

# NEWS RELEASE



## **Lean Learning Center**

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***For immediate release***

### **LEAN LEARNING CENTER OFFERS *LEAN LEARNING LABORATORY* :**

Companies Learn About the Power of Lean in Focused, Shop-Floor Setting

**Novi, Mich., April 8, 2004** – The Lean Learning Center, a leading provider of lean curriculum and consulting to a variety of industries, announces the release of its Lean Learning Laboratory (L<sup>3</sup>) methodology and training. L<sup>3</sup> is designed to provide a framework for companies to learn, experiment with, and apply the rules, principles and tools of lean within a shop floor environment.

“The L<sup>3</sup> concept is based on our experience that the application of lean within an organization can be accomplished faster and at less risk in a focused team,” says Lean Learning Center Partner Jamie Flinchbaugh. “It can then serve as a catalyst for broader application throughout a plant or company.”

Implementing L<sup>3</sup> involves a combination of orientation meetings, on-site training, and post-training application and reflection. Training is modular and applicable to both production and administrative applications. Content includes Scoreboards, Seven Wastes, Five S's, Standardized Work, Product Process Mapping, Problem Solving, Visual Management, Set-up Reduction and Pull Systems.

Module training is provided by a Lean Learning Center coach, who comes on-site through a series of 4-8 hour sessions, typically held 3-6 weeks apart. Following module training, L<sup>3</sup> team members are given the opportunity to reflect upon its application. Further

training is then provided by company management and, following that, team members begin applying what they've learned in their respective work areas. Subsequent phases include ongoing performance and assessment meetings as well as periodic progress reviews by management and L<sup>3</sup> team members.

“The Lean Learning Laboratory can be highly effective in an organization’s overall lean strategy,” said Lean Learning Center Partner Andy Carlino. “I have been directly involved in the implementation of many L<sup>3</sup>s in a variety of industries and have yet to find any other mechanism as effective or efficient at the institutionalization of lean in a part of the business.”

Adds Flinchbaugh. “To continue the journey, the Lean Learning Laboratory process, along with our models and instruction materials, can then be licensed for use in other areas of the organization. With this license, an organization would be equipped to facilitate its own L<sup>3</sup> implementation -- with its own lean leaders -- helping to accelerate its progress.”

The Lean Learning Laboratory is just one of the offerings available from the Lean Learning Center, which -- in combination with corporate partner Achievement Dynamics, a provider of management consulting – provides a full complement of lean transformation services. The Center was founded in early 2001 to address the gaps and barriers that are holding back companies from successful lean transformation and currently has a roster of over 1500 alumni. Industries served include manufacturing, healthcare, public utilities, retail, aerospace, communications, technology, investment equity, service and more. Call 248-478-1480 or visit [www.leanlearningcenter.com](http://www.leanlearningcenter.com) to request a curriculum brochure or for more information.

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