



AI - Practical Applications in Manufacturing

A Hands-On Manufacturing Cohort

Most manufacturing companies have access to AI tools, but few teams know where to start or how to get real results. In this is a 6-session cohort, participants will learn the basics of AI in plain language and then, like in our AZ MEP Lean Green Belt, our expert instructors will walk each participant through building a project for their own organization. Participants look at the data and systems their company already uses, build and test a working prototype, and present a plan to their own leaders in the final session.

Who Should Attend? Those who:

- ❖ Want to develop their AI skills
- ❖ Want to implement practical AI solutions
- ❖ Can Champion AI in their organization
- ❖ Have the support of leadership in their organization

Participants are required to have a laptop in class

- Session 1: Understanding AI, Minus the Hype (Jan 27th)
- Session 2: Get Your Company Ready for AI & Identify the Right Problem (Jan 28th)
- Session 3: Map Your Data and Sketch a First Build (Feb 10th)
- Session 4: Design and Build Your First Agent (Feb 24th)
- Session 5: Put Guardrails on What You Built (March 10th)
- Session 6: Show the Value and Pitch the Pilot (March 24th)

EVENT TIME
8:30 am - 12:30 pm

\$1500
per person
(for all 7 sessions)

WHERE

**Arizona's
Connected
Workspace**
1400 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Room TR-1104

REGISTER HERE!

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MANUFACTURING
EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

PART OF THE  **MEP
National
Network™**

All sessions will be held at Arizona's Connected Workspace

Session 1: January 27th

Participants start by learning the key AI terms the rest of the cohort builds on, beginning with context: the information that turns a generic AI answer into a useful one. Each person sets up their own AI workspace, which tool to use when, then builds a quick compliance check covering their organization's rules, including ITAR and CMMC.

Session 2: January 28th

Many employees with AI tools rarely use them, often because nobody expects them to. This session covers what leaders need in place first: an AI policy, clear goals for the company and each employee, and champions who work close to the job. Participants then dig into a real problem to find its cause and decide whether AI is the right fix.

Session 3: February 10th

This session explains where data lives and how it gets to AI, including what APIs and MCP connections are. Each person picks one idea, researches the tools it relies on, and sorts them into what connects now, what needs an export, and what can wait. Participants leave with a data review of three of their own systems and a first version, small enough to finish, tested on real examples from their work.

Session 4: February 24th

Participants build an agent for their own project using their own connected tools. They map out who does what between their team and the agent, including what starts it, which systems it uses, and where a person approves its work.

Session 5: March 10th

Participants arrive with a working prototype and their team's feedback, and this session gets it ready for a pilot. They add the approval steps their team asked for and run data security checks (e.g., ITAR, CMMC, company sensitive information) on their own build. Instructors also cover how to track and improve an agent over its first few months, so participants leave with a pilot-ready prototype and a plan to measure how it's doing.

Session 6: March 24th

Participants build a business case from their own numbers, comparing the full cost of the project against real savings in time, money, capacity, or quality. They choose how to measure the pilot, how often to check in, and set realistic expectations: an agent gets better over its first few months, so it won't be perfect on day one. The cohort wraps up with each person presenting a short demo and pilot plan to their leaders, with help from the instructors.