

# impact!



## Advanced Manufacturing Specialist Training Program (AMSTP) Combines Classroom Instruction With In-Plant Projects

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Columbia

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Wood

Kansas City

Kirksville

Park Hills

Rolla

Springfield

St. Louis

West Plains

The first four Advanced Manufacturing Specialist Training Program classes, operated by Missouri Enterprise in cooperation with the University of Missouri - Rolla under a U.S. Department of Labor grant, have completed part of their Lean Enterprise classroom instruction and are now working on their in-plant projects.

Experienced AMSTP instructors help participants develop the ideas for the projects and mentor them as they implement their projects. These projects are not simulations, but rather actual efforts by the participants to identify and eliminate waste and improve productivity in their companies.

U.S. Department of Labor Regional Administrator Byron Zuidema said this program is consistent with the President's High Growth Job Training Initiative which focuses on industries with high job growth potential. "Employers know best what training employees need," said Zuidema. "These in-plant projects are a very important part of the training program as they give participants a real-life opportunity to put their classroom training to work with skilled mentors to advise them."

**Participant:** Dave Olkkonen

**Company:** Doe Run Company

**Product/Service:** Base Metals Mining

**Description of Project:** The project involved improving our carrier's ability to move our products from the plant sites to our customers. Through the utilization of lean principles and techniques (value stream mapping, lean office and other tools), a traffic coordination system was developed and implemented. This resulted in reduced inventory, "real-time" management of limiting factors, and increased customer satisfaction. Also, a minimum of \$3.5 million per annum increased revenue and reduced costs.

**Participant:** Michael R. Morton

**Company:** The Doe Run Company

**Product/Service:** Lead Recycling

**Description of Project:** Elimination of compressed gas cylinder usage. In an effort to reduce down time on a production line utilizing a cutting torch, we are replacing the acetylene and oxygen compressed gas cylinders with a micro-bulk gas supply system. Historically, when the cylinders would empty, production ceased until the operators would exchange the empty cylinder(s) for full cylinder(s). This would often take as long as forty minutes. With the micro-bulk system, the tanks are automatically filled by the vendor, and the cost of purchasing the gas at bulk rate is reduced by 25%.

**Participant:** Jay Smith

**Company:** FASCO Motors

**Product/Service:** AC Electric Motors

**Description of Project:** My project involves our 42 Frame stator winding cell. The objective is to provide standardized work instructions to reduce product variability and improve departmental quality. Also, the instructions will provide a helpful training tool for cross-training and new employees.

### Free Product Development

#### Lifecycle Management Workshops

Learn to develop products/services with unique marketplace positions and that will keep you ahead of the competition. The interactive, hands-on workshops will be led by Missouri Enterprise experts in product development.

#### Locations

Kansas City, Columbia, Park Hills,  
St. Louis, Springfield

Registration required.

For dates and to register, call 800-956-2682  
or visit [www.peopleware.net/2893/](http://www.peopleware.net/2893/).

**AMSTP** cont. from page 1

**Participants:** Sonny Wakefield and Rick Batts  
**Company:** The Doe Run Company  
**Product/Service:** Primary Lead Smelting  
**Description of Project:** The Herculaneum Primary Smelting Facility is focusing on enhancing our business with lean manufacturing principles, incorporating teamwork with world class manufacturing through our Management and Implementation Teams. The Implementation Team is identifying and implementing process savings through the use of lean manufacturing principles. The scope of the project includes all operations and all activities involving suppliers and customers. The Implementation Team is value stream mapping; both current and future state of operations, as part of Herculaneum's more comprehensive strategic plan of Process Management. We will know that our culture has improved when continuous improvement opportunities are identified and acted on by all levels of the organization.

**Participant:** Janis Weyrich  
**Company:** Global Products, Inc  
**Product/Service:** Multi-media apparel, giftware, custom products and novelty items.  
**Description of Project:** Total Productive Maintenance on a wide range of equipment used in the manufacturing processes of our screen print and direct embroidery. Implementation of this project has enabled us to reduce unscheduled down time and therefore increase our production quotas while maintaining a high standard of quality product.

**Participant:** Timothy M. Keene  
**Company:** Keenelogic / GS Metals  
**Product/Service:** Engineering Services  
**Description of Project:** Six sigma project based on a steel and aluminum product producing company. One of the products produced is known as Grip Strut and is highly recognized in the industry. The project is involving all areas of the plant to produce ideas, suggestions and actual applications to improve the operation of GS Metals.

**Participant:** Andy Hill  
**Company:** King Innovation  
**Product/Service:** Waterproof twist-on electrical connectors and other various accessories for the irrigation industry.  
**Description of Project:** My first project targeted elimination of waste in one of our production lines through value stream mapping. Due to capital expense and coordination with outside suppliers, this project has not been completed. However, we continue to seek the best solution to this problem.

**Participant:** Chris Dale  
**Company:** MWM Dexter, Inc  
**Product/Service:** Full Service Four Color Printer  
**Description of Project:** Reduce Order Entry Costs by 20%. By developing a current and future state Value Stream Map we were able to identify areas of duplicated work and outdated office practices. We reduced our order entry workforce by 20% and moved those employees to areas in need to trained individuals.

**Participant:** Diane Lemp  
**Company:** Raven Industries  
**Company Product/Service:** Electronics  
**Description of Project:** Our 7 member team is responsible for following control boards from bid through ship. The Control Board product family consists of 6 products. Our Lean Team is focused on decreasing order cycle time, process improvements, and elimination of waste through all operations of the product family. The team's goal is to increase the Actual Profit by 1% each month.

**Participant:** Mike Baudrexl  
**Company:** Sunnen Products Company  
**Product/Service:** Honing equipment abrasives/lubricants  
**Description of Project:** The project includes the training of key personnel in the lean concepts of Zero Quality Control and an introduction to Poke Yoke approaches. The objective is to identify, implement and document the application of mistake proofing of two to three operations.

**Participant:** Matthew Ryan  
**Company:** Sunnen Products Company  
**Product/Service:** Honing Machines/Engine Rebuilding Equip.  
**Description of Project:** A 5S project for Frech Die Cast Machine to enable quicker change overs of this automatic machine through workplace organization.

**Participant:** Patrice M. Daquin  
**Company:** Tacony Manufacturing  
**Product/Service:** Simplicity and Riccar Vacuum Cleaners  
**Description of Project:** Development and implementation of a Quality Assurance Information System to improve the analysis of key performance measures at enterprise, value stream and work cell level.

**Additional AMSTP classes are forming now. To learn more about this program and to see if you qualify, contact the AMSTP Training Coordinator at 800-956-2682 or visit [www.missourienterprise.org/AMSTP](http://www.missourienterprise.org/AMSTP).**