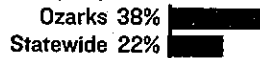


Fast Facts: Next Generation Manufacturing

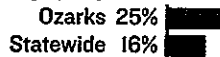
Missouri's manufacturing sector accounts for more than \$30 billion of the gross state product and employs almost 300,000 people, or about 14 percent of the state's workers, according to St. Louis-based Missouri Enterprise. More than 200 of the state's manufacturers participated in the Next Generation Manufacturing Study, which polled more than 2,500 companies throughout the country about the industry's condition and future potential. Eight manufacturers from seven counties in the Ozarks region – Greene, Christian, Dallas, Polk, Stone, Taney and Webster counties – participated in the 61-question study. Here's a look at how area manufacturers responded.

Top Manufacturing Strategies

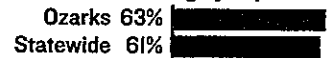
Global engagement ranked as highly important



Green/sustainable products and process development ranked as highly important



Systemic continuous improvement ranked as highly important



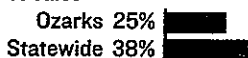
Manufacturing Benchmarks

These percentages represent the manufacturers that say they are operating at or near world-class status on the stated performance benchmarks.

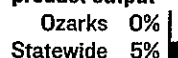
Percentage of work force dedicated to new product development



Annual investment in capital equipment as a percentage of sales



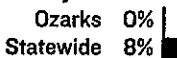
Annual reduction in use of nonrecycled material per unit of product output



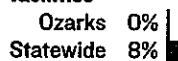
Percentage of sales invested in new product development



Percentage that productivity has improved over the past three years



Companies having countries outside the U.S. with organizational or partnership production facilities



Number of hours of formal training per year per employee



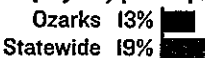
Ability of supply chain to respond to unexpected customer demand



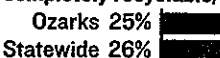
Companies having countries outside U.S. with sales and/or distribution facilities



Value add (sales minus cost of material divided by number of employees) per employee



Percentage of product that are completely recyclable/reusable



Source: Missouri Enterprise and the American Small Manufacturers Coalition