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This Week's Top Story | May 8, 2026

## MetalMiner Insight U.S. DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT SIGNALS SHIFT FOR CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS

### MetalMiner Insight: U.S. Defense Production Act Signals Shift for Canadian Manufacturers

A new U.S. policy push could reshape the competitive landscape for Canadian manufacturers serving the grid infrastructure market. President Trump's Defense Production Act determination on grid equipment and supply chains signals a clear shift toward domestic production of transformers and related electrical infrastructure, prioritizing local sourcing, expanded capacity, and shorter lead times.

According to analysis from MetalMiner, the implications are mixed. While increased preference for U.S.-based production could intensify competition, opportunities remain where domestic capacity gaps persist. At the same time, key input metals including copper, aluminum, and grain-oriented electrical steel (GOES) are entering this phase from already volatile conditions. Despite strong gains over the past six months, near-term forecasts point to softer pricing. This reinforces the need to closely track lead times, conversion costs, and supplier dynamics alongside benchmark prices.

This is the type of insight available through EFC's partnership with MetalMiner. While the full program offers deeper, data-driven forecasting and analysis, EFC members benefit from discounted access to tools and reports designed to support more informed procurement and planning decisions.

[Learn more about the EFC MetalMiner Program](#) | [Read the full MetalMiner insight](#)

## Industry News

*EFC Industry Conference*

**Opportunity for Conference Attendees** – Take advantage of a special opportunity from the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21. Submit a free Scotiabank Family History Centre research request in advance to explore your family's immigration history: <https://pier21.ca/sfhc-research-request>. Requests submitted by May 17 will be ready for the June 2 Opening Reception event, while later submissions (up to May 23) will be mailed after. Optional records and ship photos are available for an additional cost. Submissions close May 23!

**EFC Represents Industry on National EV Infrastructure Strategy:** EFC's Director of Government Affairs, Cherith Sinasac, appeared before the House of Commons INDU Committee on Monday to highlight the need for a coordinated, future-ready EV charging strategy. EFC emphasized interoperability, EV-ready buildings (especially MURBs), and targeted investments like ZEVIP recapitalization and expanded tax credits. The message is clear: Canada's biggest barrier is not technology, but fragmentation—presenting a major opportunity for the electrical sector to lead in building a connected, scalable EV ecosystem. Read the full article [here](#). For more information, please reach out to Cherith Sinasac [csinasac@electrofed.com](mailto:csinasac@electrofed.com)

**Canadian Government Announces Steel, Aluminum and Copper Supports** – On May 3, 2026, Ministers Joly and Solomon announced \$1.5 billion in new measures to support industries affected by recent U.S. tariffs on steel, aluminum, and copper – [Read more on EFC's Tariff Hub](#)

**LAST CALL: Quebec Women's Network Presents The Ferron Sisters + Lean In Activity | May 14** – The Quebec Women's Network committee invites you to an enriching and welcoming day, beginning with a presentation by the Ferron Sisters, followed by a full cocktail reception with refreshing beverages, and concluding with our popular Lean In group discussion activity. [Register now](#)

**National YPN Day Quebec | June 10** – Quebec's YPN committee invites you to celebrate young professionals with a day of guest speakers, donations to the Quebec Diversity and Equity scholarship, and industry networking. The day will include three speakers, lunch, a professional business photo service and more. This event is exclusively for YPN members (40 and under) [Register now](#)

**2026 Ontario Region Golf Tournament | June 16** – EFC's Ontario Region is thrilled to invite you to our Annual Golf Tournament on June 16 at the beautiful Nobleton Lakes Golf Club. Spend the day networking with industry peers, and having friendly competition on the fairways. Whether you're swinging to finish on top or simply out to enjoy a great day of golf, this is an event you won't want to miss! Spaces are limited – secure your spot today! [Register now](#)

**Desdowd Announces New Representation in Quebec** – [Read more](#)

**Leviton - Certolux | Visioneering Welcomes Shawn Wallace as Business Development Manager** – [Read more](#)

**Will Carlton Joins Roney Marketing's Team to Cover Golden Horseshoe Territory** – [Read more](#)

**Michael DiLoreto Promoted to Branch Manager of ECS's Hamilton Location** – [Read more](#)

**Specialized Power Solutions Strengthens Sales Team with Appointment of Jonathan Udy** – [Press release](#)

**RENO Lighting Celebrates 10 Years** – [View the LinkedIn post](#)

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**Ontario Expands Temporary Layoff Rules** – Recent changes to Ontario's Employment Standards Act, 2000 (ESA) have introduced an extended temporary layoff framework. The changes are now in effect and are relevant for employers managing restructuring or economic challenges. [Read more](#)