



Event: Improvement Kata Fast Start

Speakers: Richard Fleming

Date: May 2, 2014

Location: McLaren Flint in Flint, MI

We want to thank McLaren Flint

For their generosity for sponsoring this fantastic event!



The Michigan Lean Consortium (MLC) partnered with McLaren Flint on May 2, 2014 for an Improvement Kata Fast Start workshop with Rick Fleming.

This three-hour condensed workshop offered an overview to the improvement and coaching kata. Participants experienced the next level of lean thinking and operations management based on the book "Toyota Kata" by Mike Rother. Students were exposed to the 5-Step Toyota Kata using hands-on exercises and team activities. See our photos and videos for participants hands-on with these activities.

Improvement Kata provided:

- A systematic, scientific routine that can be applied to any problem or challenge.
- A standard method for how members of an organization develop solutions.
- A process for migrating managers toward the role of coach and mentor, by practicing coaching cycles.
- A framework for practicing PDCA in a way that has people taking small steps every day.

27 people attended this event in Flint.



Speaker Bio:



Richard Fleming - 20+ years' experience with lean implementation, helped several companies on their journey to win the Shingo Prize of operational excellence, currently an instructor for the Toyota Kata Workshop at the U of Michigan, his interests lie with transforming organization structure and culture to support an operational excellence philosophy.

[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.