

Tuesday, October 27, 2009, 10:50am EDT

Study: Florida MEP adds \$4.1B to economy

Orlando Business Journal

An independent evaluation of the Florida Manufacturing Extension Partnership found the Celebration-based organization generated \$4.1 billion in economic output and created or retained 21,534 jobs during the five years ending June 30.

The organization, an affiliate of the [National Institute of Standards and Technology](#) of the [U.S. Commerce Department](#), is part of a national network of manufacturing extension centers that assists small manufacturers. The survey results were based on assessments of 733 companies that were clients of the organization. The study also concluded that the organization's efforts boosted state and local tax revenues by \$114 million.

Gene Lussier, chairman of the partnership, said the federal agency contracted with a number of unnamed evaluators to prepare the report.