



Lear Corporation Selects e-Kanban by Datacraft Solutions

TR Cutler, Inc., October 05, 2005

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e-Kanban by Datacraft Solutions selected by Lear Corporation

PR9.NET October 05, 2005 - Lear Corporation, a Fortune 500 company headquartered in Southfield, Michigan, USA, focuses on integrating complete automotive interiors, including seat systems, interior trim and electrical systems. With annual net sales of \$17 billion in 2004, Lear is one of the world's leading automotive interior systems suppliers. The company's world-class products are designed, engineered and manufactured by more than 110,000 employees located in 34 countries.

Lear is ranked No. 127 on the 2005 Fortune 500 list of publicly traded U.S. companies and has also been named the Most Admired Company in the Motor Vehicle Parts sector by Fortune for the past three consecutive years. The company's stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol LEA. Lear Corporation selected lean manufacturing e-kanban provider Datacraft Solutions for their Edinburg, Indiana location.

According to Matthew Marotta, CEO of Datacraft Solutions (www.datacraftsolutions.com), "Process improvements for Lear Corporation with existing suppliers will further reduce lead times and inventory levels and bring more suppliers onto the system."

The Best Practice is "integrating the electronic kanban system" with a manufacturer's current purchasing system. Marotta noted that the Datacraft Solutions' e-kanban system will achieve savings for Lear Corporation in several key areas:

- It will reduce to zero the need to build inventory. All production will be initiated based on the immediate needs of our customers.
- Time spent by customer service communicating on expedited parts issues will be eliminated. Typically it is estimated that customer service staff spends 40% of their time on just expediting part orders.
- Sales will increase with the benefit of the e-kanban program because the automotive interior manufacturer will no longer use capacity to build parts without an order to buy NOW. 100% of production capacity will be utilized to build parts that are already sold as soon as they hit the shipping dock.

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