



# Community Grants Program

New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYS P2I) provides financial and technical support for projects that raise awareness and understanding of pollution prevention practices and lead to implementation at the local level

## Spec It Green – The Local Advantage

### Organization & Contact Information

New York Industrial Retention Network (NYIRN)  
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### Project Description

NYIRN's mission is to strengthen the manufacturing sector and save well-paying manufacturing jobs, while furthering environmental justice and sustainable development. *Spec It Green: the Local Advantage* is an educational seminar series striving to educate New York City's building products manufacturing companies about the sustainable building sector through workshops and technical assistance, while simultaneously creating business development opportunities within the construction industry.

NYS P2I provided funding to NYIRN to create a series of workshops for downstate manufacturing organizations. Below is a brief summary of the workshop topics:

1. *Local Procurement Workshop* focused on increasing access to City and State government procurement for local vendors. Procurement agencies presented to NYC manufacturers about purchasing needs and process.
2. *Product Specifications Sheets Instructional Workshop* was dedicated to writing specification sheets to be used specifically in the green building industry.
3. *Green Product Certifications Workshop* discussed the green product certifications available and the costs and benefits of obtaining a certification based on product.
4. *Life Cycle Assessment for Building Products* defined life cycle analysis (LCA) and its role of in determining the environmental impact of a company's product and manufacturing process.
5. *Sustainable Textiles: Opportunities for the NYC Market* highlighted four presenters representing apparel and furnishing companies, a nonprofit, and a textile magazine summarized the basic definition of a sustainable textile to methods and strategies used in marketing, material selection, and sourcing.
6. *Green Manufacturing: Full Circle*: a roundtable workshop focused on three themes associated with green manufacturing: incentives, market, and innovate (a discussion about green practices companies can adopt today as well as more long-term strategies).



### Project Status

Over 170 attendees benefited from the workshops held by NYIRN! Not only was there collaboration between the public sector and public agencies, but also amongst business facing similar challenges.

