

News of Interest to EAMA RSP

June 2025

1. *CBIA* article (6/6/25): In the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) recent [Outlook Survey](#) 54% of respondents reported a positive outlook for their companies in the second quarter, a 15% drop from the first quarter. Read more [here](#).
2. *CBIA* article (6/8/25): [This article](#) discusses the impact the 50% tariffs imposed on steel and aluminum imports will have on Connecticut manufacturers. It is estimated that the increase will cost \$240 million annually, greatly affecting the aerospace industry.
3. *CT Mirror* oped (6/5/25): In an opinion piece entitled "[Collective bargaining is rebuilding America's defense industrial base](#)," Congressman Joe Courtney praised Electric Boat (EB) and the Marine Draftsmen Association Local 571 (MDA) for the agreement they recently achieved after months of negotiation. With funding approved by Congress in December and released in April, EB was able to offer 30 percent raises over the next five years to the 2,500 workers in the MDA.
4. *The Day* article (6/3/25) (Paywall): 175 students from more than two dozen Connecticut high schools were recognized at Electric Boat's annual High School Signing Day at Grasso Tech. Some students interviewed credited EWIB's Youth Manufacturing Pipeline Initiative ([YMPI](#)) for their success. Read more [here](#).
5. *Hartford Business Journal* article (5/27/25) (Paywall): Electric Boat has teamed up with Mystic Aquarium in a three-year program that will promote STEM education, workforce growth, and conservation efforts in Connecticut. The partnership will include sponsorship from Electric Boat for three college and six high school interns at the Aquarium. Read more about this new initiative [here](#).
6. *CBIA* article (5/23/25): The Governor's Workforce Council has released its updated Strategic Plan. The plan, [Work Forward: Pathways for Growth](#), features recommendations that can help build an equitable, inclusive, and innovative workforce to meet the needs of the current economic environment and that can be adapted to the needs of the future. Highlights of the updated plan can be found [here](#).
7. *CBIA* article (5/23/25): The state Senate unanimously passed legislation on May 14 that allows contractors in the skilled trades to apply for an exemption to the 3:1 apprenticeship hiring ratio. [SB 1465](#) allows eligible small businesses to seek permission from the Department of Consumer Protection to hire additional apprentices at a 1:1 ratio. More details can be found [here](#). The bill had previously passed the House and was signed by the Governor on June 10.
8. *Hartford Business Journal* article (5/20/25) (Paywall): Farmington machine tool maker TRUMPF has become the first company to receive funding under Connecticut's \$25 million Strategic Supply Chain Initiative (SSCI). The company will receive a \$2.5 million grant to enhance its production capacity and bring manufacturing operations into Connecticut. DECD has also approved TRUMPF for up to \$373,000 in tax rebates if it creates 63 new full-time equivalent jobs. Read the article [here](#). Click [here](#) for details about the SSCI.
9. *Hartford Business Journal* article (5/15/25) (Paywall): The state's Office of Manufacturing has released a new strategic plan that seeks to increase manufacturing as a share of Connecticut's GDP and achieve full employment in manufacturing. [The strategic plan](#) rests on four pillars: developing talent, building sustainable companies, driving innovation, and fostering collaboration both within and outside the sector. Read more [here](#).
10. *CT Public Radio* article (5/13/25): [This article](#), "Why aren't Americans filling the manufacturing jobs we already have?," explores a variety of reasons why nearly half a million U.S. manufacturing jobs remain vacant, including worker age, skill gaps, pay scales, and an incorrect image of today's manufacturing floors. Proposed solutions include a stronger investment in apprenticeships.

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