AME MANUFACTURING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The AME 2014 Manufacturing Excellence Award recipients will be honored at the AME International Excellence Inside Conference November 10-14, 2014 in Jacksonville, FL.

To learn more about the AME Manufacturing Excellence Model or the Awards process, visit http://www.ame.org/ame-manufacturing-excellence-award.

Intent to apply applications are due January 31 and the achievement reports are due March 14.

November 10-14
Register at www.amejacksonville.org

Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sigma By the Slice</td>
<td>January 29</td>
<td>Columbus, OH</td>
<td>$395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tour Honda of America</td>
<td>February 4</td>
<td>Anna, OH</td>
<td>$295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Cellular Approach</td>
<td>February 24</td>
<td>Indianapolis, IN</td>
<td>$295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AME Innovation Summit</td>
<td>March 13-14</td>
<td>Irving, CA</td>
<td>$895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lean Leadership, Lean Culture</td>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>Grand Rapid, MI</td>
<td>$295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AME Measure Up For Success</td>
<td>May 5-8</td>
<td>Mississauga, ON</td>
<td>$1495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building an Engaged Team</td>
<td>June 17</td>
<td>South Bend, IN</td>
<td>$495</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE SUMMIT, 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 Great Lakes Region Director.
UPCOMING EVENTS

SIGMA BY THE SLICE: AN INTERACTIVE INTRODUCTION TO DATA ANALYSIS
January 29 | Columbus, OH

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION
Pete’s Pizza is an interactive case study used to introduce students to the DMAIC methodology. Pete’s Pizza, an established local restaurant, has begun to lose market share. Students must identify causes for declines in revenue from survey data, create value stream maps of the pizza making process, apply data analysis to understand root cause(s) and apply countermeasures to improve the process. To participate in the class you must have a PC with Excel. Recommended audience: students wanting to improve their analytical skills, students wanting an introduction to DMAIC, or students wanting to understanding how lean and six sigma fit together.

FOR MORE INFO: http://www.ame.org/events/sigma-slice-interactive-introduction-data-analysis

TOUR HONDA OF AMERICA
February 4 | Anna, OH

Powering every Honda vehicle is a state-of-the-art engine. More than one million engines are produced annually at Honda’s Anna Engine Plant in Ohio.

How does Honda continually introduce the latest automotive powertrain technology while meeting customer demands, fuel efficiency mandates and other regulatory requirements? You will see, first-hand, how raw material is turned into a completed engine and understand how the Anna Engine Plant supplies engines to its manufacturing customers on a daily basis, manages plant expansions, and grows associate talent. Sign up early for this must-see tour – space is limited.

HOST COMPANY

Honda of America Manufacturing, Inc.

Since opening its doors in 1985, the Honda Anna Engine Plant has grown from humble beginnings, with just 100 associates, into Honda’s largest engine plant in the world, with 2400 associates and an annual capacity of 1.18 million engines. Associates at the plant produce fuel-efficient V6 and four-cylinder automobile engines for a wide variety of Honda and Acura passenger cars and light trucks which are produced at international and North American Honda plants, mainly those in Ohio, Alabama, Indiana, and Canada.

FOR MORE INFO: http://www.ame.org/content/tour-honda-america

Sign Up Now! Call AME at 224.232.5980.
UPCOMING EVENTS

THE CELLULAR APPROACH: THE LATEST EXCELLENCE IN MANUFACTURING
February 24 | Indianapolis, IN

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION
At Estes Design & Manufacturing, continuous improvement is a top priority. The company is in the process of changing over its facility from a traditional job shop to a cellular manufacturing shop, which is Estes’ latest phase in its lean journey. At this event, you will see how Estes has incorporated automation, laser welding and cellular application into its manufacturing processes. You will also get the opportunity to participate in a collaborative session with an expert in cell manufacturing, David Faust, President of Ro12 Enterprises. This event will give you the opportunity to learn how new technology and processes can yield long-lasting results for both your business and your customers.

FOR MORE INFO: http://www.ame.org/events/cellular-approach-latest-excellence-manufacturing

---

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 (such as 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 continue to provide 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 your 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 Great Lakes Region President, Mick Wilz, email: mick@sur-seal.com, to discuss the possibility of holding an Event at your facility.

