

# Safety - Lockout Tagout

written by Lauri Moon | July 30, 2020

For several years the Lockout Tagout (LOTO) category has been listed among OSHA's Annual Top 10 Most Cited Violations for General Industry. Controlling hazardous energy with appropriate LOTO procedures and equipment is a life or death situation. According to OSHA, complying with the LOTO standard prevents an estimated 120 fatalities and 50,000 injuries every year. However, based on the number of violations, injuries and even deaths as an industry we still struggle with compliance.

## In this free one-hour webinar we will:

- Cover the requirements of 29 CFR 1910.147 Control of Hazardous Energy
- Provide applicable best practices that can be applied immediately to help with compliance
- Discuss some common issues with LOTO programs
- Discuss some methods to ensure your program is compliant

## Instructor



This course will be taught by Food Processing Specialist, Janna Hamlett of TechHelp, and the University of Idaho.

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# IMC Central PA Lean Roundtable Call

written by Lauri Moon | July 30, 2020

IMC would like to touch base with our “Continuous Improvement Community”, those who have been thru IMC’s lean training programs.

We would like to hear from you and discuss a little about:

- The Current Condition
- The Role of Continuous Improvement Advocates
- Possible Paths for Future Improvement Training and Support from IMC

**Register**

Once registered, you will receive login information for the conference call.

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# IMC Central PA Lean Roundtable Call - Williamsport Group

written by Lauri Moon | July 30, 2020

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# Why Root Cause Analysis is the Cornerstone of Asset Performance Management

written by Lauri Moon | July 30, 2020

Physical assets are capital intensive and for many organizations are considered to be the life blood of their business. No enterprise can expect to achieve peak performance unless these assets reliably perform at optimal levels. To achieve operational excellence your overall Asset Performance Management (APM) strategy needs to be proactive and effective. Many asset-intensive organizations continue to use break-fix maintenance plans to manage their production assets. Not only does this reactive approach increase cost through increased downtime and lost production, but unplanned shutdowns or failures can lead to environmental health and safety incidents. Good APM has been proven to reduce unplanned downtime, increase asset availability, decrease maintenance costs, and reduce the risk of failure for assets that are most critical to operations.

By including **proactive Root Cause Analysis** (RCA) as a core component of your APM strategy, you can improve:

- Availability - Assets are consistently available to perform
- Reliability - Assets perform their intended function consistently avoiding any operational interruption

This webinar will address the core components of (APM) and how an effective RCA process will support increased asset performance and cost control.

At the end of this webinar you will:

1. Recognize the typical pitfalls/barriers/deficiencies in APM programs
2. Understand how KT Proactive RCA Tools address these typical pitfalls
3. Learn how to build a Collaborative Culture of Continuous Improvement

## **Register**

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# **Accelerate and Sustain Lean with Today's Digital Plant**

written by Lauri Moon | July 30, 2020

Learn how today's digital plant and its connected workforce accelerate and sustain Lean initiatives to drive greater productivity and efficiency, lower cost of ownership, and increase profitability.

Discover how a code-free, centralized environment to aggregate, visualize, and analyze data in context across plant systems facilitates Lean and other programs as well as helps to maintain the momentum from process improvements.

This webinar will include four case studies demonstrating the digital plant in action.

With digital technologies and greater insights, you can gain a modern foundation for optimizing operations, improving efficiency, and reducing costs.

## **Speakers**



### **Ranbir Saini, Sr. Director - Automation, GE Digital**

Ranbir Saini is the senior director of product management for Automation Software at GE Digital, which includes the industry-leading iFIX and CIMPLICITY HMI/SCADA software used by thousands of organizations around the world. Ranbir has nearly 20 years of experience delivering industrial automation, operations management, and media content-creation software to OEM, municipal, and enterprise customers. He has a passion for designing compelling and innovative solutions in the physical and digital space that make a meaningful difference to customers, human experiences, and society. Outside of work, this passion has led him to venture into architectural design such as residential houses and doors as well as having an ongoing pursuit to create the perfect cup of chai.



