

WHY TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION?

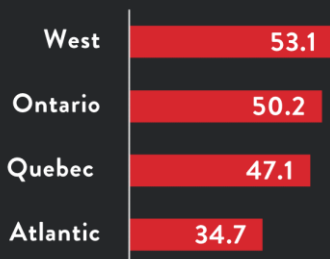
Encouraging companies to invest more in advanced technology will help make them more competitive, and this will start a virtuous circle that ultimately leads to stronger output, productivity, and employment growth across the economy.

CURRENT LANDSCAPCE

Canada’s manufacturing sector ranks poorly in technology adoption when compared against other advanced economies.

In the Atlantic region, the gap is even more pronounced. Compared to their counterparts in the rest of Canada, manufacturers on the East Coast have the lowest rates of advanced technology use.

Use of Advanced Technologies
2019 (% of manufacturers)



CANADIAN
MANUFACTURERS
& EXPORTERS

The State of Advanced Manufacturing in NL

Thanks to funding provided by NGEN, CME-NL conducted 28 in-depth interviews to learn more about the factors holding back the adoption of advanced manufacturing (AM) technology in NL and to make recommendations for next steps.

EIGHT INTERRELATED THEMES EMERGED FROM THE INTERVIEWS

1. For successful adoption, the identification of a clear need, purpose, or goal for the AM technology is essential
2. Costs associated with AM and anticipated difficulties related to finding investors/borrowing money can dampen appetite for adopting AM
3. Knowledge and awareness of AM is a prerequisite for successful adoption
4. The ‘right type’ of workers/employees are needed for successful AM adoption
5. NL’s geography/weather and their effect of increasing shipping costs are important considerations for those interested in AM
6. Certain cultural/social characteristics of the NL population may negatively and/or positively impact NL’s adoption of AM
7. Support and properly resourced support agencies are essential for the successful adoption of AM in NL
8. Collaboration/networking are essential for the successful adoption of AM in NL

RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

1. Develop AM education and awareness programs and technology testing opportunities
2. Develop an online technology adoption roadmap
3. Create AM technology adoption initiatives targeted specifically at SMEs
4. Promote networking and collaboration across the sector
5. Provide mentoring and direct support for AM adopters
6. Encourage AM adoption by matching the federal government’s Atlantic Investment Tax Credit
7. Redouble efforts to address NL’s labour and skills shortages
8. Increase investments in trade-related infrastructure
9. Support additional research related to AM in NL

WE HELP MANUFACTURERS GROW

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