

# NEWS RELEASE



## **Lean Learning Center**

40028 Grand River, Suite 300

Novi, Michigan 48375

[www.leanlearningcenter.com](http://www.leanlearningcenter.com)

### **FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Contact Nancy Lesinski

Lesinski & Associates

248-709-3040

831-308-3040 fax

[nancylesinski@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nancylesinski@sbcglobal.net)

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***For immediate release***

### **LEAN LEARNING CENTER EXPORTS EXPERTISE TO THE U.K.**

***First time Lean Experience class in Solihull teaches foundations of lean thinking***

**Novi, Mich., September 26, 2006** – The Lean Learning Center, a leading North American provider of lean curriculum and consulting, has announced that it is spreading the power of lean manufacturing and thinking to the United Kingdom with the offering of its five-day Lean Experience class starting Feb. 19 at the Holiday Inn, 61 Homer Road, Solihull (near Birmingham). This is the first time that this program, which provides a total immersion into lean thinking, has been commercially offered outside of North America.

“European companies have been applying lean concepts for years, but most still have to make the leap from lean as a tool for the shop floor to lean as a source of competitive advantage,” said Bob Dover, Industrial Professor, University of Warwick. “The Lean Learning Center’s experience working with some of America’s top corporations will prove invaluable to companies in Europe.”

Over 2500 attendees have taken part in the Lean Experience since 2001 representing companies such as DaimlerChrysler, DTE Energy, Intel, Harley Davidson, Glanbia Foods and others. The focus of the class goes beyond lean tools into the teaching of the principles and rules that are at the foundation of sustainable lean transformation.

““Few companies today, in any industry, can escape the challenge of delivering reduced prices and better quality to their customers,” says Lean Learning Center partner

Jamie Flinchbaugh. “But, lean implementation often looks like a collection of lean tools such as 5S, kanban and andon without an understanding of the reasoning behind the tools. Our goal is to get participants to internalize lean -- affecting the way they conduct business and think about what they do and why they do it on a daily basis.”

Participants in the Lean Experience gain the ability to articulate “lean” as a set of rules and principles, practice implementation of lean through factory simulation and other hands-on exercises, develop an action plan for bringing lean back to the work site, and become teachers and leaders of lean implementation. Class size is restricted to a maximum of 42 attendees. To register for the Lean Experience U.K. course or to find out more, visit [www.leanlearningcenter.com/UKLean](http://www.leanlearningcenter.com/UKLean).

In conjunction with its corporate partner Achievement Dynamics, a provider of management consulting, the Lean Learning Center provides a full complement of lean transformation services and products including customized instructional design capability. Partners Jamie Flinchbaugh and Andy Carlino have recently authored a book titled *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to Lean*, published by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers. Industries served include manufacturing, healthcare, public utilities, retail, aerospace, communications, technology, investment equity, service and more. For more information visit [www.leanlearningcenter.com](http://www.leanlearningcenter.com).

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