members. The Alliance sponsored \$40,000 in college scholarships this Alliance will be hosting held the 7th annual Excellence in Mfg./K-12 Partnerships spring, the Alliance hosted the Talent Risk Summit with internationally renowned expert Steve Trautman. The organization hosted the first ever 'You Can MAKE It year, in total the organization has given \$230,000 in college scholarships. This Awards dinner and the 4th annual Internship Draft Day at Lambeau Field.



Online Regional Job Board for Interns and Employers Internshipdraftday.com:

nternship Draft Day to be held at Lambeau Field. Scholarships will be awarded at \$1,500 and \$500 for the #1 and #2 top draft picks from the NEW Manufacturing Alliance. It is expected that over 300 November 8, 2018 – The NEW Manufacturing Alliance and NEW ERA are planning the 4th annual internships will be offered by northeast Wisconsin organizations.

Developing Professional Degrees Based on Market Needs

Associate to Bachelor's Degrees – A new Bachelor of Science in Software Technology will be offered in September 18 at UM-Oshkosh, specifically for technical college graduates with an Associate Degree in Software Development The Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology (Mechanical, Electrical, and Environmental) continues to grow with over 300 students enrolled.

Get Connected to New North Projects and Leverage the Regional Brand



nare regional information and ousiness successes **New Morth News:**

Current followers: 10,036 followers on Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook; New North produces a regional daily news briefing called New North News. Subscribe at thenewnorth.com/newsletter



\$99,072 earned in advertising space equivalent Public Relations: Elevate New North since December 2017.



to explore, in-depth, the offerings of the region. Companies to the "Life in the New North" tool, where they will be able leveraging the New North brand, you can funnel top talent The Life in the New North information sheet can be a can download the information sheet to co-brand at Co-brand with Life in the New North then ewnorth, com/newnorth recruits



Mid-Year and Annual New North Report

Mid-Year 'Report to the Community' were distributed More than 30,000 print copies of Annual Report and in 2017, thenewnorth, com/reports



New North Supply Chain

distributed to 2,000+ suppliers on trends and events Bi-Weekly Supply Chain Marketplace Newsletter related to supply chain management.



More than 11,000 distributed; Completed regional Mortheast Wisconsin Business Locator

ew nor

external attraction collaborative survey February 2018. Active regional and local collaboration on events. thenewnorth.com/businesslocator



Global New North Newsletter Publish monthly Global New North Newsletter with 900 subscribers.

600 attendees for the New North Summit 2017

newnorthsummit.com

Exhibition Center in Appleton, WI. More than

Thursday, December 6th at the Fox Cities

The 2018 New North Summit will be on

New North Summit: Enable regional networking and thought leadership

new north Summit



Intensifying IT efforts

Regional programs deliver innovative solutions aimed at closing the tech gap

Mid-Year

18

ore than 7,000 unfilled technology jobs in Wisconsin sounds like a daunting statistic, but Northeast Wisconsin is addressing the shortage with a flurry of innovative solutions.

Wide-ranging efforts from advocacy groups and businesses target everyone from K-12 learners to college students to incumbent workers looking to upskill and reskill.

The Northeast Wisconsin IT Alliance marked a productive first year under the leadership of director Kim Iversen. The group formed in 2014 when business leaders voiced an ever-loudening concern about the gap in technology talent. The alliance serves as a nonprofit collaboration of companies, academic institutions and other organizations dedicated to inspiring people of all ages to pursue IT career pathways in Northeast Wisconsin.

"I think initiatives and awareness have really become elevated in the last couple years," says Paul Mueller, retired chief information officer for Thrivent and a member of the alliance's executive steering committee.

Mueller says having a resource like the alliance is vital, as IT is one of the most important business tools companies have today. While he says the term "digital transformation" is overhyped and most organizations won't disrupt with technology, all businesses need to focus on enabling and evolving technology. However, the demand for talent and innovative thinkers far outweighs the supply.

With that in mind, last November

"By the start of next school year, we hope to have the NEW IT Alliance and their efforts on everyone's lips."

-Kim Iversen, director of the Northeast
Wisconsin IT Alliance

the alliance held its first-ever NEW Connect IT Job & Career Fair. More than 30 companies were represented, and the fair drew community members and college students as well as hundreds of high school students exploring IT careers. Planning is underway for this fall's event, which will be held Nov. 14 at Lambeau Field.

In June, the alliance held Digital Learning Educational Opportunities in NEW, a presentation of the findings of a study the organization conducted in Brown and Outagamie counties. Executed in partnership with Microsoft TechSpark and CESA 6 and 7, the study examined the quality and number of digital learning opportunities in schools.

Superintendents, teachers and guidance counselors attended the event and listened to a guest speaker present on digital transformation as well as a panel discussion. The survey drew an impressive 65 percent response rate from superintendents and painted a disparate picture of IT education efforts

for the region, Iversen says.

The survey showed programs in place ranged from coding clubs at the most basic level to dual credit learning opportunities at the highest. Eventually, the alliance would like to assign districts a digital learning maturity level, so

schools can know where they rank.

"By the start of next school year, we hope to have the NEW IT Alliance and their efforts on everyone's lips," Iversen says.

The alliance also conducted a higher education survey of two- and four-year colleges, which revealed 2,500 students were pursuing IT pathways. The bad news: Only a third of those students graduate. The organization is working with colleges to brainstorm and implement strategies to keep students in programs and aims to increase the persistence rate by 4 percent.

