Manufacturing Economic Growth

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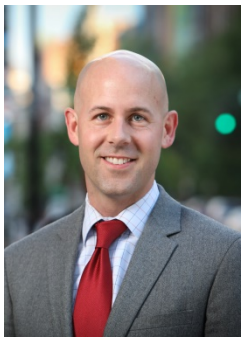
Abstract

Where is U.S. manufacturing thriving in the U.S.? Forbes says it is right here in Louisville, Kentucky. In 2017, the business magazine ranked Louisville the #1 city for U.S. manufacturing. Why Louisville? Well, since 2011, following the Great Recession, local manufacturing employment has expanded by 30 percent to 83,300 jobs; approximately 12 percent of all jobs in Louisville. The combination of robust growth in our diverse, legacy industries and rapid growth of our research-driven companies has propelled us to the top.

How does Louisville keep the streak alive? Workforce and innovation. Maintaining the momentum Louisville has created over the last few years will require more impactful collaboration between industries, institutions, and governmental entities to invest in higher-skilled labor and ideas. Partnerships like GE FirstBuild, the University of Louisville Speed School co-op programs, Kentucky FAME apprenticeship program, and Kentucky Nano + AM Symposium are a few examples of catalysts that will help continue to power Louisville's manufacturing growth. We need more!

Louisville Forward, the city's combined approach to economic and community development, will provide more insights into its role in supporting the manufacturing industries and growing our local economy.

Biography of Presenter



Scott Herrmann serves as the Director of Economic Development for Louisville Forward. He guides the strategic direction and management for the department in order to advance Louisville's economic growth goals and objectives. He previously served as vice president with J.P. Morgan's Asset Management and Commercial Bank divisions, overseeing client relationships and sales. Most recently, he was director of marketing and business development for Waycross Partners, a local independent investment management firm. Scott holds a bachelor's degree in finance and MBA from Indiana University. He volunteers time for the Home of the Innocents, Rotary Club of Louisville, and [give] 502. He is graduate of the Leadership Louisville Focus and Ignite programs, Health Enterprise Network Fellows program, and Business First 40 Under 40 and Top 20 People to Know in Economic Development.