THE 12 PRINCIPLES OF MANUFACTURING EXCELLENCE: HOW TO ACHIEVE AND SUSTAIN EXCELLENCE
May 13-14 | Athens, GA

With the 12 Manufacturing Principles as the path to excellence, Lean and Six Sigma tools are fundamental to not only achieving excellence but, most importantly, to sustaining excellence for the long haul. Creating the necessary infrastructure with systems, training, maintenance and communications is also essential. Finally, changing the culture on the shop floor is also critical for any plant that is serious about sustaining excellence. Along the way participants will develop a better understanding of how the Plant Manager and his/her team make it all happen.

MORE INFO: http://www.ame.org/events/12-principles-manufacturing-excellence-how-achieve-and-sustain-excellence

Sign Up Now! Call AME at 224.232.5980.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lean Bronze Portfolio Rapid Review</td>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
<td>$345</td>
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<tr>
<td>AME Measure Up For Success</td>
<td>May 5-8</td>
<td>Mississauga, ON</td>
<td>$1,495</td>
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<td>Accounting for Lean Enterprise</td>
<td>May 6-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lean Boot Camp</td>
<td>May 12-16</td>
<td>Auburn, AL</td>
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<td>12 PRINCIPLES OF MFG EXCELLENCE</td>
<td>May 13-14</td>
<td>Athens, GA</td>
<td>$545</td>
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<tr>
<td>AME International Conference</td>
<td>November 10-14</td>
<td>Jacksonville, FL</td>
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EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE MEASURE UP FOR SUCCESS CONFERENCE AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE. CALL AME AT 224-232-5980 FOR INFORMATION.

To sign up for AME events, contact AME at 224-232-5980. To host an AME event in your area contact a SE Region Director in your state.
UPCOMING EVENTS

LEAN BRONZE PORTFOLIO WRITING & RAPID REVIEW

May 3 | Dallas, TX

Knock Out Your Lean Bronze Portfolio!!

- Reduce the frustration trying to complete your Lean Bronze Portfolio solo
- Compress the lead time for completing your portfolio
- Be mentored from experienced portfolio reviewers

Obtain valuable information & coaching that may enable a first-time pass of the portfolio review portion of your Lean Bronze certification. For those that bring a draft of all five projects to the course, turn-around of portfolio review may come in as little as 24 hours!! Don't miss this opportunity to gain real-time insight and review of your Lean portfolio.

- All participants should come with at least one project documented on the formal Bronze Portfolio review
- Those who wish to have their portfolio reviewed as part of the session should have the entire Bronze Portfolio completed including education, five projects and reflection
- Bring your portfolio in an electronic format to simplify revisions based on portfolio reviewer feedback

MORE INFO:  http://www.ame.org/events/lean-bronze-portfolio-writing-and-rapid-review

Sign Up Now! Call AME at 224.232.5980.

AME is pleased to announce the launch of a new resource to help AME members access the knowledge and expertise of your peers - the Benchmarking Community of Practice Query System. Developed in conjunction with APQC, this self-service portal will allow you to submit questions you have concerning best practices in manufacturing, lean, productivity, process management and much more. Once submitted, your question will be distributed to Benchmarking Community of Practice and you will be notified when a response is posted.

Not only are you able to submit questions online through the portal, you can also search the library of past queries to find out what your peers have been asking as well as the responses. It's like Facebook for operations professionals - a community of peers sharing knowledge to help each other learn and grow.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact Jerrianne Strohmeyer, AME Benchmarking CoP Coordinator, at jstrohmeyer@ame.org or (224) 232-5980 ext. 222.
UPCOMING EVENTS

LEAN BOOT CAMP
May 12-16 | Auburn, AL

EVENT DESCRIPTION
Lean is a systematic approach to eliminating waste and creating flow within an organization to improve overall customer value. Learn to produce more and be more efficient by eliminating non-value-added activities. Our Lean manufacturing training employs the proven techniques pioneered by Toyota to improve any process -- from manufacturing, to service industries, to medical organizations. Our training can assist companies in saving time, money, and precious resources through creating the most efficient work force possible. Benefits of implementing these techniques include savings on turnover expenses, increased profitability, reduction in inventory, increased productivity, reduced set up and lead times, improved costs, and increased employee involvement.