An upcoming marketing campaign will promote technology careers. The organization has started filming a "Why IT in the New North" video series that will promote and educate about specific IT careers.

Last fall, Microsoft threw its considerable weight behind the cause with its debut of TechSpark, a digital initiative aimed at fostering economic opportunity in six communities



nationwide, including Northeast Wisconsin.

In choosing areas for the program, Microsoft looked at how well communities collaborated, says Michelle Schuler, manager of Microsoft TechSpark Wisconsin. "When they came to the Midwest, they were very impressed with how well the Appleton and Green Bay communities came together."

Schuler says TechSpark has garnered success across all five of its pillars: digital

transformation initiatives, digital skills and computer science education, career pathways, rural broadband and support for nonprofits.

TEALS, or Technology Education and Literacy in Schools, which promotes computer science programs in high schools, has also grown statewide. This year, 13 schools across Wisconsin, and 10 in the New North, participated. Next school year, that number will jump to 33 statewide and 19 in the New North.

The Code.org program, a nonprofit dedicated to expanding access to computer science in schools, also has expanded. Training will be offered this summer in Green Bay, Milwaukee, Wausau and Eagle River, and 69 teachers from 65 districts will take courses toward becoming trained to teach technology classes.

Likewise, the rural broadband issue is a huge one for the New North, home to many rural communities. Microsoft data shows 34 million Americans don't have internet access, and 22.4 million of those live in rural America. In February, the company announced plans to work with Packerland Broadband to deliver broadband internet to around 82,000 people in underserved areas in Wisconsin and Michigan.

Mueller says it's encouraging to see the many initiatives taking hold in the region but says addressing the issue will take a lot of work, effort and investment. "It's a race you never win," he says.



Economic Report Card

1,250,231
Population (2017)

Population **grew by 13,598** over the last 5 years and is projected to **grow by 11,902** over the next five years.

668,678 Jobs (2017)

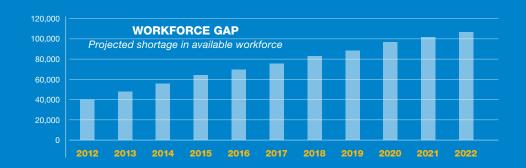
Jobs **grew by 26,210** over the last five years and is projected to **grow by 17,826** over the next five years.

\$53.6k

Avg. Earnings Per Job (2017)

Regional average per job is **\$9.9k below** the national average earnings
of \$63.5k per job.

OVERVIEW

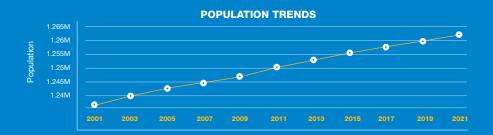


Robust economic growth and changing age dynamics have both contributed to a workforce gap in the region. This divergence is expected to continue growing for at least another decade, which will pose a challenge for local employers trying to find and retain talent.



Region	2012 Jobs	2017 Jobs	2022 Jobs	Change	2012-2017 Growth %	2017-2022 Growth %
The New North Region	584,123	609,303	626,507	42,384	4.3%	2.8%
Nation	131,696,456	142,907,783	151,578,434	19,881,978	8.5%	6.1%

Job growth in the region was essentially in line with the nation from 2001 until 2011. The two started to diverge since then and this trend is anticipated to continue over time.



The New North added slightly less than 15,000 people over the past five years. Even as the age distribution continues to change, the overall population is expected to continue its consistent rise.



The regional economy has been growing at a nearly constant rate of about \$2 billion per year since the end of the recession. This upward movement is consistent with the national trend of around 2-3% annual growth.

Source: EMSI

Comments provided by Ryan Long, Office of Economic Advisors

Tracking data

Business intelligence committee supports key initiatives

By MaryBeth Matzek

Mid-Year

ew North Inc.'s business intelligence committee has only been in place since January, but the group is already looking to the future and making an impact.

The intent of the initiative is to inform community leadership across economic sectors, including the nonprofit sector, about future trends and disruptors for which they can be better prepared to adjust and pivot strategies and tactical work. It aims to help businesses and organizations ongoing with qualified foresight, and therefore the ability to act in more innovative and forward-thinking ways.

The New North board of directors created the committee late last year to support the organization's three pillars of work: business development, talent development and branding. The group will use data and research insights to provide focus to those initiatives, says John Kreul, vice president and chief information officer at Bemis Co. Inc. and chairman of New North's business intelligence committee.

"We are using the data gathered to provide focus to the different committees," he says. "We definitely see ourselves as a supporter of what the other groups are working on."

People are aware of the problems facing the region — for example more IT workers are needed — but do not know where to find the resources they need to formulate a strategy to address the issue, says Bill Bohn, executive vice president of Associated Bank and cochair of New North Inc.

"We have assumptions, but are those

correct? We are blessed with resources at our institutions of higher education and some companies that we can turn to for help with research and gathering data, so we know our information is correct," he says. "If our information is correct, we can develop better strategies to address any problems."

Beyond looking at the here and now, Kreul says the group also keeps an eye on what disruptors may be out there that could affect the area. For example, is there a change on the horizon in technology or manufacturing that would affect many area businesses? If there is, what could be done to prepare for that change?

"Businesses go through this process a lot, but we are taking it to the regional level and making sure we are ready for any changes that come up," Kreul says.

Alliance Group



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- R Keller

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- Thrivent Financial

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IN-KIND

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