CONNSTEP

TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

Helping Connecticut Manufacturers Grow. Improve. Succeed.

CONNSTEP

Grow. Improve. Succeed.

WHO WE ARE

At CONNSTEP, our team provides strategic solutions for small and medium-sized manufacturers that focus on accelerating growth, improving productivity, and ensuring our clients remain competitive in evolving market conditions.

We understand that partnering with manufacturers to empower their employees through professional development is essential for driving economic growth and innovation.

The rapid advancement of automation and new technologies makes continuous training an urgent necessity for staying competitive, which is why we offer a range of manufacturing training programs designed to help you stay ahead of the curve.

Our customized trainings and workshops, led by industry experts, will elevate your workforce and give you a competitive edge in the market. Covering a wide range of topics from lean manufacturing and quality management to supervisory techniques, technology adoption, and cybersecurity, they offer the perfect way for both seasoned professionals and newcomers to gain new insights and hone their skills.

Each CONNSTEP program is carefully developed to deliver practical solutions for real-world manufacturing challenges, helping your organization achieve impactful results and prepare for the future.

Together, we will help you grow, improve, and succeed.

CONNSTEP

Grow. Improve. Succeed.

TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

Schedule • connstep.org/events

Includes:

- **CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT CHAMPION CERTIFICATION (CICC)**

- **QUALITY ESSENTIALS PROGRAM (QEP)**

- **SUPERVISOR BOOTCAMP**

- **SIX SIGMA GREENBELT TRAINING**

- **CMMC BOOTCAMP**

- **LEAN PRACTITIONER**

- **LEAN FOR MANUFACTURERS**

- **SUPPLY CHAIN CHAMPION PROGRAM**

- **TRAINING WITHIN INDUSTRY-JOB INSTRUCTION (TWI-JI)**

- **TRAINING WITHIN INDUSTRY-JOB RELATIONS (TWI-JR)**

- **IMPACT WORKSHOPS**

- **MANUFACTURING MEETUPS**

- **CONNSTEP WEBINAR SERIES**

- **PRICING**

- **REGISTER FOR OUR TRAINING & EVENTS AT CONNSTEP.ORG/EVENTS**

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT CHAMPION CERTIFICATION (CICC)

Streamline Your Workflow & Eliminate Waste

Educating and training your manufacturing employees is essential in order to sustain and improve established processes. With experienced employees retiring, train your newer, ambitious employees with the knowledge and know-how of continuous improvement.

CONNSTEP'S CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT CHAMPION CERTIFICATION (CICC) PROGRAM OFFERS LEAN TRAINING THAT:

- *Immediately advances employee skills, knowledge and productivity*
- *Contributes to efficiently streamlining production processes*
- *Reduces waste and non-value added activities in your business*

EACH PARTICIPANT IN THE CICC PROGRAM ACHIEVES A THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING OF THE BENEFITS OF PROCESS IMPROVEMENT WITH OUR:

- *"Learn It – Do It" teaching approach*
- *Hands-on classroom activities*
- *Mentored Lean projects*

Course Resources

VIEW OR DOWNLOAD HERE

CONNSTEP CLIENT ZENDEX TOOL: LEAN JOURNEY BEGINS

This course provides comprehensive exposure to the principles and practices needed to develop and sustain a Lean enterprise. You will receive immediate reinforcement of the classroom learning by applying your training to a real-life project within your organization. Together with on-site mentoring and knowledge assessments, this approach dramatically reduces the timeframe from training to bottom-line results, providing greater value to your company.

CONNSTEP'S Lean consultants have designed 6 modules that are essential to your understanding of the principles and practices of Lean Continuous Improvement. Upon successfully completing the program and on-site project, you will receive a Continuous Improvement Champion Certificate awarded by CONNSTEP,

Past participants have made immediate contributions to their organizations by identifying areas of waste to eliminate and making vast improvements in their lead and cycle times, WIP, and quality which all lead to greater efficiencies and tremendous savings to the bottom line.

Continuous Improvement Champion Certification (CICC)

COURSE TOPICS

- **LEAN PRINCIPLES & PRACTICES**
- **PROBLEM SOLVING & MISTAKE-PROOFING**
- **5S & VISUAL MANAGEMENT**
- **LEAN OFFICE**
- **SET UP REDUCTION**
- **CELLULAR DESIGN**
- **KAIZEN, TEAM DEVELOPMENT & FACILITATION**
- **STANDARD WORK**
- **KANBAN/PULL SYSTEMS**
- **TOTAL PRODUCTIVE MAINTENANCE (TPM)**
- **LEAN SUPPLY CHAIN**
- **PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT & MANAGEMENT**

CICC

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT CHAMPION CERTIFICATION

"Working with CONNSTEP and becoming more knowledgeable about Lean manufacturing and continuous improvement was transformative for our company. We needed to make changes and with their guidance we are in a much better competitive position for the future."

