



**Dr. Jon C. Yingling, Ph.D.** - *Director, Lean Systems Design*

502-322-6591, [jon.yingling@theleanway.com](mailto:jon.yingling@theleanway.com)



Dr. Jon Yingling serves ILS as Director, Lean Systems Design, where he helps companies to design and restructure their operations as lean value streams. Before joining the Institute, Dr. Yingling was Professor of Manufacturing Systems Engineering at the University of Kentucky. He has studied, researched, consulted, and taught lean production since 1997 including internships and execution of several projects and research studies at Toyota. His research addresses lean systems design, work design and line balance, novel work cell structures and cell design procedures, kitting systems, production control, and just-in-time logistics. Dr. Yingling has developed 15 credit hours of graduate education in lean systems education addressing the lean operational model, lean tools, and lean systems design. From this curriculum and additional academic courses developed by the Institute faculty, Dr. Yingling lead the development of the Lean Systems Boot Camp, a hands-on, total-immersion approach to learning lean systems that

combines rich technical content with highly effective learning strategies involving training factories and simulations. During a review in 2005, the Society for Manufacturing Engineers called the Boot Camp the “model for future manufacturing systems education in the United States.”

Dr. Yingling received his Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh in 1988. He was repeatedly recognized as an outstanding educator at the University of Kentucky and was awarded its highest teaching honor.

One of Dr. Yingling’s major focus areas has been the development of a complete model of lean systems that clearly explains linkages between human, managerial, technical, and financial components of the lean systems. The collaboration of the ILS team has led to the creation of the ILS Executive Certificate course, which has received overwhelmingly positive feedback from lean novices and experts alike.

A second focus area has been in operations structuring to support the lean model. Over the years, Dr. Yingling has been directly involved in lean transformation efforts at numerous plants and service organizations and he tours hundreds of operations annually. He has researched and developed strategies to assess and map operations structures and has developed systematic approaches to developing future state plans that enhance operational flexibility, flow, and system performance, setting the structure needed for day-to-day lean systems management. He is particularly interested in applying lean in complex operations such as engineer-to-order shops and extending lean transformation to new frontiers such as healthcare. His creative work goes well beyond conventional value stream mapping and provides a systematic and practical way to address issues such as product family definition, production control design, value stream linkages, and total enterprise transformation.

Dr. Yingling has worked with many companies over the years to assist them in the lean transformation including contracted onsite work at Ford Motor Company, General Motors, The Boeing Company, Lockheed Martin Company, Tyco International, Rolls Royce, General Electric, Alcoa, Flextronics, Spartek, Stryker Medical, Visteon, Cooper Tire and Rubber, Harley Davidson, Coke, Jostens, SPX Corporation, Columbia Forest Products, Elkay Corporation, Dana Corporation, Bennington Boats, Anchor Hocking, Sara Lee, Boston Apparel, Ingersol Rand, Skier’s Choice, Kurz Kasch, Remy International, CHEP USA, Katun, Premium Waters, and Andersen Windows among many others.



Selected recent ILS engagements include:

- Facility layout for several plants, including a major consolidation of an alternator/starter plants in Mexico and an automotive hose manufacturing facility in Florida.
- Lean education, culture building, and transformation of a representative value stream (patient discharge) at the University of Kentucky hospital.
- Detailed assessments and future state planning for 10 plants in various industries, including aluminum casting, bakeries, electronics, distribution centers, plastics, and glass manufacturing. ILS has been contracted to execute the plans at all of these plants and they have proceeded, or are proceeding with strong success, exceeding savings targets in all but one case. Dr. Yingling served as engagement leader for several of these turnarounds and transformation activities.
- Lead developer and delivery of a special supply chain program for a major jet engine manufacturer executives and their large commercial airline manufacturing partners that was very positively received.
- Development of the layout and operations design for a new alternator plant in China for a major automotive electronics manufacturer that is intended to be their worldwide model for lean systems implementation.
- Value stream mapping and future state designs for starter motor fabrication and assembly; kitting, packing, and shipping process for residential and commercial boilers; dock-to-dock casting plant transformation; integrated order-processing, receiving, manufacturing, and shipping processes for linear actuator production; bakery operations; patient flow through diagnostic laboratories; patient discharge processes at a major hospital; picking and packing operations for North America and European distribution centers for a printing/copier supply company; automotive components molding for a plastics/electronics company; internal logistics and cellular production for an automotive hose products manufacturer; meat processing operations; recreational boat lamination and assembly lines; transformer manufacture; total system flows (returns, pick, pack, and shipping) for a major clothing catalog distribution center; high variety, low volume selection, decoration, pack, and set pack operations at major glass products manufacturer.
- Leadership of numerous system design and kaizen events in support of lean transformation plan implementation at client companies.
- Executive education of the Partners and key leaders of Monomoy Capital in lean systems education.
- Assistance to University Polytechnic San Luis Potosi, Mexico in development of their lean education program.