



April 2004

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NW CONNECTIONS

Shifting Gears in the Grant Progress

Moving to the Next Level

By now you have seen the announcement that Julie Hatten has taken the position of Project Manager for the consortium. She will be located at ESCO and will spend part time at the OMEP headquarters. At the same time the NWHPEC sub-committee continues to work with the direction of this project from the standpoint of you the customer.

All member companies should expect to be contacted in the near future to schedule a visit from Mary and Julie. The point of this visit will be to understand your needs and desires and to assist in crafting a rollout plan of offerings.

Also expect to receive an understanding of the type of reporting that comes along with the education process. Considerable record keeping will be necessary by each participating company to maintain the integrity of the grant. Forms and assistance from OMEP and NWHPEC will be provided to aid the process. As participants our contribution to the grant is the value of time consumed during participation. Time spent to, from and in training are

in-kind investment and need to be recorded as equivalent to member financial contributions for matching funds from the grant.

For more specific information please contact:

Julie Hatten 503-778-6208
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Upcoming Events:

April 29 Learning Tour @ Pella
May 4-5 Oregon Econ. & Bus. Forum
May 20 Learning Tour @ Rejuvenation
June 10 Learning Tour @ Neilsen
July 27 Learning Tour @ A-dec

**Oregon Econ. & Bus.
Forum + NWHPEC
May 4-5**

Send your tips and ideas to the editor: charlie@warnescopemounts.com

Perkins and Company, PC is our CPA and Business Advisor

Stoel Rives, LLP is our Legal Advisor

Get Going on 5S/Visual

A special announcement is attached for the 5S/Visual SIG. This group is very active and is strong on sharing. This is a great way to get valuable information and network for hands-on experience. If you are interested in participating, the meetings are held every third week. Please contact Gabe at 503-774-2498 or 206-406-0868.

Next Mtngs: May 6, May 27, June 17
Time: 9-10:30 am
Location: Sunset Mfgr. 19355 SW
Teton Rd in Tualatin

Reinvent Wheels?

Evaluations came back for the Knowledge Management executive forum and it was a raging success. Many had a misunderstanding about KM before this clear and well organized presentation. Hooking up people with “hidden” knowledge in your organization is a powerful method that is useful in the early stages of Lean, even in small companies. You might be surprised at what kind of knowledge and experience exists under the surface in your organization.

Many thanks to Bill Baker of Raytheon for taking his personal time to bring this to the Northwest.

Board Members:

Gabe Fasolino	Outside Director
John Burns	Director
Gale Long	Director
Open	Director
Dale Gehring	VP Finance
Charlie Lake	Pres.

Tidbits

Items of advice from professionals

Accen...tuate...the positive.....

One of the problems with Lean is that the better you get at it the more you notice what still needs to be fixed. It can get downright depressing. Obviously focusing on successes can offset this and remind folks just how far the progress has taken them. “My goodness, we really used to do it that way?”

Perhaps there is another way to get folks looking at the positives and possibilities to help with the cultural shift to continuous improvement mindsets.

Trevor Durnford suggests the following to help lift some of the “gloom” from a specific improvement project:

1. Describe the future perfect - call it 10
2. Where are you now on a scale of 10?
3. Where and when does even just the slightest perfect happen?
4. What’s helped you achieve that already?
5. What would be the first tiny signs of progress?
6. What would take you just a small step higher? What action would be necessary?
7. Suppose the problem vanished overnight, how would you know tomorrow that the transformation had happened?
8. How would others know?
9. What would you be doing?
10. How will you celebrate when you’ve achieved the next step?

Give it a try for a refreshing change to your problem solving climate.

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