

Oregon Business Plan Cluster Submission Form

Part I: General Background

Please provide general information about your cluster. Please include as much of the following information as possible.

- Cluster Name/Industry: Oregon Metals Industry Council (OMIC)
- Cluster Facilitators' or Coordinators' Names: Jim Denham, President of OMIC; Mark Nelson, OMIC Executive Director, Public Affairs Counsel; Bill Linden, Lobbyist, Public Affairs Counsel
- Phone Number(s): 503-363-7084
- Email Address(es): pacounsel@pacounsel.org
- Key Leaders or Members of the Cluster Organization: OMIC member companies: ESCO (Brian Krytenberg and Carter Webb); Oregon Steel Mills (Debbie Deetz-Silva); N.W. Aluminum (Randy Ridgely); Schnitzer Steel (Tom Zelenka); Wah Chang (Jim Denham); Boeing (Liz Warman and Don Hendrickson); Gunderson (Howard Werth); Northwest Aluminum (Galen May)
- Geographic Location: Member company offices primarily in Metro area. Efforts underway to recruit new members across the state. Administrative office located in Salem.
- Sponsoring Organization(s): NA
- Number of Members and/or Constituents Served: Eight member companies directly and all companies in the metals industry in Oregon indirectly.
- Level of Cluster Organization Development (ie. not yet organized, loosely organized, well-established and already organized, etc.): Loosely organized.

- Organizational Structure (ie. Informal meetings, non-profit, trade association, etc.): not-for-profit corporation
- Mission or Purpose: To advocate for state legislation and state administrative regulations that will enhance the business climate in Oregon for OMIC's member companies and the entire metals industry in the state.

Please describe the process used to complete this form. Who was involved? How were priorities established?

The OMIC Board of Directors was involved in the development of these responses with assistance from Public Affairs Counsel staff. The final priorities were authorized by the Board.

Is there any other information that we should know about your cluster?

OMIC was formed in 1990 to advocate for the metals industry at the Oregon State Legislature and before state administrative agencies. Its Board of Directors meets every other month to discuss current issues and formulate Council positions. These Board meetings are on a monthly basis during legislative sessions.

Part II: Oregon's Business Climate

Please tell us how Oregon rates in each of the Four Ps. (People, Place, Productivity, Pioneering Innovation).

Rate Oregon's performance as a place to do business in each area from 0-5 (5 = best, 0 = worst). The following elements are categorized according to the Four P's of the Oregon Business Plan:

People

- Technical Training _____
- Adult Literacy _____
- Pre K-12 Education _____
- Public Safety _____

Place

- Recreation _____
- Environmental Quality _____
- Quality Communities _____
- Natural Resource Utilization _____

Productivity

- Business Costs _____
- Regulatory Environment _____
- Personal Taxes _____
- Infrastructure _____

Pioneering Innovation

- International Trade _____
- Entrepreneurial Vitality _____
- Innovation Capacity _____
- Higher Education _____

Are there any additional areas that we need to address?

State taxation policies are extremely critical to the business climate for metals companies in Oregon. These policies need to be balanced and offer incentives for companies who have chosen to invest in workforce and facilities in Oregon.

Environmental policies, legislative and administrative, also need to be balanced so as not to place metals companies in Oregon at competitive disadvantages in the domestic and international markets in which they operate.

Is there one area that stands out as the most critical to your industry's competitiveness?

As mentioned above, balanced policies at the state legislative and administrative levels are critical to the competitiveness of the metals industry in Oregon.

Additional Comments or Explanations:

Part III: OBP Core Initiatives

The Oregon Business Plan's main agenda is to consider and advocate for specific initiatives—policies and actions— that help achieve the conditions necessary for traded sector businesses to thrive. We need you to prioritize your top concerns from among the current OBP Initiatives and the Potential 2006 OBP Initiatives. Please use the grid on the following page to let us know which Core Initiatives you'd like to see included in the 2006 OBP Agenda and use the space below to comment on your choices.