DEAN COCCARO, VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS
Zendex Tool, Danbury, CT

THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS FOR THE CICC PROGRAM IS AS FOLLOWS:

- Attend and participate in all classes
- Complete an impactful project utilizing the Lean methodology
- Ongoing mentor assessments
- Instructor review of progress
- Awarding of certificates & CICC shirts:

1.) Participants present their projects on the last day of classes and receive a certificate noting their successful completion of classroom requirements.

2.) Within 90 calendar days of classroom completion, participants must submit their project summary report with measurable results (validated by their sponsor) and will receive certification as a Continuous Improvement Champion.

Registration fees include all course materials, breakfast, and lunch for each classroom session.

For more information, scan the QR Code to visit:

connstep.org/continuous-improvement-champion-certification

QUALITY ESSENTIALS PROGRAM (QEP)

Build & Sustain High-Quality Standards for Your Business

Maintaining the highest quality standards is critical in every manufacturing organization. The success of your business operations is contingent on your quality reputation in the industry.

CONNSTEP's Quality Essentials Program is designed to address the growing need for skilled quality workers in manufacturing. QEP is led by our team of instructors with years of quality management experience. Program participants learn essential quality concepts, tools, and tasks.

Each workshop is held once a week over a consecutive five-week period.

PROVIDE YOUR WORKFORCE WITH THE TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES REQUIRED TO ENSURE THE QUALITY REPUTATION OF YOUR PRODUCTS WITH QEP.

WHEN YOU BUILD QUALITY INTO YOUR WORKFLOW YOU:

- *Reduce errors*
- *Ensure product integrity*
- *Improve customer satisfaction*

For more information, scan the QR Code to visit: *connstep.org/quality-essentials-program*

Quality Essentials Program (QEP)

Program Curriculum

QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS & BASIC AUDIT PRINCIPLES

Learn the basics of Quality Management Systems including ISO9001:2015 and AS9100 Rev D and audit principles used when conducting audits of quality systems adhering to these standards.

WORKPLACE SKILLS

Learn the core professional skills relevant to working in a manufacturing environment, including effective communication and conflict management.

PRINT READING FOR MANUFACTURING & MEASUREMENT FOR MANUFACTURING

Learn information and skills needed to perform measurements in manufacturing quality control environments using tools such as micrometers and gauge blocks as well as interpreting prints commonly encountered in manufacturing quality control environments

PROBLEM SOLVING USING PDCA, A3, RCA

Discover Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA), A3, and Root Cause Analysis (RCA) to effectively solve problems in the workplace.

MISTAKE-PROOFING

Participants will learn how to improve their quality control by using tools and techniques that eliminate defects at the source.

Case Study
VIEW HERE

"I did not have a lot of quality experience but after taking the QEP classes, I realized I did not need to blow up everything we already had in place. You work with what you have and make changes from there. It's an evolution of change."

ALISON CAREY-LYNCH, DIRECTOR OF QUALITY & EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Carey Manufacturing, Cromwell, CT
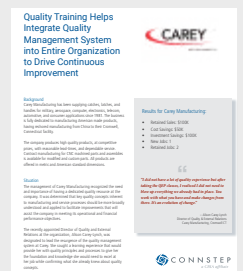
VIEW CASE STUDY

QUALITY TRAINING HELPS INTEGRATE QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM INTO ENTIRE ORGANIZATION TO DRIVE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

SUPERVISOR BOOTCAMP

Be Better Equipped to Lead & Manage People

CONNSTEP's Supervisor Bootcamp workshop series is designed to equip you with the skills and knowledge necessary to become an effective and successful supervisor. As a supervisor, you play a critical role in the success of your team and the organization as a whole. The workshops explore various aspects of supervision, from leadership and communication to delegation and conflict resolution.

Through a combination of presentations, interactive activities, and best practices, you will gain practical tools and strategies to manage your team effectively and achieve your goals. You'll also learn about key principles of Lean awareness, recognizing obstacles to workflow and waste in your processes.

Each workshop is held once a week over a consecutive seven-week period.

