

Welcome New Members!

Please take time to say hello to our newest members

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Is Lean Manufacturing strictly for large corporations, such as Toyota and Harley Davidson? Not if local manufacturing companies have anything to say about it! Many small to medium size businesses (SMBs) have not yet heard about Lean Manufacturing, an operations management practice adapted from the Toyota Production System (TPS).


One local company has been a Lean champion for nearly a decade. Auton Motorized Systems first implemented lean manufacturing in 2005, greatly increasing their capacity and dramatically reducing manufacturing lead time. The Lean workflow enabled Auton to improve on-time delivery to nearly 100 percent, while accurately controlling their labor resources and raw materials. Auton easily scales their production capacity up or down according to market demand.

Recently, Auton moved into a new facility on Hancock Parkway in the Valencia Industrial Park. Shortly after the move, Auton engaged Andy Pattantyus and his team at Strategic Modularity Inc. to help Auton do a lean reset to re-establish the visual factory and lean workflow at the new location. Now, Auton sales are never constrained by limited production capacity. The factory can handle each new product introduction, as demanded by an ever changing marketplace. A showcase lean manufacturer, Auton uses visual factory techniques such as Kanban cards, flow carts, and first in, first out (FIFO) lanes to control one-piece flow. In their make-to-order (MTO) shop, Auton uses a capacity scheduling board to match resources to demand.



After implementing Lean Manufacturing, SMBs dramatically increase their bottom line through improved efficiencies, while supporting top line growth with additional capacity. What can Lean do for your company? With a comparatively small investment, you can double production capacity; improve cash flow by reducing manufacturing lead time to one-fourth; liberate working capital by reducing inventory; improve quality; and control resources (especially work in progress and overtime). Scalable capacity is a hedge against a downturn. By focusing on the value stream, Lean reduces or eliminates the most egregious waste: wasted chronological time.

Interested in Lean?
Find weekly articles at www.strategicmodularity.com



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We have made it our business to help yours.

The City of Santa Clarita offers a variety of programs and incentives to SAVE companies of all sizes time and money, including:

- No gross receipts tax, business license fees, payroll tax or utility users tax.*
- SCV Enterprise Zone**
California's leading tax savings program for businesses
- WorkSource Center**
Free service connecting qualified job seekers with employers
- Sponsorship Opportunities**
Provides targeted brand awareness at City Events
- Film Office**
Coordinates film permits in the City and supports film businesses
- Tourism Office**
Promotes Santa Clarita as a premier destination through event support & solicitation, marketing and advertising

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Luncheon Planning Calendar Summer 2013

July 18	Mel Abraham, Founder, Business Breakthrough Academy	Topic: 9 Steps to a Legacy Life
August 20	George Runner, Regional Liaison Manager, Second District State of California Board of Equalization	Topic: New Proactive Program from the BOE and a new office in the SCV
September 17	USI Insurance of Southern California	Topic: Affordable Healthcare Act, Implementation and Effects
October 15	Virginia Green, Innovation & Growth Manager, California Manufacturing Technology Consulting	Topic: Innovations in Lean Manufacturing
November 19	Presentation by the recent "graduates" of the VIA Leadership Program	Topic: VIA Leadership Program Presents
December 17	2014 VIA Board of Directors Installation	