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BLOG: GLOBE MANUFACTURING, PITTSFIELD, NH

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By GSA Veronica Molloy, Southern NH University Class of 2014

"What do people do for employment here in NH?" This is a question often asked of NHGSAs by our visitors from around the U.S.A. and the world. Clearly, we can point to our shipyard in Portsmouth, BAE Systems in Southern NH, ARMI and Dyn/Oracle in Manchester, Tourism at the Lakes and North, and the many fine colleges and Universities, SNHU, UNH, St. Anselm College, Dartmouth and more. But, what about our very health small businesses located both in Cities, Towns and along the byways of rural NH?

Personally, Globe Manufacturing in Pittsfield NH is one of my favorite small business enterprises. I visited Globe on last Thursday under the auspices of Osher School of Life Long Learning, Granite State College. Generations of the Freese family have built this manufacturing operation that makes suits and boots for firefighters and they ship all over the world. Recently acquired by MSA, Globe can also clean and repair your suit.



I know you're thinking of the suits worn by the firefighters in your town, but some of suits go to oil rich countries in the Mideast, to raging forest fires, and you can bet that some Globe suits go to high rise building fires in big Cities like NYC. Each suit is customized for the type and size of pockets needed for varied types of radios, flashlights and more. At Globe it's said that they "build" each fireman's suit. At the high end, a firefighter's suit, known as "turn out" gear, can cost as much as \$3,000.

Personally, I am impressed with the Globe Manufacturing sense of a corporate mission and team attitude to produce the best quality "turn out" gear a firefighter needs to do the job. Globe employs 300

people in NH and 50 in Maine crafting firefighter boots. For more information about Globe MSA visit: <http://globeturnoutgear.com/>

Photo Notations: The suits and boots (3 sets) demonstrate different kinds of material at different fire resistant levels. The darker Brownish suit is actually a fibre called "black gold" which is most fire resistant. The fibre display is what is used for the tan colored suit, the G1-Extreme!





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