Service Area
The nine west central Minnesota counties of Becker, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse and Wilkin.

Grant Applicant
Enterprise Minnesota

Eligible Businesses
West central manufacturers that employ 150 or fewer workers. Employers must provide a cash match of at least 25 percent of the project’s total cost.

Eligible Projects
Industry-specific training or consultation that has substantial impact on productivity, competitiveness or employee compensation. Examples include:

• Training Within Industry
• Job Safety
• Practical Problem Solving
• Lean Product Development
• SME High Performance Manufacturing Training

A NEW Joint Training Program
West Central Initiative and Enterprise Minnesota have teamed up to offer BestForce, the next generation of Workforce 2020 incumbent worker training and implementation program.

How It Works
BestForce focuses on providing workforce training to small manufacturers who are interested in elevating the capacity of their firm by increasing the skill level of their current workforce.

Why It Works
• BestForce attracts and retains workers by providing training in an active-learning environment that values the firm’s employees and rewards their increased skill levels.
• It improves profits by applying new techniques that lead to a better work environment and more efficient manufacturing process.
• BestForce helps companies grow by increasing their capacity to be globally competitive.

Why Smaller Manufacturers?
The success of WCI’s Workforce 2020 grant program demonstrates that west central Minnesota manufacturers tangibly benefit from the training and consultation that have helped them compete and grow, as well as contribute to the economic well-being of their home communities. WCI and Enterprise Minnesota are committed to helping smaller manufacturers move to that same level of success.

For More Information
Contact Enterprise Minnesota’s regional representatives:

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West Central Initiative is an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.