

About Our Instructors

Gene Kaschak, VP, Continuous Improvement & Leadership Development Strategy



Gene has seen first-hand how the best improvement ideas usually get started by the people doing the work every day. His early projects in continuous improvement were focused on bringing these ideas to life by listening to small suggestions or comments and designing the proposed solutions for various manufacturing, operations, maintenance, product development, and information technology projects. As a Lean Coach with MRC since 2014, Gene's focus now is to develop the scientific thinking skills in the local manufacturing community to bring these improvement ideas to life through daily experiments.

Janelle Rabenold, Director, Leadership Development and Training Strategy



Janelle brings over 15 years of expertise in Leadership and Organizational Development to MRC's Operational Excellence Program. Renowned for her ability to guide individuals and teams toward their goals, she is a trusted partner, coach, and facilitator. Janelle holds a BS in Business Administration from Albright College and an MS in Human Resource Management & Learning and Performance Management from Moravian University. Her extensive certifications in assessment tools and methodologies, including Everything DiSC, MBTI, CPI, TKI, FIRO-B, and Prosci Change Management, reflect her commitment to using cutting-edge techniques to foster growth and success for colleagues and clients alike.

Mike Hoseus, Author, Executive Director, CQPO



Mike Hoseus is Executive Director of the Center for Quality People & Organizations (CQPO). Mike brings both manufacturing operations and specialization in Human Resource experience to CQPO. CQPO current projects with Toyota include New Hire selection and training process, Team Leader and Group Leader post promotion training, Quality Circle Leader and Manager training, and Global Problem Solving for all levels. Mike is an adjunct professor with the University of Kentucky's Lean Manufacturing Program. Mike is co author with CQPO and Dr. Jeffery Liker (Author of the Toyota Way) of Toyota Culture. Mike is also president of CMH Inc.

Richard Titus, Jr., Ph.D. Titus Consulting



Richard Titus, PhD, is a Master Black Belt who spent nearly 20 years at Ingersoll-Rand in a variety of positions including operations management, IS, materials management, and manufacturing and design engineering among others. Dr. Titus is certified as a Black Belt and Master Black Belt by Six Sigma Qualtec where he also received his Lean training. Rich received his BS in industrial engineering and MS in manufacturing systems engineering from Lehigh University where he has been a lecturer and adjunct faculty member since 2000. In 2019, he earned his PhD in industrial engineering from Penn State University focusing his research on supplier selection. Dr. Titus has supported over 350 Lean Six Sigma projects in over 60+ companies resulting in over \$50 million dollars of real savings.

- All sessions will be held at MRC's training center or at local manufacturers, which will include real-life applications to enhance your learning experience.
- MRC's training programs can be customized to your company's specific needs and offered at your facility using "Learn and Experience" methods. To learn more, please contact: **Nicole Pierce, Training & Events Coordinator** at (484) 655-4873 or nicole.pierce@mrcpa.org.

Funding subsidies may apply. Please contact Diane Lewis at (610) 628-4578 or email her at: diane.lewis@mrcpa.org to see if you qualify.



Lean Certification Programs 2025-2026

Lean strengthens your business. It engages your culture to constantly improve; saving time, money, and resources.



MRC's Lean Certification Programs emphasize strategic Lean transformation through cultural engagement and help prepare your team to manage your organization's Lean journey.

Our programs develop your change-agent skills by enhancing your ability to design Lean systems, manage relationships, and lead strategy deployment.

The Lean Certification Programs include:

- Onsite practical application of Lean tools
- Training from nationally recognized experts and local practitioners
- Hands-on classroom instruction and application in our onsite simulated factory
- One-on-one coaching for certification projects



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MRC's Lean Certification Programs

Facilitated by MRC's Lean coaches and nationally recognized Lean experts, our Lean Certification Programs develop the change management skills of those responsible for creating and managing an internal Lean Enterprise program.