Topics include
• Introduction to Lean & Toyota Kata
• Lean Management System
• 8 Step Problem Solving
• 5S, Standards and Training Within Industry
• Teambuilding & Culture
• Value Stream Mapping
• Quick Changeover

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
• Senior Management
• Production & Operations Managers
• Maintenance Managers
• Lean & Team Leaders
• Supervisors
• Trainers
• Manufacturing Engineers

WHY ATTEND?
• Reduce Costs & Increase Efficiency
• Stabilize Processes & Increase Quality
• Compress Lead Time
• Create an Organizational Culture of Problem Solving and Daily Operational Improvement

MORE INFO: http://www.ame.org/events/lean-boot-camp-0

Sign Up Now!
Call AME at 224.232.5980.
UPCOMING EVENTS

THE 12 PRINCIPLES OF MANUFACTURING EXCELLENCE
HOW TO ACHIEVE AND SUSTAIN EXCELLENCE
May 13-14 | Athens, GA

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION
This highly interactive workshop focuses on Larry E. Fast’s 12 Principles of Manufacturing Excellence. Each principle is addressed in detail and demonstrates how plants evolve from Stage 1 or Stage 2 plants, i.e. very traditional, under-performing manufacturing plants, as they transition into Stage 3 and, ultimately, Stage 4 plants that are globally competitive and delivering world-class results. It is a proven, auditable process in both union and non-union plants that has yielded numerous award winning operations as well as saved other plants from closure all across North America. Based on feedback from prior workshops, it is being expanded from a 1 day to a 1.5 day workshop to address the necessary mindset for leadership and to allow more detailed discussions re: the Principles and how to use the Manufacturing Excellence Audit tool.

HOST COMPANY
Power Partners, Inc. is a leading manufacturer of overhead distribution transformers, serving utility, industrial and commercial customers in North America, Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean and other markets. More than 8,500,000 transformers have been produced in the Athens, Georgia plant. Power Partners is a part of the PPI family of companies. PPI’s vision is transforming the world through innovative manufacturing.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
• Vice Presidents of Manufacturing, Operations and Engineering
• Plant Managers, Plant Manager’s Staff-level Managers
• Supervisors, or other salaried associates who seek a better understanding of manufacturing excellence and their role in making it all happen.
• Hourly Associates are always welcome.

WHY ATTEND?
• Understand the 12 Principles of Manufacturing Excellence and your role in helping to achieve and sustain excellence.
• Learn how to sustain excellence using Lean and Six Sigma tools and the Manufacturing Excellence Audit to create the necessary infrastructure that includes standard work, training, communications, PM and the like.
• Learn how execution of the 12 Principles results in the necessary culture change from senior management to the shop floor—OLPC, Operator-Led Process Control.

MORE INFO:
http://www.ame.org/events/12-principles-manufacturing-excellence-how-achieve-and-sustain-excellence

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AME WEBINAR SERIES

Each month world recognized speakers will be making 1-hour presentations representing a wide variety of topics. Authors, Shingo Prize recipients, and thought leaders in their respective areas form the line-up of presenters. Webinars are very modestly priced at $25 for members, $50 for non-members and free for corporate members. The webinar series is just one way that AME is trying to increase the value it delivers to its members, and better fulfill its mission of “Share-Learn-Grow”. So gather up some colleagues at your organization and register for a webinar today.

The upcoming line-up includes:

- 2 Second Lean: Unraveling the Mystery of Building a Lean Culture: May 8
- Adapting Lean for High Mix / Low Volume: June 3

Go to http://www.ame.org/webinars for more details on these and other webinars scheduled through the year.

Five Benefits of Hosting a Regional Event

1 - As a host you can select the subject. Identify a “gap” in existing knowledge or Experience within your organization. AME will bring in a facilitator to teach the host participants as well as the other attendees.

2 - Hosting an application based event (e.g. a kaizen event) will provide the Host company with Tangible improvements in the selected area. Attendees from other companies will be valuable resources during the event to implement real change. AME will bring in a facilitator if required.

3 - Build your network of fellow Continuous Improvement and Operational Excellence professionals that will provide continued benefits long after the Event

4 - Receive suggestions for improvement from attendees after a tour of the Host facility

5 - Use the event as a “rallying point” for the organization to progress to the next level in Your quest for Operational Excellence, or to reinvigorate a stalled effort.

