



The ACA Group is an alliance of operations and supply chain experts.

## Operational Performance Improvement Newsletter

Strategies for Improving Business Performance

July, 2016



## Welcome

Hard to believe we are more than half-way through the year. Are you thinking about your strategy for 2017? Staying ahead of the curve is important if you want to keep up - and stay ahead - of your competition. What new products, processes and services are you offering?

Since inventory remains core to success, we continue to focus on the topic this month with "I Can't Find What I Need in My Warehouse". Please send us your feedback - we enjoy a good debate. Also, on a completely different topic, we thought we'd talk about global impacts. If you aren't thinking about selling internationally and global impacts, you will likely be surprised before you know it - and NOT in a good way.

We also invite you to utilize the resources on our [website](#) to help improve business performance. Please take a look, and let us know if you have any questions or if we can help you with your goals.

PS. Let's see if you are paying attention.... We left a small error in this newsletter. If you happen to find it and are the first one to respond to this email, we'll provide you with a free hour of advisory consulting.

## I Can't Find What I Need in My Warehouse!

By [Lisa Anderson, MBA, CSCP](#)

## The ACA Group Partner Spotlight



How many times have we heard this? Or, perhaps your inventory resource will keep looking until he/she finds it; however, it took them 3 times as long to pick product to ship or materials to supply the line? Perhaps the line shuts down.....not good!

Unfortunately, in my experience with manufacturing and distribution companies over the last 25+ years, it happens every day. Logistics managers are constantly struggling to keep their inventory intact. The problem is that inventory accuracy is dependent on several factors spread across multiple functions:

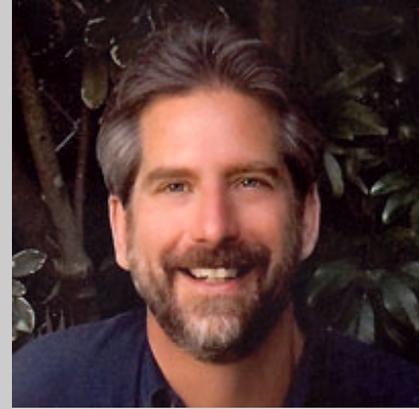
- Transaction timing - it is not good enough to eventually (perhaps the end of the shift) "ship an order to the customer, enter production, transfer inventory, receive an RMA, address an item in quarantine and so on. Conceptually it is quite simple - the system transaction coincides in timing with the physical transaction. In reality, life gets

[Read the rest of the article](#)

## Global Is "In"

**By Lisa Anderson, MBA, CSCP**

One of the reasons my global advisory board has been as valuable as it has been is because it is global. We have people from the U.S., Australia and Japan with experiences from all around the world, and we are supported by a wider community with people from almost every continent. Looking through a U.S. lens might seem expansive to someone who has spent his/her lifetime in one state or



[Doug Howardell, CPIM, PMP](#)

**Specializes in helping clients improve their business practices and processes.**

During the past twenty-five years, Doug Howardell has designed new processes and tools, selected and implemented new business systems, and managed business process improvement projects.

He has extensive experience and expertise in all aspects of project management, change management and materials management.

Additionally, Mr. Howardell has long experience teaching and training. He has been an instructor in the California State University system since 1988. [more](#)

Service Focus:

**SUPPLY CHAIN**

**S** **U** **P** **P** **L** **I** **Y**  
**C** **H** **A** **I** **N**  
**M** **A** **N** **A** **G** **E** **M** **E** **N** **T**

on the east coast or the west coast yet it is narrow as compared to global impacts surrounding business on a daily basis.

No matter what you think in terms of politics and the like, it is imperative that you understand global impacts. For example, with the China struggles going on earlier this year, manufacturers should be on high alert for future quality issues. Have you been considering that? When I was in Australia for my strategy session, we discussed

[Read the rest of the article](#)

The ACA Group:

## Additional Resources

Access [The ACA Group](#) library of materials on [Enterprise Resource Planning](#), [Organizational Development](#), [Lean Enterprise](#) and [Supply Chain Management](#).

## Deliver Bottom Line

### Results

Our view of the supply chain is from our supplier's supplier to our customer's customer inclusive of all elements in-between. It's no wonder executives are turning to their supply chain leaders to find out how to:

- Compress lead times
- Elevate service and delight customers
- Improve margins & profitability
- Accelerate cash flow
- Increase productivity and profitability

We partner with our clients to achieve results and align sourcing with business objectives!

Learn more about our supply chain services [here](#).



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Lean Enterprise Workshop**  
September 19, 2016  
Santa Clarita, CA

**APICS 2016**

September 25-27, 2016  
Washington, D. C.

APICS-IE Fall Executive Panel & Networking Symposium  
October 29, 2016  
Corona, Calif.



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