Price: \$2,195

Early registration discount price \$1,995*

- 6 days (2-day sessions each bi-weekly)
 - Includes course materials, light breakfast, lunch, snacks, and beverages
 - All sessions run 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
- Dates and location subject to change*

2025 Fall Schedule

*Early registration date August 9, 2025

- Week 1: October 7-8, 2025
- Week 2: October 14-15, 2025
- Week 3: October 21-22, 2025

2026 Winter Schedule

*Early registration date December 16, 2025

- Week 1: January 13-14, 2026
- Week 2: January 20-21, 2026
- Week 3: January 27-28, 2026

2026 Spring Schedule

*Early registration date February 17, 2026

- Week 1: March 17, 18, 19, 2026
- Week 2: March 24, 25, 26, 2026

Additional dates are available for dedicated company-specific sessions. Contact your MRC Regional Director or email us at: info@mrcpa.org for more details.

Foundations of Lean Certification

"Without standards, there can be no improvement."

-Taiichi Ohno, Toyota

As the foundation of a Lean Enterprise, standardization sets expectations for process performance and provides the basis for problem-solving and continuous improvement. In Foundations of Lean Certification, participants will learn how to:

- Evaluate manufacturing processes to identify value-adding activities and how to find opportunities to eliminate waste that exists within those activities
- Create standards to reduce process variation
- Generate one-best-way Job Methods to improve process consistency
- Create Job Breakdowns to standardize Job Instruction
- Install process checks to sustain process performance
- Improve equipment setups/changeovers using Lean methods
- Strengthen team-building and workplace relationships with Belbin Team Roles and Everything DiSC Workplace® insights and individual assessments

This program features an immersive learning experience through a mix of classroom instruction and hands-on experimentation in MRC's Lean Manufacturing Factory simulation. Upon completion of all course work and a demonstration of understanding through a capstone test and case study, participants are "Foundations of Lean" certified by MRC.

Recommended For:

- CI Team Members
- Engineers
- Team Leads
- Support Staff
- Operators
- Plant Managers



Lean Master Certification

"People don't go to Toyota to 'work' they go there to 'think'."

-Taiichi Ohno, Toyota

A Lean Enterprise is more than a collection of improvement tools, a Lean Enterprise aligns an organization's *purpose* with its *people* and its *processes*. In Lean Master Certification, participants will learn how:

- Value stream mapping can help visualize improvement opportunities
- The Scientific Method of Plan, Do, Check, Act (PDCA) can proactively and reactively eliminate the root cause of problems
- Lean Daily Management Systems can share performance information and prioritize improvement work at all levels
- Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) can create a shared ownership of equipment to maximize the operation by reducing downtime
- Understanding the Yellow Belt Six Sigma problem-solving approach of Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, and Control (DMAIC) can help your collaboration with Green and Black Belt Improvement Leaders
- Lead and sustain change management by proactively minimizing resistance, building readiness, and equipping individuals to embrace and adopt Lean-driven improvements

Lean Master Certification is delivered by MRC and Mike Hoseus, former General Manager at Toyota. The program features blended learning through a mix of classroom instruction, instructor-led exercises at host companies, and one-on-one coaching for each participant.

MRC's Lean Master Certification is earned through the successful completion of a Standardization or PDCA project.

Recommended For:

- CI Managers
- Engineers
- Operations Leaders
- Technicians
- Plant Managers
- Foundations of Lean Graduates



Price: \$4,750

Early registration discount price \$4,250 by March 10, 2026

- 12 days (2-3-day sessions every 3 weeks)
 - Includes course materials, light breakfast, lunch, snacks, and beverages
 - All sessions run 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
- Dates and location subject to change*
- Includes offsite session(s) hosted at local manufacturers as available*
 - **Prerequisite:** Foundations of Lean Certification

2026 Spring Schedule

- Week 1: April 7-8, 2026
- Week 2: April 21-22, 2026
- Week 3: May 4-6, 2026
- Week 4: May 19-20, 2026
- Week 5: June 2-3, 2026
- Week 6: June 9, 2026

* Contact Nicole Pierce if interested in hosting opportunities at your manufacturing facility

Register today for Foundations of Lean or Lean Master Certification:

mrcpa.org/events or contact:

nicole.pierce@mrcpa.org (484) 655-4873

"As a manufacturer in the greater Reading / Lehigh Valley area, we turn to MRC to provide our associates Lean Manufacturing training and skills necessary to continuously improve our processes and keep our business cost competitive. MRC does a terrific job at offering custom and standard programs that are tailored to the specific needs of today's manufacturers, and we are proud to partner with them for this training." - Tom Morse, Director of Operations, NPX ONE