

## ! NWWPA Incentives

*The Northwest Commission can facilitate excellent incentive packages to qualified plastics businesses.*

*Major programs include:*

- **Keystone Opportunity Zones (KOZ):** KOZs represent the boldest, most forward-thinking economic development program in the nation. Through credits, waivers, and comprehensive deductions, total taxes on economic activity in KOZs are reduced to almost zero. These tax abatements remain in effect through 2013. NWPA has numerous designated zones.
- **Customized Training Programs:** The third largest program in the nation, the Customized Job Training program is responsive to employer needs by providing grant funds for specialized job training to existing or newly-hired employees.
- **Guaranteed Free Training Program:** Through the Workforce and Economic Development Network of PA (WEDnetPA), qualified companies may receive free job training for basic entry-level skills and advanced information technology skills for their employees. PA is the first state to offer advanced technology and business training online.
- **R&D Tax Credits:** Corporate income tax reductions for firms investing in research and development.

*A special thanks to the Plastics Technology Center (PTC) in Erie, for the distribution and sharing of inside photographs.*



# PLASTICS

## PlasticsIndustry

Northwest Pennsylvania as a  
Location for the Plastics Industry



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Data prepared by Carter & Burgess,  
Inc., a world-renowned architecture/  
engineering, real estate and site  
selection firm.

## Why choose Northwest Pennsylvania as a Location for the Plastics Industry?

Plastics is a long standing, dominant & traditional industry in the region & Northwest Pennsylvania has the potential & resources available to be your **best location** for this industry!

## What Cost Savings opportunities are available in Northwest Pennsylvania's (NWPA) Plastics field?

**Taxes:** Immense property and corporate tax abatements can be acquired by locating a firm within a Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ).

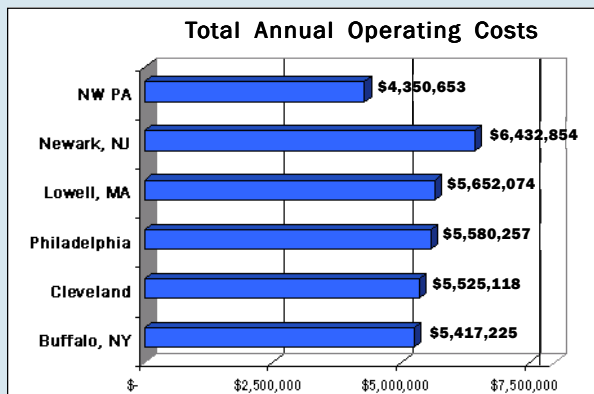
**Utilities:** NWPA has the lowest electric power rates compared to the other five competing locations due to attractive incentive rates.

**Cost of Living:** With the U.S. average at 100%, NWPA is the only area rating under the U.S. average, at 99.7%. (Source: ERI)

**Build-to-Suit:** Due to the low cost of prime industrial sites and lower construction costs, NWPA's building - related costs are ranked the lowest.

**Labor:** NWPA has the lowest overall labor cost of the five competing areas.

**Operating Costs:** NWPA has the lowest cost locale in the Plastics field. (see chart)



## Plastics Manufacturing is a Strong Growth Industry

**for NWPA!** The Plastics sector has increased productivity in the region, going from an average annual output per employee of \$36,828 in 1993 to \$67,559 in 2003. This represents annual growth of 5.7%.



## Leading Northwest Pennsylvania Plastics Resources!

NWPA offers valuable resources supporting future plastics sector development: *Knowledge Park (Penn State, Erie); Plastics Computer-Aided Engineering Center (Penn State, Erie); Plastics Technology Center (Penn State, Erie); Historic foundations of innovative plastics manufacturing in the Erie area; Favorable access to both raw material and equipment suppliers to the industry in PA, OH, MI, and other states.*



## ! NW Pennsylvania's Strengths for Plastics Firms

- The low cost area versus all comparison cities.
- Excellent proximity to regional plastics centers.
- Growing presence of biomedical operations.
- Outstanding educational and training resources.
- Good site and build-to-suit opportunities.
- Great financial and training incentives to help firms with start-up and expansion.
- Outstanding professional resources that are ready, willing and able to assist firms.
- Reasonable cost of living.

