Record Nr. UNINA9910970783303321 Learning to change: opportunities to improve the performance of **Titolo** smaller manufacturers / / Committee to Assess Barriers and Opportunities to Improve Manufacturing at Small and Medium-Sized Companies [and] Manufacturing Studies Board, Commission on Engineering and Technical Systems, National Research Council Washington, D.C., : National Academy Press, 1993 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 9786610195725 9781280195723 128019572X 9780309586061 0309586062 9780585143156 0585143153 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (152 p.) Disciplina 338.47670973 Small business - United States Soggetti Small business - Government policy - United States Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 123-136). Nota di contenuto LEARNING TO CHANGE -- Copyright -- Preface -- STUDY METHODOLOGY -- REPORT STRUCTURE -- Contents -- Executive Summary -- PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES FOR SMALLER MANUFACTURING COMPANIES -- Barrier 1: Disproportionate Impact of Regulation -- Barrier 2: Lack of Awareness -- Barrier 3: Isolation --Barrier 4: Where to Seek Advice -- Barrier 5: Scarcity of Capital --SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE -- EFFECTIVENESS OF MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY CENTERS -- CONCLUSIONS -- Majority Opinion --Minority Opinion -- RECOMMENDATIONS -- SUMMARY -- 1 Introduction -- SIZE DISTRIBUTION OF U.S. MANUFACTURERS --GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF MANUFACTURING -- DIVERSITY OF

> SMALLER MANUFACTURERS -- Product or Market Sector -- Modernization -- Company Maturity and Goals -- Worker

Demographics -- Geographic Characteristics (Urban versus Rural) --GLOBAL COMPETITION: CHALLENGES CONFRONTING AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS -- RESPONDING TO THE CHALLENGES -- A ROLE FOR INDUSTRIAL ASSISTANCE EFFORTS -- 2 Improving Manufacturing Performance in Smaller Firms -- BARRIER 1: DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT OF REGULATION -- The Barrier -- Opportunities for Resolution or Improvement -- BARRIER 2: LACK OF AWARENESS -- The Barrier --Opportunities for Resolution or Improvement -- BARRIER 3: ISOLATION -- The Barrier -- Opportunities for Resolution or Improvement --BARRIER 4: WHERE TO SEEK ADVICE -- The Barrier -- Opportunities for Resolution or Improvement -- BARRIER 5: SCARCITY OF CAPITAL -- The Barrier -- Opportunities for Resolution or Improvement --IMPLICATIONS FOR MANUFACTURING ASSISTANCE -- 3 Improving Manufacturing: Sources of Assistance for Smaller Companies --PRIVATE SECTOR ASSISTANCE -- Consultants -- Vendors and Suppliers of Technology -- Supplier Chains -- Professional and Trade Associations -- Books and Periodicals -- PUBLIC SECTOR ASSISTANCE -- State and Local Initiatives -- Universities. Technical Schools, Community Colleges, Apprenticeship Programs --Federal Programs -- Federal Laboratories -- Department of Defense --Department of Commerce -- National Center for Manufacturing Sciences (NCMS) -- Shared Manufacturing Facilities/Teaching Factories -- OTHER MODELS FOR COORDINATED MANUFACTURING ASSISTANCE -- Cooperative Extension Service -- Japanese Kohsetsushi Centers -- 4 Effectiveness of Manufacturing Technology Centers -- OBSERVATIONS REGARDING THE MTCS -- CONCLUSIONS -- 5 Conclusions and Recommendations -- RECOMMENDATIONS -- CONCLUSIONS -- 6 Minority Opinion -- APPENDIXES -- A Manufacturing Establishments by Size and State -- B Selected State and Local Programs -- QUALITY MANAGEMENT CONSORTIA (QMC) -- GEORGIA TECH INDUSTRIAL EXTENSION SERVICE -- PENNSYLVANIA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (PENNTAP) -- C Federal Register Notice and Procedure for MTC Selection -- References -- Bibliography.