

Success in Manufacturing begins in Kitchener-Waterloo

Conference will bring both information and inspiration to Canadian companies looking to achieve operational excellence.

Over 500 leaders in manufacturing and service operations will learn from each other about competing to win an increasingly global marketplace.

“Whether competing against China or the world, success in manufacturing begins at home,” says David Hogg, conference co-chair and president of the High Performance Manufacturing Consortium (HPM), a 15-member group of companies who come together regularly to leverage and learn from each other using shared resources and experience.

“This sobering conference about getting your house in order is right for the times. Its theme speaks volumes, since conventional wisdom for this four-day conference indicates that 40 to 70 percent of the waste in our companies is there because we live in it every day – and we just cannot see it,” adds Hogg.

Joe Fisher is Manager of Operational Excellence for the Canadian Operations of Eaton Electrical, as well as co-chair for the conference. “It is time to take a hard look at just how robust and capable your processes are right inside your building,” he emphasizes. “I can think of no worse tragedy than landing an exciting international contract and finding that home processes are not scalable or good enough.”

There are no two companies in the world that are the same and, within most companies, employees are at differing levels. Attending a conference such as this, prepared with pre-set objectives of what you want to know, will sharpen the mind to find new answers by networking with peers and learning from the insights presented by keynotes.

MEASURE

FOR SUCCESS

The 2006 AME Canadian Lean Conference, in partnership with Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters, will take place June 12-15, 2006 at the Delta Kitchener Hotel in Kitchener, Ontario. For more information visit the conference web site at www.measureupforsuccess.com.

WHY SHOULD PEOPLE ATTEND THIS CONFERENCE?

To accelerate the implementation of lean into any company – bring the entire team to hear the vision. The challenge of how to accelerate the rate of change in our companies is a very real competitive issue. We know that when change meets culture – culture wins every time. And because of this, there are few approaches more powerful than having one's full team participate in the right events. AME Conferences are characterized by having all Best Practice presentations delivered by company employees and leaders – an approach that generates openness as attendees are listening to peers with everything to share and nothing to sell. As the team experiences the explosion of ideas

and concepts – its solutions will be richer and their commitment to better solutions enhanced.

To network with 600 practitioners who aren't shy about sharing what works – and what doesn't.

Last year's conference in Edmonton drew 596 people from 26 U.S. states, eight Canadian provinces, and five countries. This year the University of Cardiff Lean Masters program - the only program of its kind in the world - is sending their own delegation. And there are times in our growth that we need to hear ideas from other than our 'every day leaders'.

To select from 80 learning opportunities, plus an opportunity

for organizational leaders to calibrate their vision as they hear Dr. Jim Womack in a more intimate setting at the June 12th “Lean Leaders Night.” Opportunities also include 36 practitioner-led best practice sessions; nine keynotes from international experts including Dr. Jim Womack, co-author of Lean Thinking and founder of the Lean Enterprise Institute; 15 workshops offered by leading providers; 16 plant tours including Toyota's Lexus facility; and new to this year's conference, four “Accelerated Learning Experiences” (ALEs), offsite full-day learning experiences which will combine a workshop, plant tour and facilitated discussion along with specific exercises – which will have participants

come away with a 20-day action plan to implement the tools learned.

To understand why competition is now “infrastructure vs. infrastructure” and we are all in this together. Attendees will see enterprise-wide lean applications in manufacturing, service, healthcare, construction, military, and more.

To see first hand what the new AME/SME/Shingo Prize lean certification program is all about. The conference will host the first Canadian testing site for the recently launched Lean Certification program, which provides a standard for continuous improvement in industry.