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Behind the gloomy statistics about Ohio's manufacturing job losses ["In Toledo, Promises of Change Ring Hollow," front page, Feb. 24] is a real silver lining that is helping small and medium-sized manufacturing companies regain their competitive footing.

In keeping with Ohio's heritage as the birthplace of many technological innovations, our "Blue Collar Computing" program is making technology that was once the preserve of Fortune 500 companies and federal research labs more accessible, affordable and scalable to companies of all sizes. High-performance computing allows engineers and researchers to quickly test virtual prototypes, and advanced simulation allows companies to choose the most efficient production methods. This reduces the time, effort and cost needed to bring a product to market. Simulation, analysis and validation all improve manufacturing efficiency, productivity and the bottom line.

Technology is the key to revitalizing the manufacturing base, and Ohio's innovations are becoming the envy of other states. Presidential candidates should take notice.

STANLEY AHALT

Executive Director

Ohio Supercomputer Center

Columbus, Ohio

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