

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FOR INFORMATION:
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Wolanski, Raye, Smith named to Maine MEP board of directors

AUGUSTA, Me. – John Wolanski, Kevin Raye, and Harvey Smith have been appointed to the Maine Manufacturing Extension Partnership ([Maine MEP](#)) board of directors, the business and technical assistance program announced today.

John Wolanski is Vice President of Sales and Marketing for GAC Chemical Corp. in Searsport, where he manages GAC's sales and marketing department. He implemented GAC's Logistics Solutions strategy and formed the GAC joint venture partnership with Mexico-based Dalegip, leading to GAC's receipt of the 2015 Maine Foreign Direct Investor award. Prior to joining GAC, Wolanski was Vice President for Safe Handling Inc., a chemical logistics company based in Auburn. John has more than 30 years of technical sales and marketing experience, has served on numerous trade and manufacturing boards including the University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation as well as the Maine International Trade Center, and is a graduate of the University of Vermont.

A native of Eastport, former Maine Senate President Kevin Raye is a graduate of Bates College and, with his wife Karen, owns and operates Raye's Mustard Mill in Eastport, a fourth-generation small family business. He has four decades of Maine politics and public policy experience, including numerous legislative leadership positions and as advisor and Chief of Staff for former U.S. Senator Olympia Snowe. Drawing from this background, Raye also operates Down East Strategies, LLC, a public affairs consulting firm that provides a range of strategic networking, grassroots and communication services. He has served on a number of business, community and nonprofit boards.

Harvey Smith is Director of Quality at Kennebec Technologies, where he has been Lean Champion for last 15 years. He previously was Quality Manager for Sanmina-SCI. Prior to that, he was Business Operations Manager at Digital Equipment Corp., where he directed manufacturing operations for the electronic module production. He has more than 40 years' experience in manufacturing and is a graduate of Babson College.

"We are thrilled with the depth and variety of backgrounds that John, Kevin, and Harvey will bring to our leadership," said Muriel Mosher, president of the Maine MEP. "Their combined experience – 40 years in public policy, 40 years in manufacturing and 30 years in sales and marketing – will add valuable perspectives to our planning and decision-making processes, helping us better meet the needs of Maine's small manufacturers."

About Maine MEP

The Maine MEP is a program of the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development and an affiliate of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) under the U.S. Department of Commerce. The national MEP system is a network of manufacturing extension centers that provide business and technical assistance to smaller manufacturers in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Through MEP, manufacturers have access to more than 2,000 manufacturing and business professionals whose job is to help firms make changes that lead to greater productivity, increased profits and enhanced global competitiveness. For information on the Maine MEP program, please visit www.mainemep.org, or phone 207-623-0680.

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