



Oregon Manufacturing Extension Partnership

April 2008

The onset of the new year brought with it the end of OMEP's award-winning H-1B *Advanced Manufacturing Training in Lean Manufacturing* grant project funded by the U.S. Department of Labor. Since 2004, the grant project has provided Lean Manufacturing training to employees of the Northwest High Performance Enterprise Consortium (HPEC). The training included a host of on-site Lean Manufacturing training provided by OMEP and guest presenters such as Mike Hoseus, Mike Rother, and Steven Spear. Providing a "Lean boost" to NWHPEC manufacturers, the project helped to increase NWHPEC membership as well as the global competitiveness of the region. This is especially evident from the economic outcomes reported by the companies that supplemented grant-funded training by working directly with OMEP on their company processes. These economic outcomes as well as the other key grant outcomes follow:

TRAINING OUTCOMES

NWHPEC Companies served:	100
People trained:	3,784
Classes delivered:	376

MATCH & EMPLOYEE OUTCOMES

New jobs created:	381
Jobs retained:	87
People receiving wage increases:	224
- Average annual wage increase/person	≈ \$3,150
- Combined annual increase for all 224	\$705,497

ECONOMIC OUTCOMES

About 30 NWHPEC members (or 1/3 of member companies) complemented the grant-funded training by working directly with OMEP on Lean implementation projects. Surveyed via an independent third party, the impacts reported so far are:

Increased/Retained Sales:	\$97,050,000
Cost Savings:	\$ 3,781,000
Capital Investment:	\$ 3,468,000

Since all companies have not yet been surveyed, this is only a partial list of impacts!

RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

The *Advanced Manufacturing Training in Lean Manufacturing* training project was twice awarded Honorable Mention from the DOL Employment and Training Administration's Recognition of Excellence (ROE) program – once in 2005 and again in 2007. That means, of all the DOL grantees throughout the nation that applied for the ROE award, our project finished in the top five both years we applied! Each year between 100 and 200 grantees applied nationwide.

REPLICATION

The consortium model has been included as a key component of the Oregon Manufacturing Workforce Strategy (OMWS), a business-led plan directing resources to the manufacturing sector. The first year of OMWS implementation (2007), included the formation and seed support of five new high-performance consortia statewide and the development of a portal, www.OregonManufacturing.org, to aggregate news and resources and share best practices among the many stakeholders of Oregon's manufacturing community. More funding has been released to stabilize and expand these consortia and to provide seed funding for new consortia in 2008. And the replication did not stop at the Oregon border. Consortia have formed in Southern California and Georgia as well!