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**Lean
Construction
Institute**

Transforming Design and Construction

Lean Accreditation

Lean accreditation was among the topics of a recent board meeting in which we established a committee to consider a path forward for LCI in this area. Some of the suggested models for structuring such an approach include the Baldrige Award, ISO certification, the Shengo Prize, and Deming Quality awards. If you have had experience in these or similar approaches and would be able to provide some guidance along the lines of establishing an appropriate structure for company-based Lean accreditation under LCI auspices, please let us know. At this stage, we are really focused on the structure and process, not so much any specific assessment tools or guidelines.

Another Outstanding Lean in Design Forum Program

Our partners at UC Berkeley/P2SL sponsored **another outstanding Lean in Design Forum program** at the end of January. There was obviously much more than can be captured in a newsletter, but two presentations stood out in particular. The **opening speaker was Chauncey Bell** (Bell Associates), who spoke about the future of Lean Construction. He noted that Lean creates better conversations and relationships than standard practice, and this tends to break down negative habits and bureaucratic behaviors that impede success. He challenged us to address

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Upcoming Events

Feb 12 - [Brown Bag: Zachry Construction Corp. Lean Practices](#) (San Antonio CoP)

Feb 12 - [Half-Day Introduction to Lean Project Delivery](#) (NorCal CoP)

Feb 12 - [Challenges to Creativity and Innovation in the Design and Construction](#)

the need for a fuller discourse on Lean, as well as the myriad language issues that arise when different terms mean different things to different people and functions in our business. He also said a potential positive side benefit of Lean could come in the form of a reinvigorated engineering function with more ability to assert itself in the process (as had been more the case in the past). He also took an interesting side-swipe at the “8 Wastes,” a pillar of Lean practice as developed by the Japanese, noting instead there is an overarching “9th Waste”: inadequate/missing human conversation resulting from things like inadequate listening, mistrust, etc.

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News from Our Member Companies

We have been monitoring some of the **news from our member companies**, and it is surprising and gratifying to see so many of our members celebrating landmark anniversaries as corporate entities: **McCarthy Building Companies** – 150 Years; **Boldt Company** – 125 years; **STV** – 100 Years; **Morley Builders** – 65 Years; **Agostini Bacon Construction Companies** – 50 Years; **W.G. Yates and Sons** – 50 years. Far from resting on their laurels, these firms’ commitment to Lean Construction indicates ongoing commitment to continuous improvement and pursuing competitive advantage that will stand them in good stead for decades to come. Congratulations to each of them!

In a similar vein, this year marks **DPR Construction's** fifth year on FORTUNE's “100 Best Companies to Work For list,” and this year they are #10! **TDIndustries** was named to the same list for the 17th consecutive year. We like to think that pursuing Lean has more than a little to do with achieving this

[Industry](#) (NorCal CoP)

Feb 19 - [Study Action Team \(SAT\) Book Discussion: 2 Second Lean](#) (Colorado CoP)

Feb 19 - [Deep Dive into Pull Planning](#) (Arizona CoP)

Feb 20 - [BP: Implementing Lean Construction Methods at the Whiting Refinery](#) (Chicago CoP)

Feb 27 - [A Lean Owner Tells All! What they wish you knew to get them the right building](#) (DFW CoP)

Mar 05 - [LCI Los Angeles CoP >> Lionakis](#) (Los Angeles CoP)

Mar 12 - ["UHS Case Study of Sandy Pines Hospital - A Lean Journey"](#) (Central Florida CoP)

Mar 24 - [Lean Construction Institute - Lean Design & Construction: Process Mapping in the Construction Industry](#) (Ohio Valley CoP)

Mar 26 - [Introduction to Lean Design & Construction](#) (Alabama CoP)

[View all events](#)

designation, thanks to the emphasis on respecting people and empowering them to be the best they can be on project work. Last but not least, Construction Employers' Association has again recognized **XL Construction** for their strong safety program, bestowing both the Excellence in Safety and President's Safety Award to the company. Many factors lead to such a designation, but a Lean job is unquestionably a safer job.

Under the Broad Topic of Corporate Recognition

Under the broad topic of corporate recognition, we hope many more of our company members will take us up on the opportunity to add a 75-word or less blurb about their company on our website. This would appear at <http://www.leanconstruction.org/membership/members-sponsors/> next to your corporate logo and listing on the membership list.

Communities of Practice (CoP) Corner

We are delighted to welcome on board **our newest CoP, now forming in Nashville, TN**. If you are interested in becoming a part of this group, please contact Kevin Millen at kevin_millen@gspnet.com. One of the more exciting aspects of the Nashville group is the unusually heavy participation of owner organizations involved in its formation. This would make them the envy of many other CoPs who are struggling to find the right formula to attract owner participants. One of our newest member organizations hails in fact from this neck of the woods: the TN Department of General Services. Best wishes to the new CoP's core group, and thanks for your

leadership in bringing the transformative benefits of Lean to yet another market.

We now have a **regularly scheduled monthly phone call for leaders** of all of our CoPs (one per group, please). This will allow us to share lessons learned, challenges and opportunities for improvement. So CoP core groups, please be sure you are represented. Info:
lgoldberg@leanconstruction.org.

National Seminars Available

National seminars available: If you would like LCI to sponsor a seminar for your local market on a broad topic like Intro to Lean or Last Planner®, let [Ilene Goldberg](#) know. We can survey the local market, identify and recruit a speaker, and handle the registration process from soup to nuts. Just let us know if you are interested in this opportunity.

Sincerely,



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Executive Director

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