

Tampere Manufacturing Summit



LEAN AND BEYOND BETWEEN EXTREMES!

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

Monday, June 8, 2009

Welcome Address

Prof. Reijo Tuokko

On behalf of the Program and Organizing Committee, it's my great pleasure to welcome you to this 2nd Tampere Manufacturing Summit in Tampere.

The previous and the 1st Summit in 2007 was focusing on Lean but opened also the window to the future e.g. by discussing the coming paradigm of sustainability and its effects on the manufacturing industry.

After the first summit many things has happened, and what is very important, remarkable breakthroughs have been achieved. Unfortunately the manufacturing world has also faced big challenges due to the economic crisis which makes the situation a little bit more complicated

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 in the manufacturing sector by investing 1,2 billion euros in four years in 'Factories of the Future' as part of the European economic recovery plan.

Really interesting work is going on also in Japan. Kaizen and Toyota Production System are trademarks of Japan but this not all. We all could learn a lot from Japanese Monozukuri, Kakushin and Kaikaku.

President Obama in US has launced in US 'Lean and Mean' (Lean and Excellent) which is supposed to be one key part in the efforts to save the US automotive industry.

Korea has done already since years excellent and successful work for the competitiveness of their industry. A good representative example is Samsung which has become in a few years the main challenger of Nokia. Our national treasure, the leading shipyard in Finland is now part of the Korean based STX shipyard company.

During these days we have a possibility to hear snapshots and also some details of the current status and future visions from all these major economic regions.

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

We can also learn from the crisis. A crisis like this typically brings hidden problems and weaknesses in light which we don't recognize when everything goes well or when we believe that everything goes well. Now the situation is different and the realities are visible for everyone.

When I asked in February professor Jovane, the Grand Father and Vice president of the European Manufuture platform, as an invited speaker of this summit, and asked from him a signature in his and his colleagues' new book 'The Manufuture Road –Towards Competitive and Sustainable High-Adding-Value Manufacturing', he wrote following: *"Your summit plays a very important role in promoting Manufacturing! Manufuture is uniting all of us, but the Summit is the right place for us to diffuse our ideas!"* This earns our deepest appreciation and has made us to work even harder to build this event. Thanks for this and for inspiring us, professor Jovane!

I would like to thank all the contributors and cooperation partners for making this event possible in spite of the current challenging times. Thanks to all speakers and chairs for your contribution and for giving the important contents to this event. And thanks to the organisation and programme committee for your important work and support for realizing this event in practice! I would still like to express our special and sincere thanks to our main sponsor, the Centennial Foundation of the Technology Industries of Finland.

I also want to thank you all for taking the time to attend the summit and join the discussion during these days. This summit has gathered together in total 230 stakeholders from industry, universities and research institutions from 22 countries which is not so bad.

The theme of this summit is 'Lean and Beyond Between Extremes'. We are living between extremes which can be economical, technological, social, size, type of markets etc. During these days we'll hear examples of different extremes. One originally planned extreme 'the 2000 USD Tata Nano car' is missing from the oral presentations due to some unfortunate but understandable reasons. The planned presentation will, however, be included in the presentation material which will be available for you on the web after the summit when we have approval from the speakers for publishing their presentations. You will get instructions how to get access to this material.

You can test also your knowledge in the extremes of fuel economy in the coffee and poster exhibition area and to have look at the fuel economy racing vehicle of Remmi-Team, a student club of Tampere University of Technology. Please take part in the quiz. If you are good or lucky, you may be rewarded at the banquet today.

I hope that you will enjoy this Summit and that the program and your interaction with the other delegates will stimulate a creative exchange of knowledge and ideas of today's hot topics of manufacturing and to build together a better future.

Thank You!