**Manufacturing Matters** 

# **Manufacturing is Dynamic...**

- Manufacturing is a critical piece of the local economy.
- The St. Catharines-Niagara region is home to 25,600 manufacturing workers.
- St. Catharines-Niagara boasts a diverse and capitalintensive manufacturing sector. One quarter of all manufacturing jobs are auto related and nearly one-fifth are found in metal production. Other key manufacturing sectors include food and beverage, machinery, petrochemical and paper.

## **Some Major Niagara Region Employers**

(500+ employees)

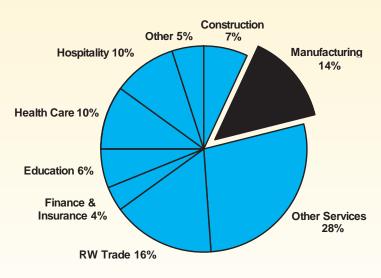
General Motors Dana Canada John Deere TRW Canada **GDX** Automotive E.S. Fox Parker Hannifin Edscha

Bosche Rexroth

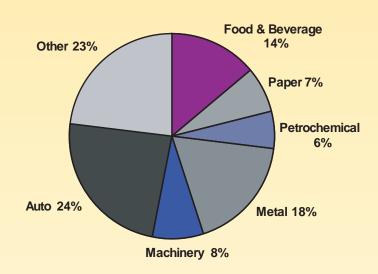
Venest Industries **Brunner Manufacturing** 

Source: Niagara Economic Development Corporation

### **Manufacturing Jobs:** A Lynch-Pin for Local Economy



#### **A Diverse Manufacturing Sector: A Balanced Mix**



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

# ... And Critical to the Local Economy

Manufacturing jobs in St. Catharines-Niagara account for:

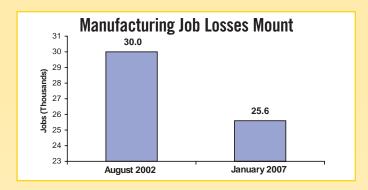
- About 1 in 7 area jobs.
- **18%** of local economy activity.

In 2006, St. Catharines-Niagara manufacturing workers:

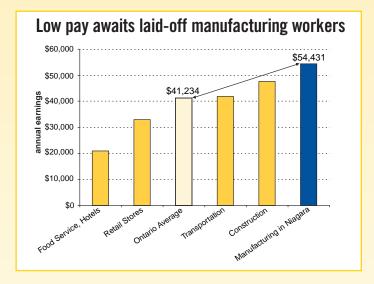
- Earned wages 24% higher than the Ontario average.
- Brought home paychecks worth \$1.5 billion.
- Contributed \$296 million to provincial and federal income taxes.
- Supported \$73 million in municipal property taxes.
- Generated \$10.3 billion in economic activity.

# The **Manufacturing Crisis** in St. Catharines-Niagara

- Manufacturing employment in the Niagara region has been on a steady decline over the past two decades, through plant closures, permanent layoffs and downsizing.
- In the late 1980s, manufacturing was dominant in the Niagara region accounting for 25% of total employment. That number has since dropped to just over 14% in 2006.
- The loss of **4,400** jobs since August 2002 has meant:
  - **\$239 million** less in annual payroll spending.
  - Chronic insecurity and uncertainty for workers and their families.
  - Retail and food service outlets, as well as local charities are all feeling the pinch.
- The loss of jobs has also had an negative impact on social services:
  - **\$49 million** lost in annual federal and provincial income tax.
  - \$12 million lost in annual contributions to CPP and El programs.



- **4,400** jobs lost from August 2002 to January 2007.
- A 15% decline in all regional manufacturing employment in the Niagara area.
- Manufacturing job losses have been compounded by a decline in other important industries, such as tourism and agriculture.



# Some of the Recent Events (2002-2007)

- General Motors announces plans to phase out small block engine, 900 job lost
- GM American Axle shuts its doors, 750 jobs lost
- Ferranti Packard closes lays off 275 workers
- Phantom Plastics goes bankrupt and leaves town shortly after company owner named Chamber of Commerce "Entrepreneur of the Year"
- Atlas Specialty Steel closes its Welland site, over 800 workers affected
- GM-Delphi closes 500 jobs lost
- Dana Corp announces major layoffs, over 600 workers affected
- Bazaar & Novelty closes, lays off 200 workers
- Affinia Group closes its brake drum and rotor facility, 250 jobs lost