

News of Interest to EAMA RSP

February 2026

1. *Norwich Free Academy News Release (2/11/26)*: Norwich Free Academy's School of Visual and Performing Arts is introducing a new Metals Sculpture course for advanced students. The course builds upon students' experience in metalsmithing by incorporating welding. Students will learn TIG welding and Oxy/Acetylene soldering as it pertains to the fabrication of mixed metal sculptures. Other skills include metal fabrication including forming, bending, cutting, and finishing. Students enrolled in this program have a background in solder techniques and small metals fabrication. This new course builds on that skillset to include larger scale metal fabrication and design. Read the news release [here](#).
2. *CBIA article (2/5/26)*: Governor Lamont announced his support to extend the research and development (R&D) tax credit to pass through entities such as LLCs, partnerships, and S-corporations during this legislative session. [This article](#) outlines the proposal which would allow these entities to earn a credit equal to 6% of qualifying R&D expenditures, subject to Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) approval. EAMA RSP strongly supports this proposal.
3. *Hartford Business Journal article (1/29/26) (Paywall)*: CBIA announced its ten legislative priorities at their recent economic summit. Among the items on their list are: restoring the pass-through entity tax credit, eliminating the sales tax on energy and gas bills, expanding eligibility for R&D and apprentice tax credits, allowing the creation of association health plans, and the establishment of a small business "concierge" within DECD. Read the article [here](#).
4. *University of New Haven article (1/15/26)*: Former CT Chief Manufacturing Officer Paul Lavoie has been appointed to the Board of Directors of American Manufacturing Futures Institute (AMFI) and named America's Chief Manufacturing Officer. The newly created non-profit organization, launched in January 2026, is dedicated to advancing the future of U.S. manufacturing through people-centered, place-based, and policy-informed approaches. Lavoie also serves as VP for innovation and applied technology at the University of New Haven. Read more [here](#).

Exciting EAMA RSP Member News:

5. *Hartford Business Journal article (1/20/26) (Paywall)*: EAMA-RSP member **Greene Rubber** announced that it completed the purchase of three buildings, spanning a 34-acre campus in Plainfield, which will house 80 to 100 employees. The move was motivated by a large contract with EAMA RSP member Electric Boat to manufacture a variety of components, including a funnel used in fluidics transfer systems on submarines. The new facilities will also house Greene Rubber's engineering design, R&D, and product testing departments. Read more [here](#).
6. *EIN Presswire article (1/15/26)*: EAMA-RSP member **Chapco** announced its move from Chester to a manufacturing plant in Deep River. "Our new 150,000-sq-ft facility brings all of our teams together under one roof," said Brian Weinstein, President & CEO of Chapco. "This strategic move is designed to support the advanced manufacturing requirements that our country's manufacturing base and defense contractors rely on—well into the future." Read more [here](#).
7. *Hartford Business Journal article (1/1/26) (Paywall)*: **Sonalysts**, which supplies software and systems engineering for the military, was awarded a \$10 million contract modification for the sustainment and on-site support of a Space Force test and training operation. Based in Waterford, Sonalysts is one of EAMA RSP's newest members. Learn more [here](#).

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