Warmest Thoughts and Best Wishes 
for a Wonderful Holiday 
and a Very Happy New Year.

7 New Year's Resolutions That Will Change Your Small Business in 2018
When you hear the phrase, "New Year's Resolutions," you probably think about losing
can also create impactful resolutions for your small business. A resolution, after all, is a decision to do something differently to bring about positive change.

So, if you are ready to make some powerful changes in your small business, here are seven possible resolutions you should set this year.

In December, Impact Washington celebrated with Cacade Gasket as they were awarded Seattle Business Magazine's 2017 Family Business Awards, in Business Growth. Read all about it here.

Holiday Food Safety Success Kit
Many people don't realize that food safety is the most important ingredient in preparing food for the holidays. Below are some helpful food safety resources to keep your holidays happy.

The Holiday Food Safety Success Kit, developed by the non-profit Partnership for Food Safety Education, provides tips on how to make sure holiday meals are safe as well as delicious. Recipes, shopping checklist, food safety tips, and children's activities are included in the multi-media program.
market intelligence to guide future activity.
As part of the NIST MEP client survey, we ask MEP Center clients to identify the top three challenges their companies face over the next three years from a pre-determined list. We’ve been asking this question for nine years and thousands of clients take the time to give us their thoughts. The specific challenges have changed as the economy and economic environment has changed, but some of the challenges have been enduring (continuous improvement, growth, etc.) and others have become more (or less) important over time. Read more here.

Attacks on the Food Supply: How Terrorists Enter into the Equation
There is both good news and bad news on the terrorism front. ISIS is now being defeated on the battlefield, but the group remains dangerous. Despite that, it is important to realize that our food supply remains vulnerable.

In early September of this year, for example, ISIS called for its supporters to target “unbelievers” (i.e., the West) by injecting poisons (such as cyanide) into fruits and vegetables or containers of ice cream found in supermarkets and grocery stores. The chance of ISIS
Q&A With Sarah Stuart is a monthly blog feature. This month, let guest writer Geoff Lawrence help your company be prepared for the upcoming DFARS deadline or any other Cybersecurity issues that you may face.
Submit your question HERE for an answer from our resource partners and on-staff experts on anything related to manufacturing. YOU have questions: WE have answers. View last month’s Q&A.

DFARS CYBER SECURITY COMPLIANCE COUNTDOWN – ARE YOU READY?
On December 30, 2015, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) published a three-page interim rule to the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) that gives all Department of Defense (DoD), General Services Administration (GSA) and NASA contractors a deadline of December 31, 2017 to implement the requirements of the National Institute of Standards and Technology’s (NIST) ability to obtain other toxic chemicals is not. ISIS has also called for additional attacks on markets, restaurants, clubs and bars. The numbers of victims in these types of venues are actually quite stunning. Many of the attacks, including those that occurred in London and Paris, started or ended in and around restaurants. Food- and drink-related venues offer advantages in the adversary’s favor. Because they are places where people congregate socially, situational awareness is often lacking or impaired, making patrons more vulnerable. Read more here.

Washington’s 9th annual Manufacturing Awards program recognizes companies making important progress in productivity, growth, and innovation. Considered the Oscars for Washington state manufacturers, companies will be honored in seven categories: Manufacturing Company of the Year, Executive of the Year, Innovation of the Year, Food & Beverage Processor of the Year, Emerging Manufacturer of the Year, Building Trades Manufacturer of the Year, and Nonprofit of the Year.
Go HERE to nominate a company or for more information. Deadline is January 10, 2018.
confidentiality of Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) in non-federal systems and organizations. If you are a government contractor, failure to meet these requirements could put these contracts in jeopardy. If you’re like many businesses you may be stuck, may not know what is expected, or even know how to get started. We can help! Just click the button below to be connected with our experts!

Learn About Our Made in Washington Program
Manufacturing is a vital arm of Washington's economy, and it's our mission to support and energize our local industry. The Made in Washington program is a free service to the community that certifies, promotes, and connects Washington State manufacturers. Check out our directory of Made in Washington businesses, or get certified and listed today! The program is at no cost to join and includes such benefits as listing in our on-line guide and use of the Made in Washington logo on your website. For more information or to sign up, visit our Made in Washington page.
Happy Holidays From impact Washington!

Impact Washington hosts events on many topics, including LEAN, ISO, FSMA, and many more. Please check our Events page for our latest offerings and to register. We look forward to seeing you!

Submissions are welcomed!
Please submit entries or report errors to our newsletter editor.

Schedule a Free Business Consultation Today!

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