

**TBM LEANSIGMA® INSTITUTE LAUNCHES “LEAN” ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAM
-- New e-learning Courses Bring “Lean” to the Screen and “Do-It-Yourself” Audience --**

Durham, N.C. – January 14, 2008 – TBM Consulting Group, the global business improvement leader for the manufacturing and service sectors, announced today the launch of “Essential Lean Learning”, a comprehensive online interactive training program for lean awareness. Developed by TBM’s LeanSigma® Institute, the eLearning program will give a broad audience access to online lean training and provide rapid knowledge transfer of basic lean concepts and applications.

The first comprehensive online awareness training program for lean, “Essential Lean Learning” can quickly familiarize employees with lean terminology and tools now used by Toyota and other highly successful lean enterprises. The curriculum consists of a series of twelve progressive self-paced modules which feature simulations and interactive exercises. Courses include:

- Objectives of Lean and Why Organizations Should Embark on Lean Journey
- LeanSigma as Effective Business Strategy for Growth and Profitability
- Seven Categories of Waste
- Takt, Flow and Pull
- Role of Jidoka as Productivity Improvement Tool
- Production Smoothing
- Cycle Time
- Four Key Elements of Standard Operations
- 5S
- Value Chain Maps
- Kaizen

All modules are web-based and easily accessible from any web browser. Each course includes hands-on exercises and real-life examples to help students comprehend and apply what they’ve learned. Students finish with a 10-question quiz designed to test for comprehension. The entire curriculum takes approximately 8-10 hours to complete.

“With lean becoming the major productivity tool embraced by global manufacturers around the world, TBM’s new eLearning curriculum provides organizations with a fast, effective and affordable way to get everyone speaking a common language about lean at the convenience of the worker,” said Joe Panebianco, Director and Team Leader, TBM LeanSigma® Institute. “This is an opportunity to bring the world’s most impactful productivity tool to the desktop and speed up the pace of a lean transformation.”

TBM’s online e-learning center helps organizations educate their workforce on why their company is using lean as a strategy for growth and profitability and enables workers to understand their role in the lean transformation.

TBM Consulting Group, Inc. is the leading provider of LeanSigma® consulting and training services in North and South America, Europe and Asia. The company’s mission is helping manufacturers and service industry businesses create a competitive advantage to generate significant growth in sales and earnings. The company provides the strategic direction and hands-on implementation to guide cultural and organizational transformation. TBM LeanSigma® Institute offers a range of interactive workshops, online training, user conferences and customized training solutions to give organizations the necessary tools to launch their own lean initiative. TBM Consulting Group’s LeanSigma® approach integrates Lean principles for responsiveness and Six Sigma’s focus on quality. More information about TBM Consulting Group and the TBM LeanSigma Institute can be found at www.tbmcg.com.

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