



INSTITUTE FOR LEAN CONSTRUCTION EXCELLENCE (ILCE)

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WORKSHOPS ON LEAN CONSTRUCTION-

INTRODUCTION TO LEAN CONSTRUCTION – PRINCIPLES & PRACTICES

With Mr Gregory Howell– Nov 22-30, 2010

India's induction to Lean Construction got a big fillip recently with ILCE's recent workshops in three Metros – Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai- in late November. The workshops went off quite well as we can see from the photographs, even with the short notice with which they were launched. Capacity audiences of 70 to 75 participants in each venue made sure that the workshops were lively. The enthusiasm of the audiences was never lean but quite "bulky" and the interactions were interesting and thought-provoking!

The faculty for the workshops, Mr. Gregory A. Howell, is co-founder and managing director of the Lean Construction Institute (LCI) of USA, a non-profit organization devoted to production management research in design and construction. He brings 45 years of construction industry project management, consulting and university-level teaching experience to LCI. Even though the workshop was about "Lean", Mr Howell was of "stout" heart and exhibited tremendous stamina to pull off single-handedly three end-on workshops for two days each within eight days! Kalyan of Nadhi Technologies gave him able back-office support and Mr Sampath, Secretary General of ILCE, anchored the ceremonies during the workshops with his usual panache. Members of the Board of ILCE in various cities gave excellent support to popularize the programmes and for conducting them smoothly.

Apart from expounding on the Last Planner™ concept and its practices for making work flow in project sites more predictable for smoother construction management, Mr Howell also covered Integrated Project Delivery methodologies for overall optimization of construction projects. It was quite amusing to see the participants behave like animated children when they were playing the simulation games, which brought home to them the significances of various LEAN concepts with a hands-on orientation. ILCE also used the feedbacks from the participants to continuously improve the efficacy of the workshops.

It is hoped that this exposure of LEAN techniques would motivate the participants to propagate the advantages of deploying LEAN concepts in projects within their organizations and make them popular.

- N.Raghavan, Technical Advisor, ILCE