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Fathom leaders said the company is well positioned to grow, given its expertise in producing intricate components at scale. (Photo by Andrea Deckert)

Fathom targets aerospace, defense growth with its regional operations

Andrea Deckert // March 30, 2026 // 3 Minute Read



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Key takeaways:

- Fathom Digital Manufacturing Corp. is positioning its Rochester/Finger Lakes operations as a central driver of future expansion, particularly in aerospace and defense.
- Rising needs across aerospace and defense for precision engineering, advanced manufacturing and resilient supply chains are fueling the company's push to expand capabilities.
- The company emphasizes a blend of advanced processes and human expertise to deliver high-specification parts.

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- Leadership cited the region’s skilled workforce, manufacturing heritage and proximity to partners as key competitive strengths.

A Wisconsin-based contract manufacturer is making a push to expand its capabilities for aerospace and defense customers, with leadership identifying its Rochester/Finger Lakes operations as a key driver of future growth.

“This area has such a rich history of innovation,” said Rush LaSelle, CEO of Fathom Digital Manufacturing Corp. “We see big opportunities.”

The interest comes amid rising demand across aerospace and defense sectors for advanced manufacturing, precision engineering and more resilient supply chains. By enhancing its capabilities, Fathom aims to better support complex, high-specification projects while strengthening relationships with strategic customers, he noted.



Rush LaSelle

LaSelle was in Rochester for The Manufacturing Exchange: Rochester, The Art of Precision Manufacturing, a program the company held on March 25 at ARTISANworks.

The event brought together engineers, manufacturers and industry colleagues and featured gallery-style displays of precision components produced at Fathom’s New York facilities.

Featured work included fine-feature photochemical etched components measured in microns, tight-tolerance sheet metal assemblies and intricate metal parts requiring advanced process control.

LaSelle emphasized that each component reflects a blend of material science, engineering intent and manufacturing judgment—an approach underscored by the gallery setting.

“It really highlights that what we do is both technical and artistic,” he noted.

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Fathom's recent open house at ARTISANworks showcased components made at its facilities in Newark and Ithaca. (Photo by Andrea Deckert)

The evening also included a live recording of the Manufacturing Happy Hour podcast, hosted by Chris Luecke, which featured a conversation about the Sisterhood of Trades, a community for tradeswomen, and a panel of manufacturing experts exploring the evolving balance between automation and human expertise in modern manufacturing.

Fathom operates eight locations across the United States and maintains a global sourcing network. Its capabilities include 3D printing, CNC machining, injection molding and rapid tooling, serving industries including automotive, defense, medical, **semiconductor** and technology.

In New York, the company employs roughly 40 people across two operations. Its Newark-based Newcut operation specializes in photochemical etching, producing thin, highly detailed metal components. Its Ithaca-based operation, Incodema, focuses on precision sheet metal fabrication, delivering tight-tolerance parts and assemblies.

LaSelle pointed to the Rochester/Finger Lakes region as a competitive advantage for the firm, citing its skilled workforce, deep manufacturing heritage and proximity to key partners.

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The company expects its local operations to play a pivotal role in scaling new technologies, production processes and program support aligned with its broader growth strategy and LaSelle anticipates expanding its footprint along the Rochester–Syracuse manufacturing corridor.

The strategy reflects a wider national trend, as manufacturers increase investments to meet evolving defense requirements and growing aerospace demand, while leveraging regional

hubs like Rochester to accelerate innovation and execution.

Odin Wojcik, general manager of Fathom’s New York operations, said the company is well positioned to grow by applying its expertise in producing intricate components at scale.

“We are small, but mighty,” Wojcik said.

He added that regional momentum extends beyond any single project, citing Micron Technology’s planned semiconductor megafab in Clay, Onondaga County as one example of broader opportunity, but emphasized that growth is already underway.

“There is a lot of potential, but you don’t have to wait for Micron,” Wojcik said. “There’s a lot happening right now.”

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