**The Company**
Eastman is a global advanced materials and specialty additives company that produces a broad range of products found in everyday items. With a portfolio of specialty businesses, Eastman works with customers to deliver innovative products and solutions while maintaining a commitment to safety and sustainability. As a globally diverse company, Eastman serves customers in more than 100 countries and had revenues of approximately $9 billion in 2016. Eastman’s site in Pace, Florida produces a range of amine products that are used in the food, feed, and agriculture markets.

**The Challenge**
Eastman augments internal training with local University of West Florida/FloridaMakes training opportunities to help retain employees with professional development classes.

**The Action Plan**
Eastman is a proud member of the Northwest Florida Manufacturers Council. Over the past year, Eastman sent 11 employees to various training classes offered at no cost through a partnership with the University of West Florida, FloridaMakes (Florida’s Manufacturing Extension Partnership), and the Northwest Florida Manufacturers Council. Knowledge gleaned from training courses such as Arc Flash, Process Mapping, Lean Six Sigma, and Project Management Professional was a direct contributing factor to increased sales and cost savings in labor, materials, and energy. Additionally, this knowledge will help retain several critical Northwest Florida jobs over the next 12 months. Due to the skills obtained in these training courses, Eastman also projects a significant increase in equipment investment at the Pace plant.

“As a member of the NWFMC, we have been able to participate in multiple training classes at no cost to our company. With the large selection of courses offered, it is easy to find material that our employees are interested in and that will benefit them and our company. The feedback from attendees has been nothing but positive. I have noticed that the knowledge they have gained from taking the courses is quickly put to use in allowing them to contribute at a higher level to the success of our facility,” said Wayne Henson, Site Manager.