INTENDED AUDIENCE:

🔸 *Supervisors*   🔸 *Managers*   🔸 *Foremen*

🔸 *Team Leads*   🔸 *New/Emerging Leaders*

🔸 *Anyone seeking to elevate their existing leadership skills, build a firm foundation for future growth, and positively impact their company's performance and profitability.*

"After the CONNSTEP training, I felt that each employee strengthened their capability as a supervisor. It shows in their confidence to lead others and the processes they have implemented in their departments. It also sends a message to everyone in the company that we care about your career growth and will keep supporting you in your roles."

KATTY GARCIA, GENERAL MANAGER

Siftex Equipment Company

Case Study
VIEW HERE
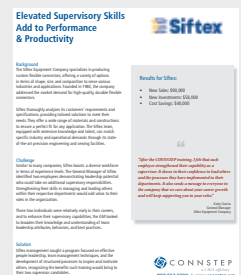
ELEVATED SUPERVISORY SKILLS ADD TO PERFORMANCE & PRODUCTIVITY

Supervisor Bootcamp

PROBLEM SOLVING – PDCA

Learn a problem-solving technique that uses a structured and systematic approach, the PDCA (Plan, Do, Check, Act) model. This process is geared toward improving quality, exposing waste, improving operational efficiency, and establishing metrics that promote the right behavior.

EFFECTIVE SUPERVISORY STYLE

Utilize a variety of tools and assessments to help achieve awareness and understanding of your supervisory style, strengths, and the areas in need of further development. You'll discover what makes a good boss and a bad boss, and how to utilize different styles and techniques to motivate top performance.

COMMUNICATION

Hone your communication skills to foster better teamwork and collaboration within your team. Learn how to be an active listener, give and receive feedback, convey decisions, and take decisive actions. By fostering and maintaining healthy working relationships, you'll prevent problems from occurring and earn the loyalty and cooperation of others.

MANAGING CONFLICTS & TEAM FACILITATION

Dive into effective conflict resolution strategies to establish a more cohesive and productive work environment. You'll gain awareness of your typical approach to dealing with conflicts and build up your skill of assertiveness. This section will address real-life scenarios as well as managing up and managing your peers.

Team Facilitation discusses how to build an effective team. You'll learn to evaluate your team's current performance to improve its overall effectiveness, with a focus on planning and leading more productive meetings. You will also learn how to establish foundations for strengthening and maintaining job relations with others.

TIME MANAGEMENT

Learn about setting priorities, delegating work, and how to develop a proactive management methodology that enables people to complete more work in a shorter period of time. This involves using the process of planning and allocating how much time is required for each specific task. Explore the role of the supervisor and how you should be spending your time.

COACHING & MOTIVATING PEOPLE FOR IMPROVED PERFORMANCE

Transition to a supervisory role with effective management styles and strategies that influence and motivate others for improved performance. Work on understanding what drives and inspires employees and how to coach underperformers. Learn what it takes to shift from a peer to a supervisor, transitioning from sharing responsibilities and frustrations with your colleagues to being the one who guides and motivates them.

LEAN AWARENESS PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT & MANAGEMENT

Learn to apply key principles of Lean Awareness to identify obstacles and waste in your workflow. You'll also discover best practices for using the right metrics to effectively manage, measure, and monitor your organization's performance and drive positive behaviors.

SIX SIGMA GREENBELT TRAINING

Master the DMAIC Lifecycle for Operational Excellence

The Six Sigma Green Belt program provides a comprehensive framework for individuals to lead and support process improvement initiatives using a data-driven approach. Following the structured **DMAIC (Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, Control)** methodology, the course equips participants with the skills to identify opportunities, objectively analyze problems, implement validated solutions, and sustain long-term gains.

Key areas of focus include understanding the Voice of the Customer and translating it into Critical-to-Quality (CTQ) metrics, quantifying the financial impact of quality (Cost of Quality), and rigorously defining project scopes.

A strong emphasis is placed on the "Measure" phase, ensuring data accuracy through Measurement System Analysis (MSA) and understanding baseline performance.

In the "Analyze" phase, statistical tools and hypothesis testing are extensively covered to identify root causes and sources of variation within processes.

The "Improve" phase concentrates on developing and validating effective solutions, leveraging techniques like correlation and regression.

Finally, the "Control" phase focuses on establishing comprehensive monitoring systems using Statistical Process Control (SPC) charts and implementing comprehensive control plans to prevent regression and ensure sustained performance.

This curriculum integrates practical application of statistical software, and reinforces the critical thinking required to drive continuous improvement in various business environments.

