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Quest Thermal CEO Alan Kopelove meets with Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker at CEO Roundtable

BOULDER — The nation's secretary of commerce said Thursday that the U.S. needs to increase the stature of manufacturing jobs, a statement that struck a chord with local and state business leaders who met with the newly minted Cabinet official.

U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker held a roundtable at Ball Aerospace & Technologies, which followed a tour of Ball. The visit to Boulder-based Ball kicked off a nationwide tour for the new secretary.

During the roundtable — which was closed to the news media — Ball Aerospace president Rob Strain said Pritzker expressed strong interest in creating jobs "across all levels." He said before leaving the meeting that Pritzker said, "We have to get back to a place where manufacturing is cool again." "She had a particular interest in making sure training is available for manufacturing jobs," Strain said.

Alan Kopelove, Quest Thermal CEO, represented small businesses at the CEO Roundtable, in which businesses of all sizes and industries discussed with Secretary Pritzker how Commerce can help American companies by more competitive, roadblocks to global trade, and how to increase American manufacturing.

Alan notes that the Secretary was extremely down to earth, quite approachable, and interested in hearing how the Department of Commerce can help companies.



Quest Thermal Group CEO Alan Kopelove (sitting at far end of table) at the CEO Roundtable with Secretary Penny Pritzker (center at right side of table).