



**LEAN
CONSTRUCTION
INSTITUTE**
TRANSFORMING DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

March 26, 2013

Our newsletter this week carries with it a **request for assistance** from you recipients. Our redeveloped website is well under way in the design process, and I hope to be announcing its online advent soon in an upcoming update. One thing we need to ensure that we present the best face to our external audience is pictures helping illustrate our industry's performance on lean projects. So **I am asking for photographs of project sites in any stage of performance, Big Room and pull planning activity, anything that helps us highlight** the use of lean in actual projects around the country. We also want to highlight you, our corporate members, in the process, so pictures will be captioned with the names of companies who provide them, as well as other descriptive text in brief form. If you can **send me digital photos of your projects**, along with an email indicating we are permitted by your company to use them on our website, that would be a big help.

Our Arizona Community of Practice (CoP) has had some productive meeting programs of late, and with attendance up about 25%, the group is clearly doing some things right in its continuing mission of enhancing local lean support through dynamic education topics. At our request Cara Hughes, a leader on the CoP Core Group, provided this recent update:

February's event featured Darrel Shamah, Engineering Operations Manager - M+W U.S., Inc., who discussed the process of applying Value Stream Mapping in the custom service environment. Although Value Stream Mapping (VSM) is typically used in the improvement of repetitive processes, Darrel shared his process of applying these elements in custom service environments. Darrel walked through the process of sensitizing the workforce to value added vs. non-value added activities, optimizing information flows and understanding the effects of inter-related processes, ultimately yielding definite productivity improvements and value add to the customer. M+W U.S., Inc. uses a hybrid approach for analyzing and conducting process improvement initiatives. Through documentation of processes in ViFlow modeling software and workshops focused around VSM concepts, a balance is achieved for optimizing the flow of information in a custom service delivery model.

We would love to hear from you if **you can provide a similar update on what is happening in YOUR local CoP**. It is very helpful to hear what others are doing as food for thought about new programs.

One of our newest member companies, Wohlsen, has just embarked on an exciting opportunity with an owner organization in higher education: the University of Delaware. Wohlsen may be new to LCI, but not to lean project delivery: in the course of the bid process in which they were the winning contractor, they convinced U Delaware to utilize IPD/Lean project delivery on a new renovation project on campus. Success here should pave the way for future lean projects with the University. We thank Wohlsen for championing lean, and look forward to hearing more about how the project is going over time.

Some of the products that LCI offers that deserve more attention than they oftentimes have received is **a set of simulation games** that help drive home the process changes and benefits of lean. Below two of them are described. To order, please contact Ms. Shannyn Heyer at [sheyer@leanconstruction.org](mailto:shey@leanconstruction.org).

Make-a-Card is a quick simulation to demonstrate the advantages of Kanban and Pull over traditional Push and Batch. The full simulation with discussion can take less than an hour, and requires seven participants per table. The original manufacturing version of this game was developed by Mike Studley for ACT in England, and has been modified by various corporate users, and subsequently adapted for LCI by Will Lichtig and Greg Howell. Each Game includes directions, contents list for replenishing supplies and everything necessary to play. Each game covers up to 5 tables of 7 people.

Member Game Cost: 1 Set (5 game kits) \$250.00 Each

Non-Member Game Cost: 1 Set (5 game kits) \$495.00 Each

~Plus shipping where applicable



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Life is complex, and it happens fast. Underlying issues and patterns are hard to see, and there is limited time for careful reflection. While the situations created by simulations are constrained, they remain real enough to elicit genuine emotions, reactions and behavior. Simulations simplify and slow things down. Simulations are fun, but keep your focus on learning. The **Parade of Trades** simulates the way work moves in a "Parade" through a project. It explores the impact of unpredictable workflow on project performance; the combined effects of dependence and variation on system performance. ~~Things just as in~~ simulations just as in real life. Don't lose the focus on learning; rather, shift to exploring and understanding how the management of the simulation--even with problems experienced--can teach. Each Game includes directions, CD with printable documents and everything necessary to play. Each game covers up to 7 tables of 7 people.

Member Game Cost: \$150.00 Each

Non-Member Game Cost: \$295.00 Each

~Plus shipping where applicable

I will close with **recognition of our newest corporate member: Tunista Construction.** Welcome aboard, and best wishes for continued success in your lean journey!



Sincerely,

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Executive Director

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