

 ABOUT US

Earth Day is coming up on Monday, April 22nd! From green manufacturing practices to continual efforts for energy savings in our facilities, KEP is always finding ways to reduce our environmental impact and run more efficiently. We sustain a level of excellence in environmental stewardship that helps reduce our use of resources so that we can pass along savings that affect our customers' bottom-line. See how we can do this in our [Leader Views Blog](#).

 LESSONS IN LEADERSHIP

Kent State University's College of Business Administration hosted the annual Spirit of Women in Business Conference on International Women's Day, March 8, 2019. Over 250 women from diverse industries and professions come together to hear speakers, to network, and to attend their topic of choice in smaller break-out sessions. This year was the 9th annual SWIB event, and Kent Elastomer Products, Inc has participated in the conference every year since its inception in 2011! Read more about this conference in our [Leader Views Blog](#).

## THIS MONTH'S KEP CHALLENGE



From updating our processes to building new spaces that reduce contaminants, KEP works to ensure product compliance for our customers, without the hassle! For our largest customer, we built a gowning hallway with stations to increase cleanliness by reducing the chances for potential contaminants to enter the room. That's just one example of the lengths we go to at KEP to manufacture high-quality products that meet customer and industry demands!

Recently, we had a cross-functional team working with a customer to improve surface conditions and remove contamination sources for their product. The team determined which departments need to be involved in the process and when. Maintenance put preventative maintenance procedures in place to periodically tear apart and clean equipment and Operations implemented new cleaning standards. The team also proposed new processes to reduce the product's surface tackiness. Finally, our Quality Assurance department worked through validation requirements for this customer, providing documentation and records. We have worked through many validation efforts with customers. As contract manufacturers, we are an extension of the customer.

A great benefit of doing business with KEP is quick, nimble, and thorough product validations on-time or ahead of schedule! Many of our customers tell us we help them to sleep well at night not worrying about unreliable suppliers holding up validation timelines they have to meet internally and with the FDA. [Ask KEP](#) how we can find the solution for your manufacturing need!



On our team for 17 years, Anne Miller currently works as a Diproom Operator at our Kent facility. Anne is responsible for ensuring high quality and consistency for our tubing products during the latex dipping process. Read more about Anne in our [Leader View Blog](#).



KEP's Kent and Winesburg facilities have a long list of team members celebrating anniversaries this April!! Whether they've shown KEP and their fellow team members 40 years of dedication, are coming to the end of a great first year, or fall somewhere in between, we appreciate all the hard work and passion each has brought to their role! Join us in congratulating these KEP team members:

**Ada Miller** - Winesburg - 40 years on 4/16

**Theresa Sexton** - Winesburg - 29 years on 4/16

**Cristal Westfall** - Winesburg - 24 years on 4/03

**Michael Brown** - Winesburg - 24 years on 4/20

**Jereme Markel** - Winesburg - 16 years on 4/07

**Rodney Brady** - Kent - 14 years on 4/05

**John Coss** - Kent - 12 years on 4/02

**Renee Onesti** - Kent - 12 years on 4/23

**Brian Davis** - Winesburg - 8 years on 4/11

**Anthony Hockenberry** - Kent - 3 years on 4/15

**Melissa Mandeville** - Winesburg - 2 years on 4/04

**Brandy Brewster** - Winesburg - 2 years on 4/26

**Spencer Martin** - Kent - 1 year on 4/10



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