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LEAN THOUGHTS

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All I ever needed to know about Lean, I learned in Kindergarten (with apologies to Robert Fulghum)

Most of what I really need to know about Lean, and what to do, and how to be Lean, I learned in kindergarten. Continuous Process Improvement (CPI) was not at the top of the graduate school mountain, but there in the sand box at nursery school.

These are the things I learned. Share everything, including your knowledge and expertise. Play fair. Don't hit people. Put things back where you found them. Clean up your own mess. Everything should have its own place. Don't take things that aren't yours. Say you are sorry when you hurt somebody. Wash your hands before you eat. Flush. Sort. Straighten. Scrub. Standardize. Insure Safety. Sustain. Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you. Live a balanced life. Learn some and think some and draw some and paint and sing and dance and play and work everyday.

Take a nap every afternoon. When you go out in the world, watch for traffic, hold hands, and stick together. Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the plastic cup? The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why. We are like that.

And then remember that book about Learning to See and the first Lean word you learned, the biggest word of all: LOOK! Everything you need to know is there somewhere. The Golden Rule and love and basic sanitation, ecology, politics, and Lean living.

Think of what a better world it would be if we all, the whole world, had cookies and milk about 3 o'clock every afternoon, discussed what we'd learned about Lean, and then lay down with our blankets for a nap. Or we had a basic policy in our nation and other nations to always put things back where we found them and clean up our own messes. And it is still true, no matter how old you are, when you go out in the world, it is best to hold hands, stick together, and be Lean.

The Pit

A change agent fell into a pit and couldn't get himself out.

A subjective person came along and said, "I feel for you down there."

An objective person came along and said, "It's logical that someone would fall down there."

A Christian Scientist came along and said, "You only think you're in the pit."

A Pharisee said, "Only bad people fall into a pit."

Confucius said, "If you would have listened to me you wouldn't be in that pit."

Buddha said, "You're pit is only a state of mind."

A realist said, "That's a pit."

A scientist calculated the pressure necessary, pounds and square inches, to get him out of the pit.

A geologist told him to appreciate and study the rock strata.

An evolutionist said, "You are a rejected mutant destined to be removed from the evolutionary cycle, in other words he is going to die in the pit so he can't produce any more pit falling offspring."

The country inspector said, "Did you have a permit to dig that pit?"

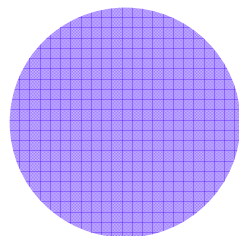
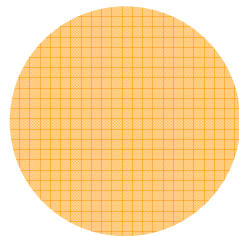
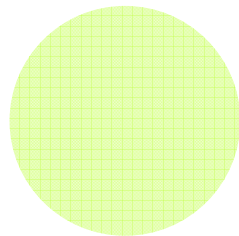
A professor gave him a lecture on the elementary principles of the pit.

A self-pitying person said, "You haven't seen anything until you've seen my pit."

An optimist said, "Things could get worse."

A pessimist said, "Things are going to get worse."

A helpful fellow Change Agent with a sharing attitude saw the man in the pit, reached down, took him by the hand, and helped him out.



LEAN CONSORTIUM MEMBERS:

- CFN Precision
- CGL
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Where "Lean Thoughts" Become Reality

2006 TRENDS & EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

The world of 5-10 years from now will be a very different from the world of today. Predicting short-term (1-2 years) changes is almost impossible. But forecasting long-term directional change becomes possible by identifying trends through an analysis of deep history rather than of the shallow, recent past.

At the turn of the year, several people publish "trends to watch". Here are some of the things I'd bet on:

1. Centers of economic activity will shift globally
2. New global industry structures will emerge
3. The battle for talent will intensify
4. Productivity gains will shift "work" to new arenas
5. Connectivity will transform the way people live and interact
6. Big business will come under increasingly sharp scrutiny
7. Emergence of BIG new "startup" companies - new CISCOs and Googles

These technologies will move from hype to wide deployment:

1. RFID tags
2. Machine-to-machine (M2M)
3. Cellelevision - the small screen
4. HDTV - the big screen
5. Increased storage and bandwidth
6. Wireless connectivity on the plant floor and process plant
7. WiFi & WiMax Internet everywhere (airports and cities)

Reprinted with permission from Jim Pinto's e-newsletter



NWLean Blog is running the following poll ... send me your picks and I will submit them on behalf of our readers ... you can even add some titles if they are not on the list ...