### **Steve Pavlosky, Principal Product Manager, Historian, GE Digital**

Steve Pavlosky is the Principal Product Manager for GE Digital's Proficy Historian and Data at the Edge program. With more than 30 years serving in automation and industrial data management, Steve is an Industrial Internet pioneer and firm believer in the value and power of data. His career spans the introduction of GE's CIMPLICITY HMI/SCADA software to leading the company's edge-to-cloud connectivity device portfolio. Having worked with hundreds of customers, Steve is passionate about enabling organizations to get the most performance and reliability from their assets - which starts with secure and efficient collection and storage,

contextualizing asset data, and distributing data to the users and applications that derive value from the data.

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# **Kick-Starting Your Modern Maintenance Program**

written by Lauri Moon | July 30, 2020

Do any of these sound like you?

- I've got no real maintenance management system. I never have and am intimidated about where to get started.
- I've got a system, but I never got it off the ground and don't feel we get what we need from it.
- I'm making progress, but I would like to further maximize my maintenance operations.

Regardless of where you're at, kick-starting your maintenance is possible. It starts with changing the mindset of your organization - a process that may be easier than

you think if you have the right CMMS tools, plan and especially the right partner. Starting with the goal, objective and pain points first, then moving to how technology can solve those problems and put you on a better path is key.

During this discussion, you'll learn:

- A multi-step (crawl, walk, run) plan to ease you into a continuous improvement mode and get away from maintenance firefighting
- What technologies can really help improve your operations
- How to arm yourself with information that you can use with your management to show how modernizing/kick-starting your maintenance department will help with profitability

## Speakers

### **Paul Lachance, Senior Manufacturing Advisor, Dude Solutions**

Paul Lachance has spent his entire career devoted to optimizing maintenance teams by enabling data-driven decisions and actionable insights. He wrote his first CMMS system in 2004 and has since spent his professional career designing and directing CMMS and EAM systems. A regular speaker at national tradeshow, he's been featured at IMTS, Fabtech and SMRP as well as several industry magazines. He currently serves as the Senior Manufacturing Advisor for Dude Solutions.

### **Pete Walker, Production Engineering Manager, Johnson Outdoors Marine Electronics, Inc.**

Pete Walker is the Production Engineering Manager at the Humminbird brand Marine Electronics plant in Eufaula Alabama. He has over 35 years experience in PC Board Manufacturing and electronics assembly covering the Automotive, and Consumer Electronics Industries.



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# Maximizing Value from Your Asset Management Strategy

written by Lauri Moon | July 30, 2020

It's critical to get the most value possible from your asset management tools to boost reliability and performance and reduce downtime. **Intelligent Assets Practice Lead Paul Casto of GrayMatter** and **Senior Product Marketing Manager Dan Parker of GE Digital** will discuss how to craft a successful asset maintenance strategy that balances equipment criticality, predictive and condition-based maintenance and predictive analytics. They will highlight common missteps that can hurt long-term success and detail how **Eastman Chemical** embraced a comprehensive solution that dropped unscheduled downtime by 60 percent, reduced product loss by 40 percent and cut long-term maintenance costs by 10 percent, saving millions of dollars.

Topics Paul and Dan will cover:

- Reliability
- Availability
- Uptime
- Maintenance cost
- Risk of failure
- Unexpected failures



- Scrap (due to equipment)
- Condition-Based Maintenance
- Life of Capital Equipment

## Speakers

### **Paul Casto, Intelligent Assets Lead, GrayMatter**

Paul Casto is a top practitioner in reliability and maintenance improvement methodologies. He has hands-on experience in reliability, maintenance, operations and engineering in the steel, aluminum, automotive, chemical, aerospace, consumer goods and construction industries. His areas of focus include: value creation through reliability and maintenance, leveraging reliability to reduce operating cost, the application of advanced reliability tools integrating operations into reliability and maintenance, reliability-based maintenance and shop floor culture change. He has previously worked for GE Digital, Meridium and Eastman Chemical Company.

