

# NEWS RELEASE



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***For immediate release***

## **LEAN LEARNING CENTER BRINGS LEAN THINKING EXPERTISE TO EUROPE**

***Successful Lean Experience class returns to Solihull, U.K.***

**Novi, Mich., USA, June 13, 2007** – The Lean Learning Center, a leading North American provider of lean curriculum and consulting, has announced that it is holding its second European Lean Experience session from Oct. 22 - 26 at the Holiday Inn, 61 Homer Road, Solihull, U.K. (near Birmingham). This program, which provides a total immersion in lean thinking, is in response to the sold-out Lean Experience U.K. class held in February 2007, which was attended by participants from 11 European countries and companies such as Calor, Dana Europe, Intel, Sara Lee and more.

“Our goal is to spread the power of lean manufacturing and thinking to Europe, where they have been applying lean concepts for years, but have failed to make the leap from lean as a shop floor tool to a source of competitive advantage,” said Lean Learning Center founding partner Andy Carlino.

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 42 attendees. To register for the Lean Experience U.K. course, visit

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

Said Eduard Sancho, European Continuous Improvement Manager for Dana Corporation and attendee at the February European Lean Experience, “You have made believers of us. I had wasted more than a year trying to convince our organization that your philosophy was the correct way to approach lean. Now, the European plants have the same chance as the U.S. plants to move forward.”

Over 2500 attendees have taken part in the Lean Experience since 2001 representing Fortune 500 companies such as Intel, Land O Lakes, Harley Davidson, DTE Energy, Northrop Grumman and more. 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.

Says Lean Learning Center partner Jamie Flinchbaugh. “For most companies, lean implementation 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.”

In conjunction with its corporate partner Achievement Dynamics, 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 authored a book titled *The Hitchhiker's Guide to Lean*, published by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers. For more information visit [www.leanlearningcenter.com](http://www.leanlearningcenter.com).

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