



All of the Congress presentations are on-line now to Members and 8 of the videos are already up for viewing. Even though the front page website button says 13th Annual Congress Videos, you can still access the 14th Annual Congress Videos and presentations by clicking that button. I think you'll agree that they are professionally done and very valuable for sharing with owners and others who might be interested in lean processes.

We have already formed a committee for next year's Congress which is scheduled for Dallas, Texas, October 8-11, 2013. We learned a lot from Friday's debrief on the Congress and Stewart Trapino and Romano Nickerson, ably assisted by the DFW LCI Community of Practice are working to find a venue even as we speak.

As I look back on the Congress, I think it is important to comment on the progress we've made at LCI. When I first got involved with the organization, our leading case study was provided by Owen Matthews and his Company called Integrated Project Delivery, Inc. in Orlando, Florida.¹ Owen used lean techniques in building a series of six chilled water plants in Orlando. Learning from each, he made each project better, faster, more reliable and, in fact, less expensive. The project cost for each plant was \$6 million and by his third project, he was saving \$600,000 off that \$6 million. This year, we opened the Congress with Michael Bade, Craig Russell and Bill Seed. By my reckoning, that trio is responsible for about \$50 billion in assets—and they're committed to the lean delivery of every asset they add to their portfolio. That's a dramatic raise in the volume of assets under lean development and management—something on the order of 8,333 times the original volume. We continue to move the needle on developing and implementing a reliable planning system and we're beginning to get industry recognition for that. The LCI goal of transforming the design and construction industries through the use of lean thinking is a current reality.

We have developed our committee system to make that transformation real. Important strides were made at the Congress as well in getting the committees organized and beginning to think how they can develop the kinds of resources and analyses that will help us continue moving forward. Victor Sanvido, Greg Howell and I are working to help develop realistic agenda for each committee and giving the chairs the resources necessary to make their committees successful. We will report committee progress and successes in this space on a regular basis.

Membership renewal is important to our continuing work. We're trying to move our business model that one that is not so reliant on membership revenue—we've projected a future where only 1/3 of our annual budget will be based on membership. However, now about 80% of our annual budget is based on membership revenue so please take the time to renew early and

¹ We've awarded Owen a lifetime pass at LCI for allowing us to use the name in describing our delivery model. For an in-depth conversation between Owen and Greg Howell from the 12th Annual Congress, see <http://www.screencast.com/t/ubt3ZEsp>.



often. With election uncertainties abounding, consider renewing early (while it's still a business tax deduction).

A final personal note. I want to thank Greg and the Board for their patience as I spent the last two weeks staying with my father in hospice. He passed away last Friday. Many of you have sent notes of condolence which I deeply appreciate. In the about 20 hours a day I spent with my Dad, I had a chance to consider a whole number of issues. Of course I asked lots of "whys" which, unlike our 5 why process, had few answers. But I knew what happened to my 87 year old father was no one's fault, his cancer was largely not preventable and he passed without pain but with great dignity. At 3 a.m. on Wednesday, I wrote down a promise to myself that I would do all I can to drive into our industry an intolerance for preventable deaths. I ask each of you, in your companies and in your personal lives to commit to the complete elimination of deaths caused by falls. These are completely preventable.

In 2000, OSHA reported: "Falls are the leading cause of fatalities in the construction industry. An average of 362 fatal falls occurred each year from 1995 to 1999, with the trend on the increase."² By 2007, fatalities due to falls had increased to 442.³ This number was reduced to 264 in 2010.⁴ Falls are the number one cause of death at construction sites: "However, while falls are a serious threat at a worksite, most of them can be prevented. When employers put into place the proper safety measures, construction workers and their families can be saved from having to suffer through a potentially life changing fall."⁵ Let's commit to zero fall fatalities by 2013. We owe it to our workers, our people, their families and to ourselves. Let's make this a vital part of our mission.

² <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/construction/falls/mainpage.html>

³ <http://www.osha.gov/doc/falls/preventingfalls.html>

⁴ <http://www.24-7pressrelease.com/press-release/falls-number-one-cause-of-construction-deaths-but-most-are-preventable-301202.php>

⁵ *Ibid.*