### **Dan Parker, Senior Product Marketing Manager, GE Digital**

Dan Parker is the Sr. Product Marketing Manager for the Asset Performance Management (APM) solution at GE Digital. With more than 10 years of experience in the development and commercialization of enterprise application software solutions, Dan focuses on the delivery of APM solutions that enable asset-intensive chemical companies to drive safer, more reliable operations while maximizing performance and lowering costs. In addition to APM, his product experience includes: Manufacturing Execution Systems (MES), and various HMI/SCADA solutions.



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# **Trends and Strategies Driving Manufacturing Success in 2019**

written by Lauri Moon | July 30, 2020

Though the manufacturing sector has seen strong growth over the last few years, recent data indicates some slowing. The inability to attract talent in a tight labor market, rising prices, and trade anxieties are just some of the challenges to growth that manufacturers will continue to face in 2019. Yet at the same time, digital disruption is creating new opportunities for manufacturers as they embrace evolving technologies.

In this webinar, you'll learn about key factors impacting manufacturing's global economic outlook, discover how software solutions and digital technology will play an increasingly important role in manufacturing in 2019, and get answers to questions such as:


What can manufacturers do to overcome the shortage of skilled workers?

- How will the volatile global economy impact market demand?
- What economic and political issues should manufacturers monitor?
- Will changing regulations call for new strategies and processes?
- Which technology trends and innovations will benefit manufacturers most?
- Are manufacturers ready to invest in digital technology?

## **Speakers**

 **Nick Castellina, Director of Industry and Solution Strategy, Infor**

Nick Castellina is Director of Industry and Solution strategy where he is responsible for marketing messaging and strategic direction in the discrete manufacturing industries. At Infor, Nick interacts with end users to understand their challenges and connects with product management and marketing to support Infor's commitment to delivering focused solutions featuring industry best practices. Prior to Infor, Nick was Vice President and Research Group Director of the Aberdeen Group's Business Planning and Execution research practice. There he worked with software vendors and end users to analyse trends and produce industry-leading content in topics related to Enterprise Resource Planning, Enterprise Performance Management, Project Portfolio Management, and Business Process Management.

 **Chad Moutray, Chief Economist, National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)**

Chad Moutray is chief economist for the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), where he serves as the NAM's economic forecaster and spokesperson on economic issues. He frequently comments on current economic conditions for manufacturers through professional presentations and media interviews and has appeared on various news outlets, including CNBC. In addition, he is the director of the Center for Manufacturing Research at the Manufacturing Institute, the social impact arm of the NAM, where he leads efforts to produce thought leadership, data and analysis of relevance to business leaders in the sector.



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# **Supply Chain Visibility: A New Look**

written by Lauri Moon | July 30, 2020

Are you keeping up with the evolution of supply chain visibility?

Many of the world's top supply chain organizations are gaining an understanding of how their supply chain flows are tied to outcomes. As a result, they make better business decisions, stay ahead of problems, and gain new efficiencies.

In this session, you'll see how to:

- Gain actionable insights with an end-to-end view of your supply chain
- Identify new opportunities for supply chain process improvement
- Reduce bottlenecks, while improving profit margins and satisfaction

## **Speakers**

**Sean T. Riley, Global Industry Director, Manufacturing & Transportation, Software AG**

Sean Riley is the Global Industry Director for Manufacturing & Transportation for Software AG. Over the past six years, Mr. Riley has been obsessively focused on enterprise digital transformation with a focus on leveraging technologies like IoT, Predictive Analytics, Machine Learning and Intelligent Automation as applied to production, field services, supply chains, logistics and new product development. Prior to joining Software AG in 2011, Mr. Riley has over ten years of experience in the supply chain and logistics fields. In addition to his work experience, Mr. Riley has received a BA in Business Administration from Hanover College, a MBA with Distinction from DePaul University and is a certified Six Sigma Greenbelt. As well as being a continual guest lecturer for DePaul University, Mr. Riley also sits on the curriculum advisory committee for the DePaul Graduate Program for Supply Chain

and Operations Management and has been named a Supply & Demand Chain Executive “Pro to Know” for the sixth consecutive year.

