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TECHNICAL
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Auburn Works

Auburn Technical Assistance Center
News Briefs For Stakeholders

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Since 1976

Helping Business and Industry Become More Competitive

Second Quarter 2008

ATAC co-sponsors Alabama manufacturers conference

ATAC with its affiliate organization, the Alabama Technology Network (ATN), joined with the Business Council of Alabama to serve as a co-sponsor in April of the first Alabama Manufacturing Matters conference.

The day-long event drew participants from a variety of the state's manufacturing industry base to focus on the areas of innovation, and strategies for improving competitiveness.

ATAC personnel presented sessions on: *Growing Your Business Through Eureka Winning Ways*; *Demystifying Six Sigma*; *Using 'Training Within Industry' for Fast, Consistent Employee Education*.

ATAC welcomes new staffers

ATAC welcomed two new employees recently: Rick Battye as the newest member of ATAC's Lean Team, and Walker Jackson as a management scientist.

Battye is an industrial engineer with extensive background in plant and operations management, and production control. He also is experienced in international manufacturing.

Jackson comes to ATAC following many years as a commercial lender in the banking industry. His background is in the areas of accounting, finance, marketing and management.

His primary responsibilities with ATAC are in the areas of business, economic development and assessment programs.

Open enrollment classes

Remaining open enrollment classes scheduled during 2008 include:

OSHA 10-hr, May 20-21 – Auburn;

TWI (JI, JR, JM), June, June 2-6, Alexander City, Ala.

Lean Certificate Series, July 7-13 Montgomery;

Lean Accounting, July 22-24, Pensacola Beach, Fla.

Lean Accounting Exec. Overview, July 25, Pensacola Beach, Fla.

Lean Certificate Series, Oct. 13-19, Auburn.

For details or to register, visit www.AuburnWorks.org, or call 1.800.446.0386.

College recognizes outstanding ATAC staffers

Auburn University's College of Business recognized faculty and staff members for outstanding service and performance in an awards ceremony April 23. ATAC's Dr. Mark Clark – who teaches Six Sigma for ATAC and also teaches in AU's MBA program -- received the Outstanding Teaching Award. Nicole Merritt of ATAC's office staff received the Outstanding Staff Award.



TWI: A proven, old approach is resurrected to help firms sustain continuous improvement

You have invested in Lean training for your employees. You have undertaken serious efforts to implement continuous improvement within your organization. Training Within Industry (TWI) is the next link in creating and sustaining a Lean Enterprise.

This three-component program is the ideal process for training people within your industry who are responsible for training others in job skills, monitoring and effectively managing continuous improvement initiatives, and doing so with consistent and proven results. **Job Instruction Training (JI)** trains supervisors how to instruct employees so they can quickly remember to do a job correctly, safely, and conscientiously. **Job Methods Training (JM)** trains supervisors how to improve job methods in order to produce greater quantities of quality products in less time by making the best use of the manpower, machines, and the materials available to them. **Job Relations Training (JR)** trains supervisors how to lead people so that problems are prevented and gives them an analytical method to effectively resolve problems that do arise.

TWI is an American-developed process that was extremely effective in keeping the United States' industrial base strong and productive during World War II. With the U.S. emerging as a victor in both combat and industrial mite (with little significant competition), interest in TWI as a component in maintaining America's industrial superiority soon faded. However, Japan quickly seized the potential of TWI and used it to launch and sustain its post World War II industrial prosperity.

Today, basic methodologies that worked so well more than 60 years ago are being rediscovered in the United States. TWI concepts are being revived on a wide scale to provide companies already immersed in the implementation of Lean and continuous improvement with a proven way to promote, create and sustain standardized work; define and develop consistent work procedures; and to do so through a system based on identifying and accurately reproducing the key steps in a job process to foster: Rapid training; consistent results; immediate efficiency in job performance; improved employee morale; increased productivity; and reduced waste and rework

Visit www.AuburnWorks.org for more information.



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Auburn Technical Assistance Center was established in 1976 and is an affiliate of the Alabama Technology Network and an Economic Development Administration University Center. As an arm of the Auburn University College of Business, ATAC provides business and technical assistance, customized training, and consultation in implementing value-added strategies to manufacturers and other businesses, not-for-profit organizations and government agencies in Alabama and the Southeast. Auburn University is an equal opportunity educational institute/employer.



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