SIX SIGMA GREENBELT TRAINING TOPICS:

- *Six Sigma & DMAIC Methodology*
- *Cost of Quality & Project Definition*
- *Measurement & Data Analysis Fundamentals*
- *Statistical Inference & Hypothesis Testing*
- *Process Improvement & Control*

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COURSE TOPICS:

SIX SIGMA AND DMAIC METHODOLOGY

This section introduces you to the core principles of Six Sigma and the foundational DMAIC (Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, Control) methodology. You'll learn how Six Sigma drives process improvement by focusing on customer requirements and using data to identify and solve problems. You'll also learn to define the scope of a project and establish initial performance metrics.

MEASUREMENT AND DATA ANALYSIS FUNDAMENTALS

This topic dives into the Measure and Analyze phases. You'll learn how to evaluate the accuracy of your data using Measurement System Analysis (MSA) and establish a baseline of process performance. The course covers key statistical concepts and tools for collecting, displaying, and analyzing data to identify sources of variation.

COST OF QUALITY AND PROJECT DEFINITION

We explore the financial side of quality, breaking down how poor quality impacts an organization's bottom line. You'll learn how to quantify the cost of quality and use this knowledge to define viable Six Sigma projects. We'll cover how to determine a project's feasibility based on data availability, statistical tool applicability, and business impact.

STATISTICAL INFERENCE AND HYPOTHESIS TESTING

This section focuses on using inferential statistics to draw reliable conclusions about an entire population from a smaller sample of data. You'll be introduced to various statistical distributions and learn how to apply different hypothesis tests to compare means, variances, and proportions, enabling you to make data-driven decisions with confidence.

PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND CONTROL

In the Improve and Control phases, you'll learn to develop and implement effective solutions to address the root causes you've identified. This includes using tools like correlation and regression to validate solutions. You will also learn how to create a control plan and use Statistical Process Control (SPC) charts to monitor the process and ensure long-term gains are sustained.

CMMC BOOTCAMP
(CYBERSECURITY MATURITY MODEL CERTIFICATION)

Mastering the CMMC Requirements Implementation

The Defense Industrial Base (DIB) sector is the target of increasingly frequent and sophisticated cyberattacks. In response, the DoD is installing the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) 2.0 program designed to safeguard American innovation and national security information.

This initiative requires all contractors and subcontractors participating in DoD contracts at any tier of the supply chain to fully implement the CMMC practices to be eligible for DoD work.

This training will consist of five (5) consecutive half-day workshop training sessions. These sessions will guide participants in the implementation of NIST SP 800-171 practices to improve the Department of Defense Supplier Performance Risk System (SPRS) compliance score and drive preparedness for CMMC 2.0 Level 2 audit.

For more information, scan the QR Code to visit
connstep.org/cmmc-bootcamp

CMMC Bootcamp Sessions

SESSION 1

- Understand the CMMC 2.0 Proposed Rule requirements, rollout timeline, and impact on subcontractors if not compliant.

- Learn how to identify and mark CUI/FCI.

- Hands-on exercises to map the CUI/FCI data flow through an organization and develop scoping documentation.

- Introduction to cybersecurity policies, procedures, best practices, and effective implementation throughout the organization

- 3.1 Access Control domain requirements discussion

Policies and Procedures customizable templates will be provided. Learning exercises to modify the procedures will be conducted throughout the five sessions.

SESSION 2

- Learn CMMC Assessment methods and the role of compliance evidence documentation.

- Discuss the development of the Plan of Action & Milestones (POAM) and System Security Plan (SSP) documents.

- Requirements discussion for domains:

  - 3.12 Security Assessment

  - 3.9 Personnel Security domain

  - 3.5 Identification & Authentication

SSP and POAM customizable templates will be provided.

SESSION 3

- Learn the role of the Change Control Board (CCB) and authorizations

- Gain an understanding of the requirements in domains:

  - 3.4 Configuration Management domain

  - 3.3 Audit & Accountability

  - 3.10 Physical Protection

  - 3.8 Media Protection domains

- Develop a schedule for continuous maintenance improvements and updates.

SESSION 4

- Understand the requirements of an Incident Response Plan (IRP) and reporting to authorities.

- Requirements discussion for domains:

  - 3.6 Incident Response domains

  - 3.7 Maintenance

  - 3.11 Risk Assessment

- Discuss Risk Assessment and Risk Management methodologies and procedures.

IRP and Risk Management customizable templates will be provided.

