

# Supply Chain Challenges & Solutions (The Future of Manufacturing?)

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# The Future of U.S. Manufacturing

## Manufacturing facts:

- Manufacturing is **global** and the US is losing ground to a number of countries
- Manufacturing is a **wealth generator**
- Manufacturing created the **middleclass** in this country after WWII
- Manufacturing as a **% of GDP has shrunk** and continues to shrink
- Manufacturing of material needed to defend the US are at risk (**DoD and DHS**)
- Continued shrinking of the **skilled labor pool** is putting the US at a disadvantage
- US is losing its **edge in innovation** of new products and advanced Mfg. capability



# The Future of U.S. Manufacturing

## A new paradigm in manufacturing has started:

- Most Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM's) are **multi-national companies**
- OEM's have become integrators (**supply chains continue to expand**)
- OEM's are manufacturing globally and **off-shoring** much of their requirements
- OEM's are now focusing on:
  - **Speed to market** with new products
  - **total cost** of the product versus lowest piece price
  - **Supply chain management** (not solely logistics) as a key differentiator



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# Supply Chain Challenge & Solution

## What Does All This Mean for the Future of US Manufacturing?

If OEM's are becoming integrators then it will be *my supply chain versus yours*, from product design to delivery to the customer.

## What is the Solution?

- The **Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation Institute (DMDII)** is building and test the an internet platform, the **Digital Manufacturing Commons (DMC)** that will be the backbone of NCM.
- DMDII has a fully equipped **manufacturing and engineering lab** for R&D in digital manufacturing
- The Air Force Research Lab (AFRL) started researching **Network Centric Manufacturing (NCM)** as the next generation in manufacturing a few years ago to address **new weapons platform development** and to support out of production **legacy parts**.



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Are you confident your supply chain  
ready to compete with your competitors  
supply chain?



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