Value Stream Mapping, Lean Office, Pull Systems, TPM, TWI, Daily Visual Management – whatever the subject area - AME can help you close an Existing knowledge gap. Contact Southeast Program Director, Larry Fast, email: larry@pathwaysllc.net to discuss the possibility of holding an event at your facility.
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THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!
How to Host a Successful Student Tour

Are you planning to host a plant visit as you reach out to area students – potential hires – and educators? Lisa Rawcliffe, continuous improvement manager at Kennedy Valve in Elmira, NY recently shared “lessons learned” from a successful student open house and tour for area students. Kennedy Valve, with approximately 250 employees, is a foundry and finishing operation owned by privately-held McWane Corporation. The plant visitors included about 30 chemistry, metal shop and CAD students from Williamson High School in Tioga, PA and their teachers, representatives from Corning Community College’s manufacturing tech program and a bus driver.

Starting the event with a virtual tour of the entire foundry end-to-end processes (charging the furnace, pouring iron etc.) and presentations by executives and others from multiple functions gave the students an overview of typical tasks in the facility. A tour of the shop floor followed by discussion about career opportunities rounded out the get-together. The students each received a water bottle and a lunch cooler imprinted with the Kennedy Valve logo.

“We spoke with educators up front to learn what students are interested in,” said Rawcliffe. “Then we looked for ways in our presentations and discussion to tie the reality about our processes to their studies, clubs and activities.”

Emphasizing a good work ethic plus the need for communication and teamwork skills rather than exclusively focusing on technical capabilities was a good strategy. “Students might feel that they have limited opportunities with only a high school degree,” said Rawcliffe. “We wanted to share information with the students about opportunities to grow in this company and other companies – to think about their careers. The sky’s the limit, if you can get past the barrier of your fear of the unknown. We look at this outreach program as a win for Kennedy and as a win for the students.”

Sharing information about jobs employing cutting-edge technology helps the company as it seeks new hires.

“It was important for the kids to have a clear understanding of what employers are looking for in future applicants, regardless of what they are choosing to do,” said Kathy Helgemo, a Williamson High School chemistry teacher who coordinated the student program with Rawcliffe. “We wanted them to understand about the importance of their core foundation of education plus communication and teamwork skills, so they can take ideas and solve problems to generate a viable product – and have the potential to move up through the ranks.” The students commented among themselves that the Kennedy visit was one of their best trips because they could see how their efforts in high school can open doors for their future employment, she said. Helgemo may facilitate a later visit with the high school chemistry students by Kennedy employees working in metallurgy-related jobs.

Lea Tonkin, editor, AME regional newsletters, is the president of Lea Tonkin Communications. Note: Manufacturing as a career path is one of AME’s key result areas.
AME CORPORATE MEMBER BENEFITS

As a Corporate member all of your employees may attend AME events, including conferences and workshops at AME member rates. Five key contacts within your organization will become full AME members and receive the following:

- Access to the Benchmarking Community of Practice Query program and a website query library.
- Subscription to the award winning publication Target magazine and monthly online newsletter Target Online.
- Access to the website portal on AME.org for Target magazine and Target Online along with complete archives of both publications.
- Participate in monthly AME webinars for free.
- A free single registration for a 1-day regional workshop for Site Members and three free single registrations for a 1-day regional workshop for Enterprise Members in their inaugural membership year.
- Online access to future benchmarking and lean assessment tools.

Corporate Membership Options:

**Site Membership**
A site is defined as a single physical location or campus with multiple plants/facilities within a short distance from each other. **All employees** at your site can attend AME events at the AME member rate. A one year AME Corporate Site Membership is only $1,000. Multi-year discounts are also available.

**Enterprise Membership**
An Enterprise includes all of the corporation’s facilities within North America. Each facility can identify 5 employees to become full members in AME and **all employees** can attend AME events at the AME member rate. A one year AME Corporate Enterprise Membership is only $5,000. Multi-year discounts are also available.

For additional information or to join: Contact Robert Carlson, AME Business Development Manager at 224-232-5980, ext. 227 or rcarlson@ame.org.

REFER A MEMBER

As an AME member you know that a strong community of professionals dedicated to enterprise excellence is at the core of our Association. But did you know that the best way to maximize your benefits within this network, is to expand it? When you serve as an AME ambassador, you not only help enhance the resources you need to excel in your career, you also help us make a stronger impact on our vital industry.

Learn more at [http://www.ame.org/refer-member](http://www.ame.org/refer-member)
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AME VISION
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• Practitioner Focused
• Integrity & Trust
• Passion for Excellence
• Engaging & Welcoming