SESSION 5

- Learn about the implementation best practices of domains:

  - 3.2 Awareness & Training domains

  - 3.13 System & Communications Protection domains

  - 3.14 System & Information domains

  - Review customized cybersecurity procedures.

- Discuss employee training on company security policies, effective techniques, and implementation best practices.

Intended Audience:

Any company that currently holds, or anticipates obtaining, a contract with the DoD requiring compliance with DFARS 252.205-7012, or supplies products to the DoD, should attend this training.

It is intended for individuals responsible for overseeing the company's cybersecurity compliance program, including Business Owners, Management Staff, and Senior Leadership.

Whether your cybersecurity efforts are in the initial stages or well underway in implementing compliance requirements, this training is important for you and your organization.

LEAN PRACTITIONER

Drive Efficiency, Reduce Lead Times, & Enhance Organizational Effectiveness

The Lean Practitioner Program is a 4-day intensive training program designed for cell leads, supervisors, entry-level Continuous Improvement (CI) specialists, project managers, and entry-level engineers. The curriculum combines lectures with practical application, aiming to provide participants with the skills to identify waste, improve processes, and execute improvement events.

The program's comprehensive approach ensures that participants not only understand the theoretical underpinnings of Lean but also gain the practical ability to apply these concepts in real-world scenarios. Key subjects covered include Lean Awareness, Performance Measurement & Management, Kaizen, 5S, Setup Reduction, Cell Design, Pull Kanban, and Standard Work. Through this training, individuals will be prepared to drive efficiently, reduce lead times, and enhance overall organizational effectiveness. The training emphasizes a direct, hands-on approach to problem-solving and process improvement, preparing participants to independently lead and contribute to Lean initiatives within their respective roles.

LEAN PRACTITIONER COURSE TOPICS:

- *Lean Awareness and Principles*
- *Performance Measurement & Management*
- *Kaizen & Problem Solving*
- *5S & Visual Management*
- *Setup Reduction (SMED)*
- *Cellular Design*
- *Pull Kanban & Standard Work*

Lean Practitioner

Course Topics:

LEAN AWARENESS & PRINCIPLES

This module introduces the core philosophy of Lean, focusing on how to identify and eliminate the 8 types of waste that slow down your processes. You will learn to define customer value, map value streams, and implement the principles of flow, pull systems, and continuous improvement to drive operational excellence.

KAIZEN & PROBLEM SOLVING

Discover the power of Continuous Improvement (Kaizen). This section teaches proven problem-solving frameworks, including the popular PDCA (Plan-Do-Check-Act) cycle and the comprehensive A3 methodology, to help you systematically tackle and resolve challenges in your workplace.

SETUP REDUCTION (SMED)

Reduce downtime and increase productivity by mastering the Single Minute Exchange of Die (SMED) methodology. This module provides techniques for dramatically decreasing changeover and setup times, allowing you to run smaller batch sizes and become more responsive to customer demands.

PULL KANBAN & STANDARD WORK

Move beyond traditional "push" production and implement dynamic pull systems (Kanban). You will learn the difference between push and pull, when to use a pull system, and how to define and sustain standardized work processes. This module provides the foundation for consistent, repeatable results and ongoing improvement.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT & MANAGEMENT

Learn to build a robust system for measuring success. This topic shows you how to define and create critical business and process metrics across all levels of an organization—from the front-line operator to senior leadership—ensuring that every metric directly aligns with and supports your business objectives.

5S & VISUAL MANAGEMENT

Transform your work environment with the 5S principles of Sort, Set in Order, Shine, Standardize, and Sustain. You'll learn how to implement these techniques to create an organized, standardized, and safer workplace, using visual controls to make abnormalities immediately visible and manageable.

CELLULAR DESIGN

Design and optimize your work processes for maximum efficiency. This module explains the benefits of cellular design and provides a practical, five-step process for creating efficient work cells. By linking manual and machine operations, you can maximize value-added content and minimize wasted effort.

LEAN FOR MANUFACTURERS

A Path to Operational Excellence

The Lean for Manufacturers course provides a comprehensive introduction to core Lean principles and practices, aiming to optimize processes, eliminate waste, and achieve production goals. It defines Lean as a systematic approach to identifying and eliminating non-value-added activities through continuous improvement, driven by customer pull.

The course thoroughly explores the "Eight Wastes" (DOWNTIME) and introduces essential Lean tools such as Value Stream Mapping for visualizing processes, Point of Use Storage for efficient organization, Quality at the Source for defect prevention, Standard Work for consistency, 5S for workplace organization, and Pull/Kanban systems for demand-driven production.

