



**Event:** Lean 101  
**Speakers:** Dave Kippen and Mark Hawks  
**Date:** March 28, 2014  
**Location:** Ottawa County in West Olive, MI  
**We want to thank Ottawa County**  
**For their generosity for sponsoring this fantastic event!**



The Michigan Lean Consortium (MLC) partnered with Ottawa County on March 28, 2014 for Lean 101.

Speakers, Dave Kippen and Mark Hawks, with their combined experience and effective teaching skills, initiated participants on their lean journey. They presented the history of lean and defined what lean is: *A dynamic process of continuous improvement & learning by empowered associates, in a culture of mutual trust and respect, focused on eliminating waste and maximizing value for our customers.*

They engaged the participants throughout the day with group discussions, exercises, personal examples and solicited examples from the group. They demonstrated Lean possibilities within any organization and provided fundamental tools to explain lean. Topics Covered: 8 Wastes, Standard Work, PDCA, Poke Yoke, 5 Why's, 5S, Kaizen, Auditing, Sustaining and Maintaining the concepts.

They ended the day by challenging participants to start implementing what they learned and begin/continue their lean journey on Monday.... *What will you do differently on Monday?*



36 people attended this event in West Olive.

### Speaker Bios:



For the past 8 years, Dave Kippen has served as a Lean leader, coach and educational instructor. He currently works at Milsco Manufacturing in Jackson, MI. Dave's passion is to aid in the development of leadership and growth throughout all levels of the organization. During this time, Dave has successfully coached more than 250 people through Lean 101 classes, 20 Leaders through Lean 201 classes and facilitated well over 100 Kaizen events throughout the United States and Europe. In addition, Dave is Bronze certified through the SME/AME/Shingo Prize/ASQ Partnership. For more information, please connect with him via his LinkedIn profile or at [davekippen@yahoo.com](mailto:davekippen@yahoo.com).



Mark started his career building prototypes and engineering models for Prince Corporation in Holland Michigan. After 12 years in product development, he moved into manufacturing as a Manufacturing Engineer and served as Manufacturing Engineer, ME Manager, Production Manager and Continuous Improvement Manager in 4 different plants within Prince/Johnson Controls over a 25-year period. Most recently Mark has supported deployment of lean principles at Tennant Company in Holland Michigan and has provided support to Tennant's global manufacturing locations in 5 countries. He has been a Continuous Improvement advocate for his entire career focusing on incremental change, facilitating kaizen events, coaching daily improvement and has been learning and coaching lean principles since 1996. You can contact Mark at [Mark.Hawks@Tennantco.com](mailto:Mark.Hawks@Tennantco.com)

[See photos from the event on Facebook.](#)

The mission of the MLC is to offer a diverse network of knowledgeable lean professionals who come together to share innovative practices. The organization aims to create a lean culture in Michigan to ensure sustainable competitive advantage, which could translate into healthier businesses that offer more job opportunities leading to economic growth in the state.