LEAN AEROSPACE INITIATIVE
Supplier Networks Research Team Workshop
Building Lean Supplier Networks

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Presented by
Kirk Bozdogan, Hamid Akhbari & George Reynolds Co-Lead, Supplier Networks Research Team
Contact: bozdogan@mit.edu; 617 253-8540
Document: International Benchmarking
Goal: Capture & share leading-edge supply chain design and management practices in aerospace industry internationally

Collaboration: Between LAI, UK-Lean Aerospace Initiative & Lean Aircraft Research Program (LARP) at Linköping Univ. (Sweden) & (potentially) with MIT Integrated Supply Chain Management Program (ISCM)

Expectation: Develop comparable database & research results internationally using common benchmarking survey instrument and analytical methods

Timeline: Perform “first wave” benchmarking effort in 2000; subsequent “waves” a distinct possibility
Objectives

- Develop large-scale systematic database supporting team’s major research thrusts
- Benchmark best practices in supply chain design & management internationally in selected topical areas
- Quantify relationships between use of lean supply chain integration practices and enterprise-level performance outcomes
- Gauge flowdown of lean concepts to subtiers & capture perspective of subtier suppliers
- Provide customized feedback to stakeholder enterprises
- Expand team inputs into LEM significantly at low cost
Need for Support

- List of your major suppliers and key lower-tier suppliers, by program area (up to 50 each) to help develop sampling frame for benchmarking survey
  - Template to be provided (name of supplier, POC, address, phone/fax/e-mail, part/component provided to you, etc.)
  - Format to be specified (EXCEL, etc.)

- Volunteers to serve on small benchmarking subteam
  - Help with actual questionnaire construction; scrubbing survey
  - Determine method of conducting survey (Internet, etc.)
  - Develop “business case” for all suppliers to make the necessary commitment & effort to respond
  - Help timeline & structure benchmarking effort
  - Establish ground rules for protecting proprietary data consistent with MIT-industry consortium agreements

- Your personal help with your key suppliers (soon) to ensure their cooperation & response