

# Tampere Manufacturing Summit



**LEAN AND BEYOND BETWEEN EXTREMES!**

**June 8-10, 2009, Tampere Hall, Tampere, Finland**

## Preparing for the Upturn!

Welcome to the 2nd Tampere Manufacturing Summit 2009 in Tampere, a city with strong manufacturing industries. Tampere is a good example on how to transform from a traditional industry towards a knowledge-based industry and an attractive center of high technology.

We all can see around us how the economic downturn is affecting the manufacturing industry e.g. in form of job cuts, budget freezes and decline in confidence to the future. It is however, sure that this downturn will be followed by an upturn. Instead of full stagnation it's much better to prepare and get ready for the upturn. In the middle of the current challenges and between different extremes we could change our outlook and try to turn the challenges into opportunities.

One example of the opportunities is the European decision to boost the R&D and other smart investments in the manufacturing sector as part of the European economic recovery plan in order to lay down a strong base for the future competitiveness of manufacturing industry. The total R&D budget for the «Factories of the Future» initiative is 1,2 billion euros, of which the European Commission foresees to provide a contribution of 50%.

Globalization means close networking of the flow of goods, information and capital, promoting the worldwide distributed production of goods. At the same time the markets are changing. Customers call for faster product changes and demand products which are increasingly targeted to individual needs. Mass production is therefore replaced by customized and personalized production of individual products.

Starting with Lean and going Beyond you are able to improve your position in the current business environment and prepare yourself for the upturn. In longer term the road towards sustainable technologies and knowledge-based industries calls for strong cooperation between stakeholders at global level.

The Tampere Manufacturing Summit 2009 will gather together stakeholders from industry, universities and research institutions to discuss the current trends and forces shaping the manufacturing industry. Through examples of latest technological advances, best practices and business and manufacturing strategies the summit will give the attendees tools and ideas on how to turn the challenges to opportunities and business success in the coming years.

Looking forward to meeting you at the Tampere Manufacturing Summit 2009!

Reijo Tuokko, Prof.  
Chairman of the Organisation and Program Committee