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## TOC-Lean Institute News

### TOCICO Examinations

The link with TOCICO (the Theory of Constraints International Certification Organisation) for us to offer their examinations is up and running and we ran our first set of examinations for TOC Fundamentals and Applications during July. The schedule included the full set of Applications, with people coming from Scandinavia, Austria, Korea and Nigeria - showing that the demand for such qualifications is growing around the world.

Linked with the examination schedule we are offering refresher training in each of the exam disciplines. The next schedule will be running in October at our training centre in Melton Mowbray. The dates for your diary are as follows:

Fundamentals refresher .....	29 <sup>th</sup> October
Supply Chain refresher .....	30 <sup>th</sup> October
Thinking Process refresher .....	31 <sup>st</sup> October
Project Management refresher .....	1 <sup>st</sup> November
Financial Management refresher .....	2 <sup>nd</sup> November

The next examinations will also be held at our training centre in Melton Mowbray on the following dates:

Fundamentals exam .....	12 <sup>th</sup> November
Supply Chain Logistics exam .....	13 <sup>th</sup> November
Thinking Process exam .....	14 <sup>th</sup> November
Project Management exam .....	15 <sup>th</sup> November
Financial Management exam .....	16 <sup>th</sup> November

For more information contact Diane Jeary in our training office on +44 (0)1664 502860 or e-mail [dianej@toc-lean.com](mailto:dianej@toc-lean.com)

### Briefings

Our regular briefing programme is taking a break during the summer months but will be back in October. The dates are as below:

The Goal Breakfast Briefing .....	15th October, 7.30am – 9.30am
Critical Chain Project Management .....	15th October, 1.30pm – 5.00pm
Operations Management .....	16th October, 9.00am – 1.00pm
Financial Management .....	16th October, 1.30pm – 5.00pm
TOC-Lean Breakfast Briefing .....	17th October, 7.30am – 9.30am
Sales & Marketing .....	17th October, 1.30pm – 5.00pm
Lean Manufacturing Principles .....	18th October, 9.00am – 1.00pm
Supply Chain Management .....	19th October, 9.00am – 1.00pm

For more details contact the training office on 01664 502860 or e-mail [tedh@toc-lean.com](mailto:tedh@toc-lean.com)

## TOC NVQs

We have developed a link with the National Skills Academy (NSA) to develop National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ) for the key TOC applications as qualifications under the auspices of the NSA and the NVQ format. These include the following: Continuous Improvement Techniques (TOC), Supply Chain Management (DBR and Replenishment), Critical Chain project management (CCPM) and Finance and Measurements (TA). The intention is to develop these into fully integrated NVQs at levels 2 – 5.

## Realization

We have been fortunate to enhance our partnership with Realization, the software and consulting practice. Realization has changed the way in which projects are managed, whether it be fast product development or MRO or one of a wide range of applications, through the use of Critical Chain project management and their software product – Concerto. This is an excellent product for all manner of project environments but has really shown itself to be most effective in the Multi-Project environment.

## AME Conference

We have attended a number of conferences recently, the most interesting being the AME conference in July focusing on Global Supply Chains. I had the privilege of following Professor Dan Jones onto the platform. He raised what he called the “six key questions”, and I was able to spend a little time offering ways in which the TOC-Lean approach dealt with those questions. The questions focused on the following areas:

1. Why, when it take a few minutes to make and a few days to transport, do products take several months to reach the client?
2. How can you close the gap between use and ordering?
3. How can you increase the frequency of production and delivery?
4. How can you synchronise production with the pattern of demand?
5. What are the win-win gains that you can build around co-operation?
6. Who will be the architect of value stream re-design?

This enables a great discussion about the use of TOC–Lean in terms of Drum – Buffer – Rope in combination with Replenishment to answer some of the questions, the use of Throughput Accounting to help align the systems in use to answer others and the thinking processes of TOC to determine just how to implement such solutions.

A white paper detailing these solutions will shortly be available on our website as a downloadable file. In the interim, should you wish to have a copy of my AME presentation, please email me at [tedh@toc-lean.com](mailto:tedh@toc-lean.com)

## IMechE Event

In September we are presenting the second in our series entitled “Lean, Constraints and Making More Money – Any Connection?” on behalf of the I.Mech.E. The conference takes place on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September in London. If you would like to attend, please book directly with IMechE through their web site: <http://www.imeche.org/events/event.asp?id=647>

## Cranfield University

Later this year we will be working with Cranfield University, lecturing on their Fellowship in Manufacturing Management programme, which will introduce TOC and the links with the other improvement strategies as part of that programme.

## APM Presentation

Tony Lumb will be presenting for the APM (Association for Project Management) in Coventry on 17th September. Entitled "Critical Chain Project Management – what can it do for you?", the presentation will look at what tends to go wrong with projects and how these problems can be remedied through the application of Critical Chain, the Theory of Constraints project management solution.

To book, please go to:

<http://www.apm.org.uk/midlands/page.asp?CategoryID=10&subCategoryID=0>  
(Select 'Sep 2007', click on the event and scroll down to access the correct booking form).

NB: this event is open to all (members and non members of APM) and is free, but places are limited. *You must register on the APM website in order to be guaranteed a place.*



## New Products

Our consulting division, I & J Munn, has been busy implementing TOC solutions for a number of clients over the past six months, focusing on product manufacturing, the rail industry and MRO.

To that end they have developed two products:

- a simplified Drum – Buffer – Rope scheduling system that enables companies to make a sound start to a DBR implementation and gain results which can then be used for further investment if required.
- a database application designed for the MRO environment enabling proper prioritisation of work through the shop, buffer management and capacity planning, and which answers many of Prof. Dan Jones' questions for that environment. Currently the software is being used in a high pressure MRO environment and the early results are encouraging.

For more information about these two products please contact Tony Lumb: [tonyl@constraintmanagement.co.uk](mailto:tonyl@constraintmanagement.co.uk) and he will be able to demonstrate just how these software tools, in combination with knowledge transfer and in-company support, can deliver substantial improvement to your bottom line.