Through interactive simulations and practical examples, participants will learn to apply these concepts to reduce lead time, minimize inventory, improve quality, and foster a culture of continuous improvement, ultimately enhancing overall operational efficiency and competitiveness for manufacturing organizations.
In order to remove waste from the value stream, clients will learn to evaluate their current state based on future state.

LEAN FOR MANUFACTURERS COURSE TOPICS:

- *Eight Wastes (DOWNTIME)*
- *Value Stream Mapping*
- *Point of Use Storage*
- *Quality at the Source*
- *5S*
- *Pull/Kanban Systems*

Lean for Manufacturers

Course Topics:

THE CORE OF LEAN: IDENTIFYING & ELIMINATING THE 8 WASTES

A fundamental concept in Lean is the systematic identification and elimination of eight types of waste: Defects, Overproduction, Waiting, Non-utilized People (Talent), Transportation, Inventory, Motion, and Excess Processing.

VISUALIZING PROCESSES WITH VALUE STREAM MAPPING (VSM)

Value Stream Mapping is introduced as a crucial visual tool for understanding the entire flow of materials and information from raw material to the customer. By mapping both value-added and non-value-added steps, VSM helps to expose hidden wastes, bottlenecks, and opportunities for process improvement, moving beyond a departmental view to a holistic understanding of operations.

OPTIMIZING FLOW: BATCH SIZE REDUCTION & CELLULAR FLOW

Lean advocates for a shift from traditional large-batch processing to continuous, one-piece flow or significantly reduced batch sizes. The course explains how this approach, often facilitated by cellular layouts, minimizes Work In Process (WIP), reduces lead times, increases flexibility, and improves responsiveness to customer demand by ensuring products move smoothly through the production system.

BUILDING STABILITY: STANDARD WORK AND 5S

Standard Work defines the most efficient, safest, and highest-quality method for tasks, reducing variation and providing a baseline for continuous improvement. The 5S methodology (Sort, Set in Order, Shine, Standardize, Sustain) focuses on workplace organization, reducing search time, improving safety, and enabling visual management.

DEMAND-DRIVEN PRODUCTION: PULL SYSTEMS & KANBAN

Learn about pull systems, where production is triggered by actual customer demand or the consumption of the next step process, rather than by forecasts (push systems). Kanban, a visual signaling tool, is presented as the primary mechanism for managing these pull systems, effectively minimizing overproduction and excess inventory, and ensuring a highly responsive supply chain.

ENSURING QUALITY & CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AT THE SOURCE

Quality at the Source (Jidoka) empowers operators to identify and stop production immediately if a defect occurs, preventing problems from propagating downstream and building quality into every step. This principle, combined with the overarching philosophy of Continuous Improvement (Kaizen), fosters a culture where everyone is engaged in identifying and implementing small, incremental improvements daily, striving for perfection.

SUPPLY CHAIN CHAMPION PROGRAM

Future-Proof Your Supply Chain: Strategize, Optimize, Succeed.

This intensive two-day supply chain program provides a comprehensive overview of key strategies and tools essential for building a resilient, agile, and future-ready supply chain.

Participants will explore critical topics including supply chain resiliency, risk management, and strategic planning to effectively anticipate and respond to disruptions. The program also delves into flexible manufacturing techniques and adaptive distribution models to ensure continuity and efficiency across operations.

In addition, attendees will gain insights into the transformative role of digital technologies—such as AI, data analytics, and automation—in optimizing end-to-end supply chain performance. Designed for supply chain professionals and decision-makers, the program blends case studies, expert insights, and interactive discussions to equip participants with actionable frameworks for navigating today's complex supply chain landscape.

Supply Chain Champion Program

Course Topics:

DEFINING & MEASURING SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE

This foundational module defines supply chain resilience as the ability to anticipate, adapt to, and recover from disruptions. You'll master key metrics: Time to Recover (TTR) and Time to Survive (TTS), learning that a resilient supply chain always has TTR shorter than TTS.

SUPPLY CHAIN PLANNING AND OPTIMIZATION

Elevate operational excellence by mastering supply chain planning for seamless supply-demand alignment. Gain an in-depth understanding of Sales & Operations Planning (S&OP). Learn advanced inventory management, including the ABC method and calculating safety stock for demand and lead time variability.

STRATEGIES FOR BUILDING RESILIENCE

Discover a powerful three-step methodology for resilience: identifying and assessing risks, designing and building resilience, and managing and mitigating risks. Key strategies include increasing visibility, diversifying suppliers, and balancing efficiency with resilience investments.

