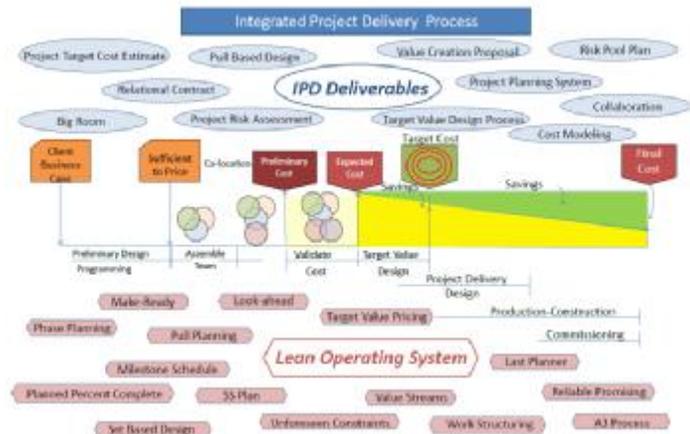




# Lean Construction Institute

Building Knowledge in Design and Construction

Chuck Greco is an amazing guy. He's not only the CEO of Linbeck, but he's been a true pioneer and trail blazer in our community. The culmination of many years of hard work emanating from the time that Leo Linbeck first got involved with Greg Howell and Glenn Ballard, resulted in the partnership between the Associated General Contractors of America and LCI that was announced at the AGC Lean Forum event in San Antonio last Thursday. Chuck has relentlessly pursued lean within Linbeck and within our community. Just one example of the range of his understanding of the opportunities lean presents is his editing of my simple Chronology of a Lean Project into a full diagram containing a panoply of the philosophies, the deliverables and the lean tools available to us to make lean be true. Last year, he was named 2010 AGC Committee Chairman of the Year for his leadership in helping to launch the AGC Lean Construction Forum. At Saturday's session, Ken Stowe from Autodesk was presenting his view of the collaboration that is possible between BIM and Lean. Chuck cleared the air in a quote we will use for a long time in the lean community: "Ken, if you're saying that BIM is required for lean construction implementation, I'm going to have to object. **All you need to introduce lean concepts into projects is a brain and a pencil.**" The loud ovation that followed Mike Stark's announcement of our historic agreement Thursday, the huge turnout and the overwhelming interest in lean principles is really a tribute to Chuck's great work and contributions to the lean movement. Thank you, Chuck Greco!



Thanks also to Mike Stark, Chris Monek and Rick Brown at AGC for hosting a terrific meeting in San Antonio. Dave Lukens, who signed our Agreement for AGC and who will, as CFO, be writing the first check to us, was also on hand to celebrate our new partnership. Although they expected more than 200 folks, my guess is that almost 300 industry people attended the meeting. LCI was well represented in the meeting. Tariq Abdelhamid presented the first curriculum. Mike Kenig of Holder Construction and Digby Christian from Sutter Health (a perennial favorite of LCI conferences). The Curriculum Overview was presented by Linbeck's Stuart Trappino and Dave Stueckler (who is now chairman of the Forum). Eric Stenman of Barnhart-Balfour Beatty chaired the AGC's Public/Private Industry Advisory Council (PIAC) sessions (Mike Kenig takes over next year as Chair). The Lean Fundamentals Panel moderated by Dave Stueckler included Dave MacNeel from Baker Concrete, Jeff Esgar (from soon to be Corporate Member Sundt), Tariq Abdelhamid and Lean Elder Statesman and LCI member number 1, Dean Reed of DPR. George Zettle of Turner introduced Bill Seed from UHS who delivered the Keynote address. Howard Ashcraft of Hanson Bridgett presented on IPD and



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Dave Higgins of HMM/Swinerton moderated Bill Seed, Tom Demko from Burt Hill/Stantec and Jason Tabacco (from soon to be member Unger Construction) in a panel entitled “pulling it all together.” Will Lichtig helped set the stage for what the Owners need to know/do to start using lean principles on their projects. PIAC was well represented for their sessions and include owner reps from Target, Home Depot, Safeway, Johnson & Johnson and Walt Disney Imagineering to name but a few.

It is meeting season. I’ll be in Colorado Springs on Thursday delivering “Lean Construction for HVAC Contractors” to the annual meeting of the Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractor’s National Association (SMACNA). Tom Soles, SMACNA Executive Director and I had dinner Monday night to discuss a closer affiliation between the organizations. Dennis Sowards, a key figure in our Arizona Community of Practice will also be on the program.

Seems hard to be believe, but by the time you receive next week’s update, we’ll be in Pasadena at the Introduction to Lean Seminar, the Choosing by Advantages Workshop or the Communities of Practice meeting. If you open the email late in the day, we might already be at the Opening Reception. We have already topped attendance figures for any Congress so thanks for your strong support. However, Victor Sanvido won’t be satisfied until we have 300 participants at each session. Let’s not disappoint Victor; that’s never a good idea. Sponsorship opportunities remain as do limited opportunities for vendor tables. Please contact Donna ([dpemberton@leanconstruction.org](mailto:dpemberton@leanconstruction.org)) for more information.