



From left to right: PA Representative Tim Briggs, Director of Engineering at GWES West Point Doug Chubb, PA Senator Amanda Cappelletti, PA House Majority Leader Matt Bradford, Business Manager of the Steamfitters Local 420 Jim Snell, Director of State Government Affairs Dom Argento, and PA Representative Napoleon Nelson.

LABOR AND INDUSTRY WORKING TOGETHER IN PENNSYLVANIA

On Thursday, September 21, 2023, Steamfitters Local 420 hosted a facility tour for industry leaders, union representatives, and legislators to convene and highlight the partnership between the biopharmaceutical industry and skilled union labor. Industry partners included Merck, Lilly, GSK, and others.

Kicking off the event, Chris Molineaux, representing Life Sciences Pennsylvania (LSPA), delivered an opening address that unveiled significant figures and project statistics from PILMA's report analyzing investment by pharmaceutical companies in union construction spending from 2015 – 2020. The biopharmaceutical industry in Pennsylvania supported more than 7.2 million labor hours and \$85.4 million in total union earnings during that time.

Jim Snell, Steamfitters Local 420 Business Manager, took the stage next, emphasizing the pharmaceutical industry's paramount importance for his union and the broader building trades community within the state. He underscored the industry's value and the necessity of safeguarding Pennsylvania's union construction jobs.

Matt Bradford, Pennsylvania House Majority Leader, articulated the impact of the biopharmaceutical industry on Pennsylvania, addressing job creation, tax contributions, and overall investment.

A steamfitter member shared her experience working with member companies, such as Merck and Johnson & Johnson. Her insights shed light on the valuable contributions of the building trades to this industry.

The tour illustrated the synergistic relationship between biopharmaceutical companies and skilled union labor. It underscored union and industry's commitment to driving Pennsylvania's economic growth and job market resilience and to developing lifesaving medicines.

"Pennsylvania is fortunate to have a large skilled workforce of building trade organizations throughout the state. They are instrumental to the strength and growth of the life sciences industry, and this industry could not exist without trade unions."

Dom Argento
Director of State
Government Affairs
& Policy, Merck