



## **INTERNATIONAL IMPACT ON LEAN EDUCATION**

### **What is EdNet**

EdNet is the Educational Network of the Lean Advancement Initiative (LAI), headquartered at MIT in Cambridge, MA. EdNet is currently made up of 36 university partners listed on the back of this page who collaborate to advance "lean" thinking in educational programs. A "lean" enterprise is one that eliminates waste and optimizes the value delivered to all of its stakeholders.

### **Background on LAI**

The Lean Advancement Initiative (LAI) is a consortium made up of industry, government, and academic members. The LAI mission is to accelerate lean enterprise transformation through research, sharing and creation of tools. Inspiration for this initiative was based on the book, *The Machine that Changed the World* which featured the principles of lean used in the Toyota manufacturing system. In 1993, LAI was formed when the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) addressed the concept of lean thinking and practice for the aerospace industry.

### **EdNet Makes a Difference**

#### **To Industry and Government**

- Expands the pool of lean-savvy graduates
- Builds local resources for lean expertise
- Enables long-term linkages to academia
- Ongoing access to the latest research and methods for enabling lean processes throughout the enterprise

#### **To Academia**

- Opportunities for faculty to collaborate on learning & developing lean materials
- Access to robust class materials, exercises, case studies
- Links faculty to local industry /government

### **The LAI Lean Academy® Series**

EdNet partners have created a robust curriculum called *The LAI Lean Academy® Series* of courses and seminars. The 3 day LAI Lean Academy Short Course provides a hands-on introduction to lean and six sigma fundamentals. The LAI Lean Academy® course was developed by EdNet members and is an important way that EdNet helps faculty to incorporate lean concepts into their on-campus coursework. This foundation course also provides the basis for advanced curriculum in topics such as Value Stream Mapping and Lean Product Development.

### **EdNet Strategies**

#### ***Building the Network***

EdNet seeks new faculty partners interested in infusing lean topics into the school curriculum.

#### ***Share Curriculum***

EdNet members and champions work together to create programs and curriculum focused on lean concepts. Members gather together to discuss coursework and lessons learned.



Participants actively engaged in discussion about EdNet future Strategy Academy® topics.

#### ***Lean Educator Conference***

Annual gathering of all EdNet member schools, interested faculty from across the globe, active government agencies and industry supporters. Next conference is April 24-25, 2008 at the Boston Hyatt Harborside Hotel.

### **Future Directions**

Future plans for EdNet are to build upon the success of the LAI Lean Academy® courses and expand and diffuse curriculum offerings to new audiences. Creation of satellite EdNet Centers will help to better serve customers. Development of advanced curriculum will help keep EdNet members on the leading edge of enterprise transformation.

#### ***EdNet Future Highlights***

- *Course development on new advanced topics*
- *EdNet ongoing collaboration and communication*
- *EdNet virtual forums and online seminars*

### **For More Information**

For more information about EdNet or joining EdNet, please see our website or contact the EdNet program director at the address and phone number below. There is no fee for university membership.

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Industry donations needed.  
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