Which 3 'lean' books would you bring to a desert island?

VOTES TITLE

- IIII Lean Thinking/Womack
- II Gemba Kaizen/Imai
- II Learning to See/Rother
- II Pillars of the 5S Workplace/Hirano
- II The Goal/Goldratt
- II The Gold Mine/Balle
- I A Study of the Toyota Production System/Shingo
- I Breakthrough Thinking/Nadler
- I Creating a Lean Culture/Mann
- I Crucial Conversations/Patterson
- I Fundamentals of Operations Management/Davis
- I Getting Lean/Feingold
- I Great Boss Dead Boss/Immelman
- I JIT Implementation Manual/Hirano
- I Kaizen Desk Reference Standard
- I Kaizen for Quick Changeover
- I Kaizen/Imai
- I Lean Manufacturing/Feld
- I Lean Simplified/Dennis
- I Lean Toolbox/Bicheno
- I Practical Lean Accounting/Maskell
- I The Art of Problem Solving/Ackoff
- I The Bible
- I The Essential Drucker
- I The Five Dysfunctions of a Team/Lencioni
- I The Toyota Way/Liker
- I Training Within Industry/US Nat'l Archives
- I Understanding Variation/Wheeler
- I Uptime/Campbell
- I VSM Training Kit

We'll run the poll until the end of the week!

Tour Workshop Conference



Consortium Event Schedule

January	February	March	April	May	June
<p>T</p> <p>Wednesday 25 Eaton Electrical, contact Joe Fisher, JoeRFisher@eaton.com</p>	<p>T</p> <p>Wednesday 15, CFN Precision, contact Barry Wood, bwood@cfn-inc.com</p> <p>W</p> <p>Date & location TBA Your own "STEP Diagnostic" to create Vision, Mission and Direction Contact Richard Kunst Richard.kunst@la-z-boy.com</p>	<p>T</p> <p>Wednesday 22, Nestle Waters, contact Mariela Castano mcastano@perriergroup.com</p>	<p>T</p> <p>Wednesday 19, CTS Corp., contact Bob Garces, Bob.Garces@ac.ctscorp.com</p> <p>Consortium Shareshowcase Saturday 22 CTS Corp. Contact Cindy Grolleman cindy.grolleman@stackpole.com</p>	<p>T</p> <p>Wednesday 17, Stackpole CSD, contact Don Barber Don.Barber@stackpole.ca</p> <p>W</p> <p>Date & location TBA "Compartmentalize the Noise" * Daily Report-outs * Standard work for Leaders Contact Richard Kunst Richard.kunst@la-z-boy.com</p>	<p>T</p> <p>Wednesday 21, Morrison LaMothe, contact Tony Vita tvita@morrisonlamthe.com</p> <p>C</p> <p>AME Regional Conference Mon 12 to Thurs 15 K-W Ontario Contact www.ame.org</p>
July	August	September	October	November	December
	<p>W</p> <p>Date & location TBA "Establish Anchors" * VSWI ... Visual Work Instructions * TPM ... Total Productive Maintenance Contact Richard Kunst Richard.kunst@la-z-boy.com</p>	<p>T</p> <p>Wednesday 20, Kraft Foods, contact Hanif Jivraj hjivraj@Kraft.com</p>	<p>T</p> <p>Wednesday 11, Stackpole PMC, contact Cindy Grolleman cindy.grolleman@stackpole.com</p> <p>C</p> <p>AME National Conference Mon 16 to Friday 20 Dallas, Texas Contact www.ame.org</p>	<p>T</p> <p>Wednesday 15, Messier-Dowty, contact Richard Evans Richard.Evans@Messier-dowty.on.ca</p> <p>W</p> <p>Date & location TBA Your own "Get Organized" * 5S+1 Contact Richard Kunst Richard.kunst@la-z-boy.com</p>	