

Experience Real-World Impact with PA-RTF: A Partnership Built for Success

The Pennsylvania Robotics & Technology Fellowship (PA-RTF) program is all about connection—bringing together small and medium-sized manufacturers in the Pittsburgh region with talented grad students from the University of Pittsburgh. The result? Real solutions to real business challenges, created hand-in-hand with the next generation of innovative thinkers.

For businesses, this is more than just a collaboration. It's an opportunity to get fresh, actionable ideas tailored to your needs. For students, it's a chance to step into the real world, solving the kinds of problems they'll face in their careers. It is a win-win partnership, where everyone walks away stronger.



HERE'S AN IN-DEPTH GLANCE AT THE RECENT ACTIVITIES OF PA-RTF TEAMS:**pathVu: Smarter Sidewalk Solutions**

pathVu is helping cities rethink sidewalks and curb ramps. When they needed a better way to gather data on curb ramps, a PA-RTF team stepped in. After testing tools like LiDAR and photogrammetry, they found LiDAR to be the perfect fit—offering accuracy, scalability, and flexibility. The team even created a step-by-step guide to streamline future data collection. Now, pathVu is better equipped to make sidewalks accessible for all.

**Stellar Precision Components: Making Scheduling a Breeze**

When Stellar Precision wanted to improve its scheduling system, PA-RTF students got to work. They started by digging into Stellar's current process, spotting areas where automation could make life easier. The result? A Python-based tool that keeps schedules organized, tracks daily metrics, and ensures everything runs smoothly. With this new system, Stellar is set to save time, boost efficiency, and focus on what they do best.

**DMI Companies, Inc.: Understanding Customers, Building Better Products**

DMI Custom Sealants needed to understand what their customers wanted. The PA-RTF team delivered, uncovering regional preferences and trends like a demand for eco-friendly materials and longer product shelf lives. Their recommendations? Tailored product options and a plan to improve lead times. DMI now has a roadmap for success, built on insights they didn't have before.

WHY PA-RTF?

For manufacturers, PA-RTF is an easy way to tackle challenges with a fresh perspective—and discover talented students who could be your next hires. For students, it's a chance to get hands-on experience solving real-world problems. Together, we're building solutions that work today and inspire tomorrow.

Sound like something you'd like to be part of? Let's talk. Visit [PA-RTF Website](#) or email **Matt Minner** at mminner@catalystconnection.org to learn more.