

 ABOUT US

From the First Day of School to the Last



Back-to-school season is here! As students prepare for the 2019-20 school year and all that comes with it, KEP is also gearing up to support the next generation of scholars and athletes! Check out our [Leader Views Blog](#) to find out how we're doing this.

 LEADER VIEWS

Successfully Navigate the Uncertainty of Tariffs & Other Supply Chain Disruptions



The first United States Tariff Act was in 1789 and raised revenues for the new American government. Tariffs were imposed thirty-four more times in our

history – **ten times since Kent Elastomer Products (KEP) has been in business.**

In our own history, we have observed that **businesses with vision adopt methods to avoid uncertainty** for when the next tariffs – and other supply chain disruptions – **come along.**

KEP is one of them and we like to partner with manufacturers who share that vision.

Recent economic disruptions like tariffs or the silicone shortage cause complicated ripple effects in the supply chain. In the case of tariffs, there are time-consuming delays for customs inspections, or price changes that test relationships. All of this cause and effect results in one thing the business world dislikes: **Uncertainty.**

In business, risk is expected. But in this case, uncertainty is avoidable.

[Keep reading](#) to learn about three ways to avoid uncertainty in a global economy affected by tariffs and other supply chain disruptions.

CAPABILITIES SPOTLIGHT



 **KENT ELASTOMER PRODUCTS, INC.**

QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY ISN'T PART-TIME.
It's every time.

SERVICE YOU CAN SEE.

Bob Oborn
President and Lean Enthusiast

OPTION A

OPTION A

Our customers don't have a difficult decision to make when it comes to quality and efficiency – they either choose Option A or Option A. At KEP, there are no other options. We go above and beyond to deliver only the best products and services, every time.

We don't just follow the basics of lean manufacturing practices, we show our commitment to lean in *everything* we do. This means in addition to high quality products, our efficiency keeps us on schedule and on budget for our customers. [Ask KEP](#) how we can best serve your company!

THIS MONTH'S KEP CHALLENGE



We recently held a Kaizen at our Mogadore facility to address upcoming required changes in component needs as well as a change in the tubing used in assembly. After identifying that the method for transporting, accounting and staging of assembly components was not as lean as it could be, a team was put together with the responsibility of reviewing the current system. Their goals were to identify waste, implement changes to improve the process, reduce the component footprint in the warehouse, improve the flow of materials from the warehouse to assembly, and improve inventory accuracy. Read more about how our team worked to achieve these goals in our [Leader Views Blog](#).

TEAM MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS



Meet Santana Berish



Santana Berish is an Extrusion Operator at our Mogadore facility which manufactures and packages medical and food tubing. As a dedicated team member, Santana always gives her fullest effort in all the work she does.

Santana likes to get things right the first time and gets excited when she does just that on her production line. Her best day at work? “My best day was when I got my first extruder up and running with 14 pounds of material,” she said. Great work! Read more about Santana on our Meet the Team page and in our [Leader Views Blog](#).



Team Member News



We have some exciting updates to our KEP team that we would like to share! **Aaron Ng'ambi** was recently promoted to supervisor at our Winesburg facility after holding assembly, tender, utility and operator roles at both Mogadore and Kent. Aaron is excited to motivate his fellow team members to deliver quality results and for his expanded opportunity for learning and personal growth.

We also want to introduce a new addition to the KEP team, **Karly Rice**. As our new Sales Support Specialist, Karly provides assistance for customer orders, statuses and helps ensure they are fulfilled successfully and on schedule. Karly adds value to our company and our customers through her organization and follow-up.

Learn more about [Aaron](#) and [Karly](#) in our Leader Views Blog!



We have another great group of team members celebrating anniversaries this month – from those who have shown the company several decades of hard work to some newer additions to the team, we appreciate all of these hardworking individuals! Please join us in congratulating the following team members:

Curtis Dixon - Mogadore - 42 years on 8/23

Robert Oborn - Kent - 38 years on 8/24

Kenneth Robison - Kent - 34 years on 8/08

John Bragg - Mogadore - 31 years on 8/08

Carol Bockoven - Winesburg - 31 years on 8/15

Deborah Frazier - Winesburg - 31 years on 8/15

Mary Brady - Winesburg - 24 years on 8/14

Donald Leeper - Kent - 20 years on 8/23

Tina Long - Mogadore - 13 years on 8/14

Mark Velka - Kent - 12 years on 8/13

Patricia Patterson - Winesburg - 12 years on 8/28

Daniel Febres - Kent - 6 years on 8/26

Kristi McNemar - Mogadore - 5 years on 8/26

Cierra Rohrer - Winesburg - 4 years on 8/31

Lori Patton - Winesburg - 3 years on 8/11

Tanna Palmer - Winesburg - 2 years on 8/01

Diane Chewing - Winesburg - 2 years on 8/07

Annetta Kramer - Winesburg - 2 years on 8/15

Shane Dugan - Kent - 2 years on 8/21

Mitchell Hochstetler - Winesburg - 2 years on 8/23

Stacey Plank - Winesburg - 2 years on 8/23

Chad Kloboves - Kent - 1 year on 8/06

Michael Stecyk - Kent - 1 year on 8/13

Bradford Huntley - Kent - 1 year on 8/15



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