**Erick Argueta, Vice President, Global Enterprise Solutions, Visual Enterprise Architecture**

Erick Argueta is Vice President of Global Enterprise Solutions at Visual Enterprise Architecture. Over the past 15 years, Mr. Argueta has helped numerous clients foster innovation and effectively bridge the gap between business and IT to provide successful results in Global Business Transformation initiatives. Prior to joining VEA, Mr. Argueta was responsible for the management and supply chain operations of a multi-million dollar production facility of infrared sensors. He holds a Masters in Technology Management from the Wharton Business School at the University of Pennsylvania.



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# **POLCA: The Production Control System for High-Mix, Low-Volume**

# and Custom Products

written by Lauri Moon | July 30, 2020

CLASS IS FULL - REGISTRATION IS CLOSED

This half-day workshop will explain POLCA (**P**aired-cell **O**verlapping **L**oops of **C**ards with **A**uthorization), an alternative to Kanban for material control on the shop floor. POLCA is a card-based visual control system that manages the flow of jobs through the shop floor: at each operation, it controls which job should be worked on next to meet delivery targets. POLCA ensures that upstream operations use their capacity effectively by working on jobs that are needed downstream, while at the same time preventing excessive work-in-process (WIP) build-ups when bottlenecks appear unexpectedly.

POLCA is particularly suited to companies manufacturing high-mix, low-volume and customized products, for which Kanban systems do not work well. Such companies struggle with long lead times, late deliveries and daily expediting to meet delivery dates. POLCA has delivered impressive results in such environments.

The crowning aspect of POLCA is that it is simple. It does not require any complex software implementation: it can be used without an ERP system or it can seamlessly complement an existing ERP system.

The workshop will begin with a tutorial on POLCA, followed by a computer simulation demonstration of POLCA. The class will include several case studies of industry applications, as well as an overview of Suri's new book on POLCA (see below).

The workshop includes:

- **The Need for a New Material Control Strategy:** Why MRP systems can result in an increasing spiral of long lead times and late deliveries and why concepts such as takt time and Kanban do not work well in low-volume or custom environments.
- **Detailed Explanation of POLCA:** POLCA stands for **P**aired-cell **O**verlapping **L**oops of **C**ards with **A**uthorization. This hybrid push/pull

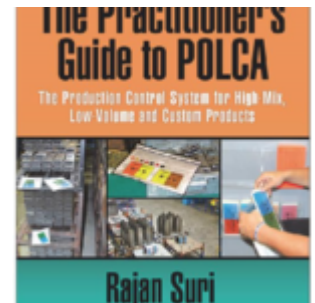
system combines the best features of card-based pull (Kanban) systems and push (MRP) systems while overcoming their drawbacks for low-volume and custom production.

- **Computer Simulation of POLCA:** A computer simulation will be used to demonstrate how POLCA works for a company making low-volume and custom-engineered products.
- **Overview of new book on POLCA:** Attendees will get a “walk-through” of Suri’s new book to provide them with an overview of the contents and tips on how to best use the book.
- **Industry Case Studies of POLCA Application:** Several industry case studies will be presented to show the effectiveness of POLCA for companies in many different industries, including applications in USA, Canada and Europe.

In summary, through the theory and examples in this workshop, attendees will see the impact of POLCA on product lead times and on-time delivery and learn how POLCA can provide companies with a powerful competitive advantage.

**\*\* Bonus \*\***

Attendees will receive a copy of Suri’s newly published book:



*The Practitioner’s Guide to POLCA: The Production Control System for High-Mix, Low-Volume and Custom Products* By Rajan Suri, Productivity Press, 2018.

**Instructor:**

**Rajan Suri** is Emeritus Professor of Industrial Engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He received his Bachelors degree from Cambridge University (England) and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Harvard University. Professor Suri is the Founding Director of the Center for Quick Response Manufacturing (QRM) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, through which around 300 companies have worked with the University on developing and implementing QRM strategies. [Click here to learn more about Professor Suri.](#)



**\*\*Currently only accepting registrations for a minimum of three, maximum of five attendees per company.\*\*** This training qualifies for WEDnetPA funding as **Essential Skills Training.**