

WOMEN IN BUSINESS



KEP Team Members Attend 8th Annual Spirit of Women in Business Conference

On March 8, 2018, it was a great honor for eight of our team members to attend the 8th annual Spirit of Women in Business Conference. Hosted annually by the Kent State University College of Business Administration, The Spirit of Women in Business Conference brings together women from diverse professional backgrounds, active in companies, industries & communities, to share their accomplishments, ideas and stories.

The conference featured discussions with keynote speaker Liza Mundy, New York Times Bestselling Author and luncheon keynote Bec Pfeifer, Central market leader at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). There were also multiple breakout sessions, each with presentation options for attendees to choose from, depending upon which pertained most to their own professional and personal development.

It is always a wonderful privilege to be in the same room with inspirational women who are telling stories and giving examples of how to work to be more successful. In the breakout sessions we share common experiences, successes and tips with other professionals with similar issues and concerns, and give each other motivation to be the best we can be. KEP was a table sponsor this year—we have attended every year since inception. It was an enjoyable and uplifting day and our KEP ladies left feeling appreciated, motivated and inspired! [Read more about this conference in our Leader Views Blog.](#)

ABOUT KEP



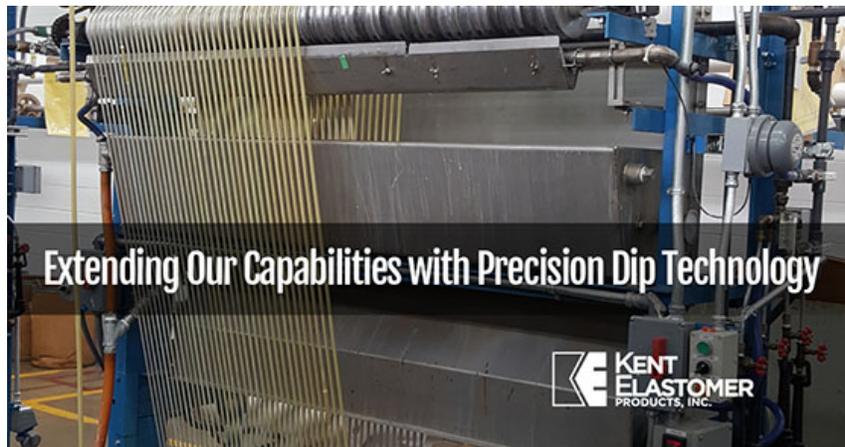
We welcome spring and all of the warm weather activities that we've been waiting to get back to for months! Let's get outside this month to hit the trails, the water, go to the game or plan activities that simply get us out into the fresh air. Plan a paintball excursion or the fishing trip of a lifetime – from paintball guns, spearguns and launching pads for model planes, to fishing line and exercise bands, KEP has all your hobbies covered.

Even when you hit the stadium, our products are there at the snack counters, in the bags of emergency responders and beyond. With quality, consistent food-grade tubing fans can rest assured that our products are efficiently dispensing their favorite food and beverages. Emergency responders in the stadium can also rest assured that our non-latex Free-Band tourniquet bands can help save lives.

As you get outside, do you have fitness goals in mind or resolutions you're working on? You can always go to the gym, but spring and summer are great for outdoor boot camps, pilates classes and more. Our flexible tubing is used indoors and outdoors in many applications. From resistance exercise bands to leashes for dog lovers, you'll never be too far from KEP.

Read more about how flexible tubing is used by the Sports and Leisure industry in a range of [athletic and fitness applications](#). We'll see you outside!

THIS MONTH'S KEP CHALLENGE



Our Director of Engineering & Maintenance, Reneé Onesti, says she loves KEP because of our drive to innovate and extend our capabilities in order to solve customer challenges. "We have leadership that is not willing to settle for mediocre – we all want to be the best. We can't be the best without making improvements," said Reneé.

Reneé credits Mark Velka, our Maintenance Coordinator, for keeping our Kent facility running efficiently and our equipment well maintained. As the brains behind many of the improvements in our plant, Mark has also led the maintenance team to build several new dip machines for latex tubing from scratch. With increased demand from customers, we needed to be able to manufacture larger orders, on shorter deadlines. Building new dip machines has not only helped expand our capabilities for our customers, but has allowed us to increase efficiency and share that savings with customers.

This is a big commitment from our company – it takes about four months to build a pair of machines. These new machines give us enough capacity for all current and anticipated latex tubing orders which gives our customers room to grow with us, resting assured that they are well taken care of!

TEAM MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Meet Carrie Ewart! Carrie joined the team back in 2009 as an Assembler at our Mogadore location. Carrie strives to be an asset for KEP and to be the best she can be in everything that she does. Carrie says she loves being a KEP team member and being able to see the process behind how things are made in our facilities. Read more about our featured employee Carrie on our Meet the Team page and in our [Leader Views Blog!](#)

PRODUCT FEATURE



We design and manufacture parts to fit the form and functionality of your application, no matter what industry you're in – from medical and surgical to sports and leisure. We always give our customers the edge in high-quality, durable dip-molded parts.

From prototype development to collaborating to keep you on schedule once production begins, our experience delivers custom dip-molded parts made to your exacting specifications, on time and on budget. Even if you're under a tight timeline our experts can help shorten product development cycles and speed up FDA qualification time if your product requires it. We also go to work to minimize start-up costs and streamline our processes to keep our customers on budget.

We have capabilities to produce unique shapes and sizes of dip-molded products, including probe covers, bellows, neck seals, and more. No specification is too stringent. Just tell us what you need, then in 3 stages, we'll get to work creating dip-molded product solutions with creativity and confidentiality:

- **Stage 1** - Consultation and Design
- **Stage 2** - Prototype Process
- **Stage 3** - Pricing and Lead Times

That's it! [Give KEP a call to get the conversation started about the dip-molded solution you need.](#)