For more information or details about the Oregon Business Plan initiatives, please visit www.oregonbusinessplan.org.

Are there any additional initiatives that should be considered?

Is there one initiative that is critical to your industry's competitiveness?

Additional Comments or Explanations:

Part III: OBP Core Initiatives (continued)

A.) Rank your top FIVE (put a “1”, “2”, “3”, “4”, or “5” in the appropriate boxes in the left column) AND

B.) For EVERY initiative, identify how important the initiative is to your industry (put a “√” in the appropriate box).

Rank Top 5	CURRENT OBP INITIATIVES	Extremely Important	Important.	Not Very Important	Not Important At All.
	IMPROVE PUBLIC FINANCE AND SERVICES.	X			
	EXPAND OREGON'S CAPACITY FOR ECONOMIC INNOVATION.	X			
	ACHIEVE A HIGHER RETURN ON OREGON'S INVESTMENT IN PREK-20 EDUCATION.		X		
	ENHANCE OREGON'S FOREST RESOURCE BENEFITS.		X		
	ENHANCE OREGON'S TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE.	X			
	MAKE LAND AVAILABLE FOR TRADED-SECTOR INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT.		X		
1	SIMPLIFY AND STREAMLINE REGULATION AND PERMITTING.	X			
	IMPROVE HEALTHCARE AND CONTROL ITS COSTS.		X		
	BRAND AND MARKET OREGON MORE AGGRESSIVELY.		X		
	2006 OBP POTENTIAL INITIATIVES		X		
	DRUG USE		X		
2	WATER POLICY	X			
4	ENERGY	X			
	TELECOMMUNICATIONS		X		
5	HIGH PERFORMANCE MANUFACTURING	X			
3	TARGETED WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT				
	OTHER				

Part IV: Specific Cluster Initiatives

In addition to telling us about your industry's general priorities and concerns by evaluating the OBP Core Initiatives, please prioritize the specific action items, policies, opportunities, or programs that would enhance your industry's competitiveness. (ie. Build a new research center, create a forum for networking, develop an industry marketing campaign, design a ballot initiative to implement a new policy, etc.) You may list as many as you like (use the back or an additional page if you have more than three), but please list them in priority order as we will select the top priorities for the 2006 OBP Agenda and keep all proposals in consideration for future years. Your list should include well-defined, measurable action items that you would like the OBP to support.

Promote state legislation, relating to taxation and other relevant issues, that improves the climate for businesses in the metals industry to operate and invest in Oregon.

Promote state and local regulations applicable to the metals industry that are reasonable, balanced and enhance the state's business climate.

Improve public recognition of the metal industry's importance to Oregon's economy.

Support efforts to enhance workforce development efforts that will benefit the metals industry specifically and the manufacturing sector of the economy generally.

Support efforts to develop the Northwest center for Manufacturing and Infrastructure concept through the Manufacturing 21 Coalition.

Part V: Oregon Business Plan Leadership Summit Participation

At the Oregon Business Plan Leadership Summit, we'd like to feature the work that Oregon's organized clusters are accomplishing and show how organizing within the industry has improved your competitiveness. In addition to highlighting a few of Oregon's Cluster Development efforts during the presentation portion of the program, we are considering making space available for break-out sessions for several of the cluster organizations.

If there is time available at the Oregon Business Plan Summit, would your organization like to give a brief presentation about your cluster?

Yes

If space is available, would your cluster benefit from a break-out session where Summit attendees could learn more about your cluster's goals, challenges, and needs?

Yes

Are there any audiences you would particularly like to reach at the Summit?

Metals industry businesses who are not currently partners in OMIC's legislative and regulatory efforts.

Please submit your completed OBP Submission Form by October 20, 2005 to:

Oregon Business Plan Submissions
Oregon Business Council
1100 SW Sixth Ave. Suite 1608
Portland, OR 97204-1090