

Already from the start of the project, company partners provided their academic partner with existing courses on lean management and authentic business cases. Now, they substantially participate in teaching and coaching trainees (students as well as employees) of this training programme in lean manufacturing. This Erasmus project has created a sustainable network between the academic partners and an ever increasing number of companies.



#### The project website

<http://www.leanlearningacademy.eu/> will still be used beyond the project lifetime to exchange experiences among partners and to share and publish updated materials.

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#### Project website:

<http://www.leanlearningacademy.eu/>



## Lean Learning Academy

*an innovative learning concept*



#### Project ID:

- Erasmus-LLP project
- action: 'Multilateral Projects'
- sub-action: 'Co-operation between Universities and Enterprises'
- project name: 'Lean Learning Academies'
- ref: 503663-LLP-1-2009-1-BE-ERASMUS-ECUE



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

## Project partners:

	Academic partners	Company partners
		
		
		
		
		
		

This project was a collaboration between lean experts from 5 European universities each supported by a lean company from the same country. EURASHE (European Association of Higher Education Institutes) helps to disseminate the project results to her wide member network.

## Current problems:

- For companies: decreasing profit margins due to economical crisis and global competition.
- For higher education institutions (HEI's): too low study yields, too few motivated students, improvable employability.

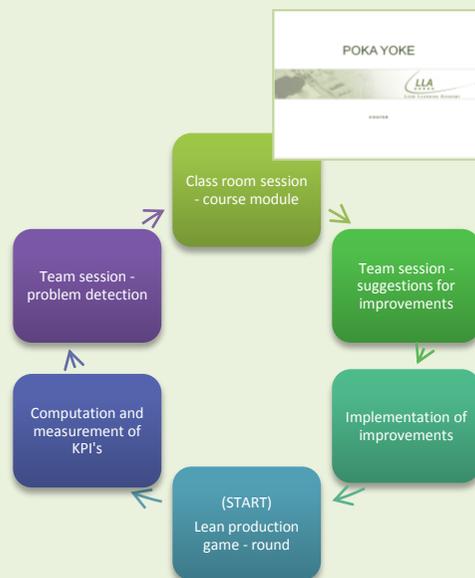
## Aims of the project:

- to increase competitiveness of companies.
- to enhance employability of students, alumni, employees and managers.
- to make engineering curricula more attractive.
- to enhance study yields in Industrial Sciences and Technology study field.

## Project deliverables:

The academic partners together developed a state-of-the-art training programme in lean manufacturing consisting of a lean production simulation game and 17 on-line course modules about different lean topics. The company partners provided the academic partners with their expertise and e.g. with authentic cases. Each of the academic partners on the other hand developed a part of the training programme and put it in the 'Partners Only' section of the project website <http://www.leanlearningacademy.eu/>. Since the end of the project, in September 2011, all deliverables are available in the public part of this website in English, Dutch, Polish, Swedish, Romanian and Portuguese. All academic partners agreed to implement the training programme into their engineering curriculum and to arrange a dedicated room for it.

## Innovative didactical concept:



In the innovative didactical concept, rounds of the lean production game in which ballpoint pens are assembled, are alternated with short courses on lean topics. The training programme also aims at developing a lean mindset. This means there is a lot of attention to and feedback on the lean behaviour of trainees. There are - at first sight - severe rules implemented in the training programme to train correct lean attitudes. Lean management indeed requires discipline, vigilance and focus.

## Quality of the training programme:

From the beginning all partners had the intention to develop a state-of-the-art training programme in lean management. To achieve this goal, following measures were taken:

- Meetings  
During the project, 8 national and 5 international meetings were scheduled to discuss project progress and output quality among partners.
- External evaluator:  
An independent external evaluator from Amelior company monitored project output quality and project progress. He gave feedback on the published project deliverables and provided valuable input to this project.
- Resonance groups:  
All 5 academic partners created their own resonance group consisting of at least 10 people from HEI's and companies. To enhance the relevance and the quality of the project output, they gave feedback on materials developed by their academic project partner.
- Co-operation with enterprises  
A unique aspect of this project is the sustainable co-operation between HEI's and enterprises.