---

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
LEAN LEADERSHIP, LEAN CULTURE
March 14 | Grand Rapids, MI

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION
This half-day workshop will explore the many management tools and leadership skills Micron Manufacturing has used to develop a unique continuous improvement culture. From a one-page strategic plan to G4 teams to creative reward and recognition systems the Micron culture is engaging. Seeing the “pig powered” continuous improvement process alone is fun and inspiring. Of course leader standard work and visual management play a part in their success and will be reviewed during the tour. The purpose of the workshop is to expose participants to the methods and tools Micron has used over the years to develop their culture through deliberate practice on a daily basis.

PRESENTER
Dan Vermeesch is the Plant Manager of Micron Manufacturing. In the office, Dan facilitates Micron’s management team. Outside the office, he travels the country giving presentations on lean principles, lean manufacturing, strategic planning and all kinds of other fun stuff.

Rick Fleming is a lean coach & facilitator for CI Associates. He’s had the privilege of working with Micron Manufacturing for more than 10 years. Rick is a lead instructor for Grand Rapid Community College’s Lean Certification Program and a Shingo Prize Examiner.

HOST COMPANY
Micron Manufacturing, Inc. is a precision machining company that offers both engineering expertise and manufacturing capabilities. Whether you need a fairly common part like a bushing, connector or fastener or an extremely complex piece requiring a tough material and tight tolerances, our team will make it happen. Micron received the Shingo Silver Medallion Award honoring our efforts toward lean manufacturing. We speak at conferences on the subject and believe by sharing what we know, everyone will be better off.

WHY ATTEND?
• Hear about a lean implementation journey that led to recognition by the Shingo Institute
• Experience a unique team culture and management approach that inspires you to think outside the box.
• Discuss behavioral aspects of leadership and management tools to support behavioral change.
• Learn new ideas about incorporating visual management into your leadership practices.

Sign Up Now! Call AME at 224.232.5980.
BUILDING AN ENGAGED TEAM TAKES TEAMWORK
June 17 | South Bend, IN

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION
Engagement is not the "flavor of the month" project. Engagement is about a business model that is built on trust and understands that employees are their greatest assets. There are other business models that are based on money, products or service, profit margins or customers. All have strengths and weaknesses -- there is no right or wrong. This workshop will focus on a business model where an organization will run by an engaged workforce, where teams have a deep sense of purpose and passion for what they do everyday. By achieving this, everyone understands the role they play and everyone wins.

PRESENTER
Mick Wilz is the Director of Enterprise Excellence and co-owner of Sur-Seal Corporation in Cincinnati Ohio where he is twenty-two year veteran of all aspects of manufacturing. He is widely known for his use of Legos to create a hands-on visual model of Sur-Seal to aid in the transition of the production floor.

HOST
Innovation Park at Notre Dame is a unique business incubator designed to cultivate marketable innovations in an inspiring environment, with access to Notre Dame cutting-edge research, world-class faculty and students, and the global network of Notre Dame entrepreneurial veterans. In simple terms Innovation Park CONNECTS aspiring entrepreneurs with ND faculty, students and other resources to COLLABORATE with Notre Dame industry experts to COMMERCIALIZE the new venture successfully.

WHY ATTEND?
• You will understand how to hold a well organized discussion group
• A starting point for building and engaged work force
• Leadership that ignites passion
• People skills that build trust
• How to light the fire within them, not under them
• Getting the best out of every team member
• What make your team members tick
• Understanding that values are the missing link
• Making work meaningful for everyone

FOR MORE INFO: http://www.ame.org/content/building-engaged-team-takes-team-work
AME WEBINAR SERIES

Each month world recognized speakers will be making one-hour presentations representing a wide variety of topics. Authors, Shingo Prize recipients, and thought leaders in their respective areas form the lineup 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 AME is enhancing the value it delivers to its members while fulfilling its mission of “Share-Learn-Grow.” So, gather together some colleagues at your organization and register for a webinar today!

The lineup includes:
• Pull/Kanban Systems: January 16
• Introduction to the Harada Method: January 31
• Taking Lean Beyond Cost Reduction to Top Line Growth: February 27
• Using Visual Management to Drive Continuous Improvement: April 11

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

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.
Come On Over: Why You Should Host a Regional Event

Need feedback on ways to streamline a clumsy process? Looking to update your knowledge on an improvement tool? Could your lean journey-weary associates benefit from a well-deserved “Atta-way!” cheer by fellow practitioners? Get out of your discomfort zone (“Why us?”) and consider the value of hosting a regional event.

