



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

Operational Performance Improvement Newsletter

Strategies for Improving Business Performance
2017

September,

 Send to a Colleague

Welcome

One of the keys to success on the lean journey is how people are viewed. As we have seen clients succeed greatly with lean or struggle endlessly without success, it has become apparent that this topic is noteworthy. Thus, one of our feature articles this month is on employee empowerment in the lean journey.

Also, it is always a good idea to see the best of what's out there. The new, highly automated Skechers facility is just that - check out the amazing innovations and bottom line savings. We are sure it will give you a few ideas at minimum.

As we enter the 4th quarter, remember to take stock of your progress to 2017 goals. There is time to adjust if you act quickly. If you need ideas for cost savings and profit improvement, check out our [blog](#).

A Tour of Skechers and Jaw Dropping Savings (and Innovations)

By Lisa Anderson, MBA, CSCP

Recently, I went on a tour of Skechers with my ProVisors group. We had heard so much about the building and related innovations from the developer, Iddo Benzeevi, previously that we were really excited to see it in action.

The ACA Group Partner Spotlight



Mike Letson

There are truly jaw dropping savings - \$25 million a year reduction in operating costs - from the total picture.

Who can argue with that? Certainly not the environmentally-conscious people as it is also the largest LEED Gold Certified building of its kind to be awarded with this distinction by the U.S. Green Building Council. There is no air conditioning required due mainly to the innovative design. In comparison, topics like Solar seem boring! And, of course, it is the picture of warehouse automation. Are you thinking beyond impossible like these folks did?



[Read the rest of the article](#)

CPIM, CSCP, Certified Scrum Product Owner, Lean Six Sigma Green Belt and DMAIC Black Belt

Focused on developing leadership skills for business improvement.

Mike Letson has variety of leadership experience working with Fortune 500 companies as well as small and medium-sized business across a multitude of industries. He has served key roles in supply chain management, manufacturing operations, repair and overhaul, quality and sales.

[more](#)

Employee Empowerment - The Key to Success in Lean Transformation

By James P. Strong, CPIM, CPM, CSCP

As an instructor of APICS Certification Courses in Operations and Supply Chain Management I am frequently reminded of how many



companies are stuck in the same place with their Lean Trans-formation. They seem to have done everything right, by the book, and still don't see any real impact on processes and profitability as promised by Lean.

Many of these companies have done extensive Lean training, worked with Lean consultants, held Kaizen events, and gone through 5-S clean ups, and implemented Kanban's. They have set up work cells to simplify production control, reduce material handling, and floor space. Yet they continue to operate with excessive WIP, intermittent production practices, shortages, and some still use "hot lists" to schedule daily production.

Service Focus:

Change Management

Make the Changes You Need.



We strive to successfully transforming organizations with multi-million dollar ERP systems, to lean philosophies, to sales and operations planning programs, and to merger and acquisition integration, the common element to achieving bottom line business results is our focus on change management. Here's how you benefit:

- Accelerating cash flow
- Increasing margins &

- profitability
- Elevating customer service & satisfaction

The ACA Group: Additional Resources

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

Learn more about our change management services [here](#).



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mobility 21 Conference
September 29, 2017
Anaheim, California

APICS 2017
October 15-17, 2017
San Antonio, Texas

**APICS-IE Fall Executive Panel & Networking Symposium:
Trending Technologies for Manufacturing & Distribution Success**
Saturday, November 4, 2017
Corona, Calif.



The ACA Group is an alliance of operations and supply chain management experts who partner with organizations to improve business performance



The ACA Group

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