FLEXIBLE MANUFACTURING AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS

Learn cutting-edge strategies for creating secure and flexible operational areas for materials, manufacturing, distribution, and order management. Implement redundancy through "triplet systems" and leverage multi-sourcing and pooling for shared inventory/capacity.

SUPPLY CHAIN RISK MANAGEMENT

This module refines your approach to risk management: identification, assessment, and prioritization. We'll cover both internal and external risks. You'll use tools like PESTLE, SWOT, Failure Mode and Effects Analysis (FMEA), and risk matrices for precise assessment.

TECHNOLOGY AS AN ENABLER

Discover how technology enhances resilience. Explore strategic advantages of cloud-based computing, predictive potential of AI and machine learning, and how blockchain and Internet of Things (IoT) revolutionize visibility and automation, future-proofing your supply chain.

SUPPLY CHAIN CHAMPION PROGRAM

TRAINING WITHIN INDUSTRY
JOB INSTRUCTION (TWI-JI)

Learn How to Perform Jobs Correctly & Safely

TWI-JI is ideal for individuals who are responsible for training others or managing training programs; those with specific skill sets that must be multiplied through the rest of the workforce, such as workers nearing retirement.

LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE TWI-JI COURSE:

- *Establish the most reliable procedures for each process of your production workflow*
- *Improve training capabilities to facilitate greater speed to market*
- *Build existing employee skills and flexibility through cross-training*
- *Identify risks and mitigate exposure in areas that might be shut down if a key employee were unavailable*
- *Increase hiring pool with ability to train those without manufacturing experience*
- *Earn an official 10-hour TWI Trainer certificate*

Course Resources
VIEW OR DOWNLOAD HERE

VIEW VIDEO
6 FAQ'S ABOUT TWI-JI

Training Within Industry (TWI) Job Instruction (JI) teaches essential job training skills for anyone who directs the work of others, such as supervisors and team leaders. Benefits include higher production, better quality, increased safety and lower costs.

Job Instruction is a standardized program of TWI that establishes a single best way for doing a job and allows a trainer to transfer knowledge to a learner more quickly while also verifying comprehension.

This course includes two-hour mentoring session at participant's facility after course completion to reinforce training.

TRAINING WITHIN INDUSTRY
JOB RELATIONS (TWI-JR)

Build Trust & Engagement with Your Workforce

TWI-JR is ideal for new supervisors or managers and those looking to reinforce their managerial skills. These train-the-trainer sessions ensure supervisors have the skills they need to effectively lead employees, prevent problems, and earn the loyalty and cooperation from your workforce.

LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE TWI-JR COURSE:

- *Manage personnel issues productively*

- *Proactively prevent problems from occurring*

- *Create a foundation of positive employee relations*

- *Engage your team to foster loyalty and cooperation*

- *Earn an official 10-hour TWI Trainer certificate*

Course Resources
VIEW OR DOWNLOAD HERE

A FAQ's About Training Within Industry Job Relations (TWI JR)

VIEW VIDEO
6 FAQ'S ABOUT TWI-JR

Training Within Industry (TWI) Job Relations (JR) teaches supervisors and team leaders the basics of consensus-building and individual problem-solving. It involves following a logical, common sense approach to tackling issues with your workforce.

Job Relations is a standardized program of TWI that helps supervisors improve their ability to lead people and promote teamwork, enabling them to be the best at their job. TWI-JR provides supervisors with the skills to prevent many problems from occurring while those that do happen are more effectively resolved.

This course includes two-hour mentoring session at participant's facility after course completion to reinforce training.

BEST PRACTICES WORKSHOPS

Connecting Manufacturers with Resources

CONNSTEP empowers manufacturers by connecting them with the right resources, knowledge, and peers to help them succeed.

Our Best Practices Workshops address the challenges manufacturers face today. With our industry knowledge and the support of our partners, we equip you with innovative and actionable strategies for your business.

We also offer a unique opportunity for professionals to tour other local facilities. Many of these Workshops are hosted directly at a manufacturing company's site. This gives you a firsthand look at how your peers are solving similar challenges, and a chance to network with other professionals. You'll gain inspiration and insights to bring back to your own team.