“Hosting a regional event focused on leadership practices that build sustainable results was a big win for BuildASign.com and our team,” said Nick Swerdfeger, chief operations officer of the Austin, TX-based company. “We were able to leverage some of the initiatives we had begun with input from attendees during the tour of the facility. Being early in our lean journey, this was a great opportunity for our team to showcase the company culture, our commitment to continuous improvement (CI) and some of the great things we have in place for visual management. The bigger benefit was the perspective gained on the path still ahead and on how much we can still improve, based on the conversations and feedback from attendees.”

BuildASign.com associates netted a list of action items and sketches for visual management systems that they could implement for more standardized reporting and measurement across various product lines, thanks to attendee suggestions. The company creates banners, signs, prints and other products. Swerdfeger said visitors shared counsel about value stream mapping (VSM), leader standard work and policy deployment.

“We also gained a sense of shared ownership with our team,” Swerdfeger said. “It created another level of CI excitement. We were helping to share, learn and grow.” The experience was positive, motivating the team to continue on the lean journey.

Jenny Snow-Boscolo, Terex business system consultant based in Redmond, WA, reported that annually hosting regional events during the past several years “helped us to take our blinders off, looking from a different perspective” during the preparation for the sessions and the actual event. “That’s always a good experience. We tend to be hard on ourselves,” said Snow-Boscolo. “It gives us some recognition of the hard work we’ve done (on the company’s version of a lean enterprise system), and the accomplishments we’ve made.” Terex manufactures aerial platforms, construction cranes and other equipment.

Noting that she values “every piece of feedback” from regional events at Terex, Snow-Boscolo said she’s modified presentation topics based on attendees’ comments and feedback received from annual member surveys in the Western Region. For company leadership considering whether to host an AME regional event, she suggested contacting the company’s AME regional president or other board members and discussing potential value for customers/attendees and the host site.

*Lea Tonkin, editor, AME regional newsletters, is the president of Lea Tonkin Communications.*
EXCELLENCE IN THE SOUTHEAST | Volume 27 • Issue 11

Manufacturing’s On Fire – Spread the Word!
Southeast Region | November 2013

STRATEGIC SUCCESS THROUGH PEOPLE-POWERED EXCELLENCE

AMEJACKSONVILLE2014
SHARE•LEARN•GROW™
NOVEMBER 10-14

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT PERIOD
THROUGH MARCH 31, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1-9</th>
<th>10-24</th>
<th>25+ INTERNATIONAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FULL PRICE IS $2,399</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAVE $2,199</td>
<td>$2,099</td>
<td>$2,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAVE $400</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AMEJACKSONVILLE.ORG

“What lies behind you and what lies in front of you pales in comparison to what lies inside of you.” Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Adapt or perish, now as ever, is nature’s inexorable imperative.” H. G. Wells
**AME Great Lakes Region Board of Directors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>INDIANA</strong></th>
<th><strong>OHIO</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jim Orbik</td>
<td>Mick Wilz (President)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:jorbik@nauticglobalgroup.com">jorbik@nauticglobalgroup.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:mick@sur-seal.com">mick@sur-seal.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Walsh</td>
<td>Greg Bruns (Immediate Past President)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:kwalsh@neoindustriesllc.com">kwalsh@neoindustriesllc.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:greg.bruns@crown.com">greg.bruns@crown.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Huntzinger</td>
<td>Becky Morgan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:jim@leanaccountingsummit.com">jim@leanaccountingsummit.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:morgan@fulcrumcwi.com">morgan@fulcrumcwi.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Whitby</td>
<td>Larry Coburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:david.whitby@amgeneral.com">david.whitby@amgeneral.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:larry.coburn@spanglercandy.com">larry.coburn@spanglercandy.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Balsmeyer</td>
<td>Peg Pennington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:mbalsmeyer@jasperengines.com">mbalsmeyer@jasperengines.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:pennington.84@osu.edu">pennington.84@osu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Roper</td>
<td>Mike Snell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:proper@ctbinc.com">proper@ctbinc.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:msnell@silfex.com">msnell@silfex.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly Raugh</td>
<td>Chris Bardeggia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:Kelly.Raugh@carrier.utc.com">Kelly.Raugh@carrier.utc.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:chris.bardeggia@faurecia.com">chris.bardeggia@faurecia.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Richard Fleming</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|                   | cia_richard@yahoo.com

**AME MISSION**

Inspire a commitment to Enterprise Excellence through Experiential Learning by bringing people together to Share, Learn and GROW.

**AME VISION**

A Manufacturing Renaissance driven by People-Centric Leadership coupled with Enterprise Excellence.

**CORE VALUES**

- Volunteerism
- Practitioner Focused
- Integrity & Trust
- Passion for Excellence
- Engaging & Welcoming