

Leading Authorities on Lean Manufacturing to Help Guide New Generation of Software Solutions

Factory Logic Announces Lean Advisory Board

December 2, 2003 – Austin, Texas. Factory Logic, the leading provider of lean manufacturing management solutions, has announced the formation of a formal Advisory Board. The Board is made up of some of the most respected lean manufacturing experts from both industry and the academic community. The Advisory Board will help guide Factory Logic's on-going development of software solutions designed to help companies improve operational and business performance through broader application of lean production. Initial members of the Factory Logic Lean Advisory Board are:

- Timothy A. Costello (Advisory Board Chairman), President and CEO of Builder Homesite, a lifetime member of the Shingo Prize for Excellence in Manufacturing Academy, and current member of the Shingo Prize Board of Governors. A recognized lean manufacturing veteran with over 20 years experience in operations, technology, and strategic planning processes with leading manufacturers such as Applied Materials and General Motors
- Dr. Jeffrey Liker, Director of the Lean Program Office and the Japan Technology Management Program at The University of Michigan. Author of over 60 articles and book chapters, and four books, including: *Becoming Lean: Experiences of US Manufacturers*. Winner of four Shingo Prizes for Excellence in Manufacturing Research.
- Dr. Edward Anderson, Assistant Professor of Operations Management at the University of Texas McCombs School of Business, winner of the prestigious Wickham Skinner Early Career Research Award from the Production and Operations Society, and associate editor with the *Production and Operations Management Journal*.
- Douglas F. Carlberg, Chairman and CEO of M2 Global Manufacturing and M2 Global Solutions, a leading lean manufacturing and supply chain advisory firm. Previous Executive Director of the Association of Manufacturing Excellence (AME) and senior manufacturing executive at Harris Corporation, TRACOR, and Hughes. A member of the Shingo Prize Board of Governors
- Peter Stangl, Director of Supply Chain Management for OEM Products with Applied Materials, formerly Lean Manufacturing Program Manager and manager of the company's Lean Engineering Center. Hands-on experience in transformation of multiple products to flow lines, numerous kaizen projects, and improvement of both manufacturing and office systems through lean tools.

Sami Cassis, Factory Logic Vice President of Product Strategy, will act as liaison with the Advisory Board. In this role, he will lead the process of reviewing new solution concepts, requesting structured feedback, and incorporating the Board's input into product development plans.

Allan Wilson, Factory Logic President and CEO, stated: “Factory Logic is extremely happy to have attracted such a prestigious and knowledgeable group of experts for our Advisory Board. The added insight gained from this group of leading lean thinkers will enable us to further refine our software-supported lean production and supply chain management solutions. Our approach has been to develop comprehensive integrated solutions built from the ground up around the concepts originally pioneered in the Toyota Production System (TPS). It is clear that manufacturers are hungry for such solutions and the approach we’ve taken is what they are looking for. We’re already seeing an enthusiastic response to our initial offerings, but we also know there is much more we can do. This Advisory Board, combined with our close working relationship with a number of forward-looking manufacturers, will help us stay on the leading edge of manufacturing and supply chain management thinking as we expand and improve our solutions.”

Tim Costello, Chairman of the new Advisory Board, added: “Manufacturers are looking for the right tools to take execution of lean principles to the next level and Factory Logic has demonstrated a solid understanding of what's needed. As an Advisory Board, we hope to provide the kind of input and feedback Factory Logic will need to continue building solutions that are both innovative and practical. I think all of us on the Board see this as an opportunity to make an important contribution to the manufacturing industry over the next few years.”

Bios of the Advisory Board members can be found at www.factorylogic.com/leanboard.asp.

About Factory Logic

Factory Logic is dedicated to helping companies improve customer responsiveness and eliminate waste by delivering factory management solutions that support and enhance the use of key techniques pioneered in the Toyota Production System (TPS), and that make lean manufacturing practical for a wider range of manufacturing environments.

With headquarters in Austin, Texas, Factory Logic is the first company to team lean manufacturing specialists with experienced software professionals to develop a standard software product built around the principles of lean production. The result is the *Factory Logic*™ Lean Management System, a new breed of software product designed to support the new breed of lean factory. *Factory Logic* provides integrated support for lean process design and analytics, demand-driven production planning and scheduling, material pull management, and lean performance monitoring. As such, *Factory Logic* became the first software product to be awarded the coveted Shingo Prize in 2001.

For more information about Factory Logic and the Lean Management System, please visit www.factorylogic.com.