



**MICHIGAN STATE**  
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The MSU EDA University Center for  
Regional Economic Innovation presents our  
**2013 WEBINAR SERIES**



## ***Skills gap or training gap?***

*The role of manufacturing firms in solving the skills problem*

**Carolyn Hatch, Ph.D.**

*Visiting Scholar  
Michigan State University*

**Wednesday, July 3rd 2013  
10:00 - 11:00 AM**

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/246136728>

*Hatch's background is in regional development with an emphasis on the local/global dynamics of contemporary economies and their social foundations.*

This research focuses on the skills gap in the Michigan (MI) manufacturing sector, with an emphasis on how producer firms can play a role to address workforce development obstacles by collaborating with institutions and actors in their local supply chains and industrial clusters. It draws on case study research of MI's globally competitive thermoforming capital goods sector to examine the recruitment, training and retention challenges producers currently face, how the increased technological intensity of manufacturing work has had a bearing on skill requirements, and the implications for on-the-job training.

*The REI Network develops and identifies innovative economic development tools, models, policies and practices in support of innovative economic development strategies with promise to yield high-growth entrepreneurship and job creation in distressed regions throughout Michigan. This webinar is supported in part pursuant to the receipt of financial assistance and support from the United States Department of Commerce-Economic Development Administration. The statements, findings, conclusions and recommendations are solely those of the authors and publishers and do not necessarily reflect the views of any federal agency or Michigan State University.*

**Questions? Contact REI at (517) 353-9555**