GAIN VALUABLE INSIGHTS, BUILD CONNECTIONS, AND TAKE THE FIRST STEP TO NAVIGATE THE EVOLVING MANUFACTURING ENVIRONMENT. WHAT TO EXPECT:

- *Networking Breakfast*

- *Workshop Session & Presentation*

- *Q&A / Open Discussion*

- *Facility Tour*

For more information, scan the QR Code to visit *connstep.org/best-practices-workshops*

MANUFACTURING NETWORKING EVENTS

Where Manufacturing Minds Meet

CONNSTEP's in-person networking events are designed to bring Connecticut's manufacturing community together in a relaxed, engaging environment. Held seasonally at unique venues across the state, these meetups offer a space for manufacturers, industry professionals, and partners to connect, exchange ideas, and share best practices.

Attendees gain exposure to valuable resources, build relationships with peers and potential partners, and stay informed about upcoming trends and opportunities. These networking events bring together professionals and leaders from across the Connecticut manufacturing industry to connect, collaborate, and strengthen the community.

ALL MANUFACTURING PROFESSIONALS SHOULD ATTEND TO:

- *Build valuable industry connections*

- *Stay informed on manufacturing trends & best practices*

- *Explore collaboration & partnership opportunities*

- *Enjoy a welcoming & stress-free networking experience*

"Last night's Manufacturing Meetup at the CT Science Center was an incredible event for the manufacturing community. It was exciting to connect with key industry leaders, explore interactive experiments, and gain insight into the future of the industry in CT and priorities for 2025."

TRAVIS MISTRETTA
Smith Brothers Insurance

WEBINAR SERIES

Gain Insights from Trusted Experts

Join us for free, monthly webinars designed to keep Connecticut manufacturers informed on the most critical industry topics. Each session provides valuable insights from local experts and offers practical, actionable knowledge you can apply directly to your business.

This is also an excellent opportunity to learn more about how CONNSTEP can help you. Our webinars serve as an introduction to the comprehensive services and trainings we offer, which are all designed to help your business grow and thrive.

CONNSTEP
WEBINAR
SERIES

Why attend?

STRENGTHEN YOUR BUSINESS

These webinars are designed to address the specific needs of your organization, providing resources to help you thrive.

EXPAND YOUR INDUSTRY KNOWLEDGE

Equip yourself with knowledge and strategies to navigate today's challenges.

CONVENIENT ACCESS

With sessions held online via Zoom, you can easily participate from the comfort of your home or office - for free.

For more information
scan the QR Code to visit
connstep.org/webinar-series

OUR TRUSTED ADVISORS

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Trusted Advisor Map

Unsure of who your
trusted advisor is?
Scan the QR Code to
find out!

CONNSTEP IS HERE TO HELP.

For More Information:
connstep.org

Trusted Manufacturing Advisors

TRAININGS & EVENTS PRICING GUIDE

	Duration	Includes	Pricing
CICC	10 Days	Materials, Breakfast, & Lunch	$6,105
CMMC Bootcamp	5 Half-days	Materials & Breakfast	$2,500
Best Practices Workshops	3 Hours	Breakfast & Tour	$25
Lean for Manufacturers	Full Day	Materials, Breakfast, & Lunch	$1,000
Lean Practitioner	4 Full Days	Materials, Breakfast, & Lunch	$2,500
QEP	5 Full Days	Materials, Breakfast, & Lunch	$4,500
Networking Events	3 Hours	Beverages & Snacks	FREE
Marketing for Manufacturers	4 Half-days	Materials & Breakfast	$2,500
Six Sigma Green Belt	5 Full Days	Materials, Breakfast, & Lunch	$2,500
Supervisor Bootcamp	7 Half-days	Materials & Breakfast	$2,500
Supply Chain Champion	2 Full Days	Materials, Breakfast, & Lunch	$2,500
TWI-JI	2 Half-days	Materials & Breakfast	$2,500
TWI-JR	2 Half-days	Materials & Breakfast	$2,500
Webinars	30 minutes	Zoom Link	FREE

ON-SITE TRAININGS

We can bring the training to your facility!

On-site training is available for many of our trainings and workshops.

If you would prefer to host one of the above trainings or workshops in your facility please contact your Trusted Advisor or reach out to us at info@connstep.org.

CUSTOM TRAININGS

Unlock your team's full potential with a customized training program designed exclusively for your organization. We believe in more than just off-the-shelf solutions; we'll work closely with you to understand your unique challenges, integrate your specific operational examples, and directly address your company's goals.

This isn't just training; it's a personalized partnership to build a more robust, efficient, and future-ready team, delivered with a direct focus on your company's success.

CONNSTEP
Grow. Improve. Succeed.

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