

Energy Industry Overview Map - AI Data Centers: Steel Infrastructure

written by Lauri Moon | August 7, 2025



**ENERGY &
MANUFACTURING®**
— in Appalachia —

This webinar will focus on the structural steel, racking and enclosures required to construct and operate AI Data Centers. Structural steel enables rapid, scalable, and cost-effective data center construction with strong support for heavy equipment. Racking systems optimize space, support high equipment loads, and enhance airflow for efficient cooling and maintenance. Enclosures and server cabinets improve equipment security, protect against environmental hazards, and enable precise airflow control. Modern racks and enclosures support advanced cable management, hot-aisle/cold-aisle configurations, and customization for evolving data center needs. The webinar will explore these specific opportunities, market size, growth rate, and how manufacturers can engage in the supply chain.

The Energy & Manufacturing in Appalachia (EMA) project helps manufactures understand and navigate opportunities in the vast energy supply chains. The EMA team, along with outside experts, have developed supply chain maps for each energy segment or sub-segment to help manufacturers navigate these industry sectors.

The supply chain maps provide introductory overview of the market size, key drivers, supply chain needs, and components for each of the specific segments. Additional resources are provided to learn more about the industry and keep up to date on the latest advancements, opportunities, and potential funding opportunities

as well.

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The AI Data Centers: Steel Infrastructure was drafted by Dr. Deborah Stine. Deb is the Founder of the Science & Technology Policy Academy which provides independent consulting, policy analysis, program evaluation, freelance writing, teaching, and coaching services. Previously, she served in the Obama White House as Executive Director of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) that led to the establishment of the Advanced Manufacturing Partnership and the creation of the Manufacturing USA Institutes.