

Japan Operational Excellence Benchmarking Experience

February 27 – March 03, 2028

With Mike Hoseus

FocusIn: Japan Operational Excellence Benchmarking Experience is a powerful opportunity to experience industry leadership and improvement philosophy at the source.

FocusIn will host the event and provide a wide range of expertise and insight. We will lead a multi-day workshop on manufacturing best practices, improvement philosophy, and systems development.

Site tours will be held at various operating facilities, including global manufacturers.

Why Japan?



This environment offers a unique operating landscape in which to learn. Japan is one of the world's leading industrialized economies, and there are many companies to benchmark. We will use this backdrop during the event to offer proximity to site visits with globally leading brands.

Event Highlights

Explore diverse operating facilities with in-depth tours and workshops. After each tour will be a group debrief:

- Group Observations and Question & Answer Session
- Learn from the unique perspectives of facilitators and fellow participants
- Group Discussion comparing elements of engaging a workforce and developing a culture of continuous improvement

Event Learning Objectives

Experience the unique Japanese Culture, get a deeper understanding of values like respect, cleanliness, and discipline, and how these are embedded in day-to-day life and work environments.

- Kaizen training with Japanese sensei: learn core concepts of the Kaizen philosophy direct on the shop-floor
- Visit several mature Kaizen companies and learn firsthand from their leadership
- See elements of the Lean principles in real life, like visual management, standard work, and problem-solving

Meet Mike Hoseus

Mike is the Executive Director of the Center for Quality People & Organizations (CQPO), founded in 1999 with Toyota Motor Manufacturing to share Lean Quality and HR practices across education, business, and community sectors. He is also an adjunct professor at the University of Kentucky's Center for Manufacturing and a faculty member at Lean Enterprise Institute. Previously, Mike spent 13 years in leadership roles at Toyota's Georgetown, Kentucky plant in HR and Manufacturing. He now supports organizations in Lean Culture transformations, emphasizing the connection between Executive Management, HR, and the production value stream.

Visit mrcpa.org/events for full event details or contact Nicole Pierce at nicole.pierce@mrcpa.org.

Register early for best possible price

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- Plant Tours: Toyota and other world-class facilities
- Seminars and workshops
- 5 Hotel nights (Check-in Sunday, check-out Friday)
- Local Transportation (Charter bus and train, where applicable)
- Breakfast & Lunch
- *Participation fee does not include airfare, airport transport to/from the event hotel, travel insurance, and personal expenses (own dinners and optional activities).

 Register: mrcpa.org/events

*Fees and times subject to change. Visit mrcpa.org/events for current details.