**SSE JOINS WITH MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS TO HELP BUSINESSES MEET NEW CYBERSECURITY STANDARDS**

*St. Louis-based SSE Inc. to provide expert training and solutions for manufacturers facing U.S. Department of Defense’s stringent, new cybersecurity regulations*

**ST. LOUIS, MO – January 25, 2021** – [SSE](https://www.sseinc.com/), a St. Louis-based leader in cybersecurity, compliance and technology solutions across multiple industries, and the [Missouri Association of Manufacturers](https://www.mamstrong.org/) (MAM) today announced the launch of new training and IT and cybersecurity solutions for Missouri manufacturers.

The partnership arrives as the U.S. Department of Defense works to strengthen cybersecurity practices across its supply chain through [implementation of the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification](https://www.sseinc.com/category/blog/) (CMMC), which defines policy-assurance standards for all businesses in the defense industrial base working DOD contracts.

Effective November 2020, all DOD contractors and subcontractors must now demonstrate their cybersecurity controls and policies comply with the standards specified in NIST 800-171 – the first step in CMMC implementation. Failure to comply with these requirements could result in business delays, ineligibility for future DOD contracts or litigation.

“The cybersecurity landscape is complex and constantly evolving,” said Michael Eaton, Executive Director of MAM. “Whether they’re working with the DOD directly or as a subcontractor, Missouri manufacturers need to be prepared to meet these requirements. As a long-time DOD contractor, SSE has a proven track record and established processes for helping businesses unravel the most complex IT and cybersecurity challenges, and we are pleased to provide our members with their trusted expertise.”

Designed to help manufacturers assess and improve their cybersecurity and fast-track their journey to CMMC compliance, the partnership between SSE and MAM provides members with exclusive access to training, webinars and SSE’s team of technology and security professionals for customized advice and best practices.

“While the initial regulations went into effect in November, our internal surveys show substantial confusion and lack of preparation still exists among contactors,” said Elizabeth Niedringhaus, President and CEO of SSE. “With the strong presence of Missouri manufacturers across the Defense Industrial Base, SSE looks forward to working with MAM to help Missouri manufacturers avoid the expense, delays and risks of noncompliance with CMMC and gain a competitive advantage moving forward.”

To learn more about SSE and MAM’s partnership, <https://www.mamstrong.org/cybersecurity>.

**About SSE, Inc.**

SSE is a certified Women-Owned Small Business headquartered in St. Louis, MO with over 30 years of experience in both the technology and training industries. SSE has been recognized as a leader in IT and training solutions; most recently in the top 100 of all IT managed service providers worldwide by MSPMentor. Serving clients across multiple industries, SSE has a robust network and cybersecurity services practice that is focused on compliance. As an ISO 9001:2015 certified organization, SSE has not only the technical expertise, but the disciplined processes and business maturity to deliver world-class solutions.

**About The Missouri Association of Manufacturers**

The Missouri Association of Manufacturers is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization comprised solely of Missouri manufacturers and dedicated to promoting, preserving and advancing manufacturing. Founded in 1993, the organization has experienced steady growth through its singular focus on meeting the needs of manufacturers. The Missouri Association of Manufacturers provides focused legislative advocacy for the growth and development of Missouri’s manufacturing sector, a critical component of a vibrant economy. MAM also utilizes its strength in numbers to establish strategic partnerships and create exclusive benefit programs that offer lower pricing or greater advantages to members.

**Media Contact**

Emily Acquisto, Fleishman Hillard, 314.560.8329, Emily.acquisto@fleishman.com

Robert Duffy, Vice President of Sales and Marketing, SSE, Robert.Duffy@sseinc.com

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