



BIOGRAPHY

Chris Buchholdt Executive Director

Chris Buchholdt is the Alaska Manufacturing Extension Partnership, Inc. (AMEP) Executive Director. AMEP is one of 59 centers created by the National Institute of Standards and Technology's Manufacturing Extension Partnership. The Manufacturing Extension Partnership helps to increase the competitiveness of manufacturers by bridging the productivity gap, identifying opportunities for growth, and encouraging technology deployment.

A private 501(c)3 corporation created in 2004, AMEP is committed to developing the state's economy through the provision of technical, business and economic training and assistance to Alaska's small manufacturers and to rural Alaskans producing, marketing, and distributing Native art and other home-based manufactured products. AMEP receives federal and state funding.

As AMEP Executive Director, Buchholdt facilitates the implementation of AMEP's mission and vision through the creation of sustainable strategic alliances in the private and public sectors. As a lifelong Alaskan and small business person, Buchholdt has effectively steered AMEP through its start-up phases and implementation. He created the foundation to offer comprehensive and essential manufacturing technical assistance for the State of Alaska's economic development endeavors in both urban and rural settings.

Buchholdt earned a master of business administration from Alaska Pacific University and was a Hartig Fellow through the Commonwealth North program. As a fellow, he conducted social and economic research in the area of urban and rural unity. With more than 25 years of management experience in the tourism industry, Buchholdt has worked on projects in areas of economic development, business entrepreneurship, community planning, training, and mentorship programs. His broad range of skills when coupled with the AMEP program significantly impact Alaska's manufacturing community.

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