

**Volume 12, Issue 24**     **June 13, 2005**

- Due to unforeseen circumstances, the tour of Willow Manufacturing has had to be postponed until the fall. The General Management Team will be reassessing the Tour program, and its operation for re-ignition in September.*

## Largest Gathering of Consortium Members Ever Assembled

It was truly impressive, the outpouring of recognition for **Paul Deckert and HPM** from the over 155 Consortium Members assembled on Tuesday night to exchange ideas and experiences as part of the Largest AME Regional Canadian Conference ever. This event far surpassed the attendance for any such Conference in the AME's 21 year history.

As of yesterday, the total attendance was recorded as 596 participants, drawing praise from both the past and present chairs of AME which is based in Wheeling, Illinois.

### Conference Reception – Shows Energy

After a full day of networking and listening to Value Stream Best Practices and Keynote Speakers, a reception was held for all members of the Consortiums present – plus others who were interested in learning more about Consortiums.

Paul Deckert began the exchange by taking the portable microphone to share the early days of HPM so long ago. From that opening perspective the mike was then passed to all of the facilitators and managing directors who introduced their consortium and the folks who were present at the conference.

The energy really peaked when the mike was passed from person to person – each of whom openly shared what involvement with the consortium had meant for them personally and for their company.

More than one company cited the implementation of Lean and the participation in their consortium as the clear reason for their survival to date.

Here is a brief summary of the responses folks shared with everyone when Paul asked for some of

## # Of Mfg. Operations Leaders Attending Canada's First Regional Lean Conference

*Total Number will exceed 600*

- 34% - Alberta
- 20% - Ontario
- 13% - Saskatchewan
- 12% - Manitoba
- 11% US - from 26 US States
- 5% - British Columbia
- 2% - Quebec
- 1% - Maritimes & 1% - International

the key conclusions, observations, & values drawn from belonging to their consortium:

- ▶ Change is happening too fast for everyone to learn on their own
- ▶ All members of consortium treated equally whether big or small, supplier or customer
- ▶ Companies in different businesses can still learn from each other
- ▶ HPM model has been exported across country with positive results
- ▶ Illustrations of how consortiums are now recognized as positive value by their members

**This Update is Live from Edmonton... Dave will be on holiday to June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005**

- ▶ and increasingly by their communities
- ▶ The overwhelming response confirmed that

- ▶ they and their members are enthusiastic about the current & potential benefits of belonging
- ▶ There was wide and generous recognition and appreciation expressed for model developed by HPM and transplanted by Dave Hogg & HPM
- ▶ It was really impressive to hear of the great trust and willingness to share between consortiums
- ▶ Approximately 75 % of presentations came from companies that are in consortiums. They were hesitant in identifying the impact on their achievements and why it caused them to actually be at the conference

The guests (who consisted of anyone interested in learning more about Consortiums) expressed high interest in joining a consortium after hearing the personal testimonials by attendees – many of whom spoke very passionately of their experience and results.

## It's Official – Next Yr. AME Canadian Regional Conference will be in the Waterloo Region June 12-16<sup>th</sup> – Continuing the ramp-up to 2008 in Toronto

**Canada's Technology Triangle** is one of several proud supporters of Kitchener as the central location of this conference in the heart of Kitchener-Waterloo-Guelph-Cambridge... And while the site identified is the downtown Delta Hotel for the plenary sessions – *tours of the best of the 'Best Practice facilities' will range from half-day to full day tours from London to Hamilton, Oakville, Burlington and Mississauga.*