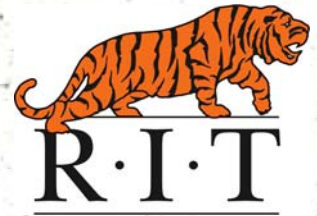


# TOYOTA Production Systems Laboratory



Industrial and Systems  
Engineering

Spring 2009.

## Broad Outreach and Student Impact



Our first lab newsletter, published in the fall of 2008, was well received within the industrial and academic community. Based on feedback from a number of you, we decided to do this twice per year. So, here is the latest news about the TPS Lab at RIT. The lab passed the two year mark in March of this year. We have strived to continuously improve

its capabilities and our practices in how we run the lab to ensure that it is a great educational experience for our students.

**Curriculum Development:** The lab is now an integral part of four of our courses. We have been tracking our progress designing and implementing lab exercises into these

courses, consistent with our TPS Lab A3. Lab exercises include practicing applying the Lean tools of standard work, time study, process design, line design and line balancing, visual controls, pull systems, heijunka, kaizen, writing A3's, lean leadership, and others.

**Lab Capabilities:** New capabilities have been added to the lab in the past several months. Our three lab assistants, Ainoa Mazeika, Keshav Simhadri, and Rohita Kotagiri, have built three *heijunka* boxes: a box to level withdrawals from a supermarket, a box to pace withdrawals from a supermarket, and a box to sequence work on a production line. New pallets for the production line have been built to enable working with production parts in addition to those already used. Digital projection capability was enhanced with a new unit mounted on a swivel stand. This allows for projection of line performance and time status among others.

## Imagine RIT Innovation Festival

More than 20,000 people visited RIT's campus on May 2 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Imagine RIT Innovation Festival. Our lab staff worked non-stop all day showing the lab to a steady stream of prospective students, their parents, alumni, and other visitors. We had several of our lab activities set

up, and a video running continuously that showed students doing actual lab exercises. In our weekly TPS lab meeting the following Tuesday, we critiqued how the day went, and identified six specific improvements to be implemented for next year's festival.

## NEWS

- THE LAB HOSTED A TOUR TO 19 PROFESSIONALS FROM THE SENIOR CHAPTER OF THE INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS (IIE)
- A SHORT VIDEO THAT SHOWS STUDENTS ENGAGED IN LAB ACTIVITIES WAS DEVELOPED. THIS VIDEO CAN BE SEEN AT: [WWW.RIT.EDU/KGCOE/ISE](http://WWW.RIT.EDU/KGCOE/ISE).
- TO ACCESS THE PREVIOUS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE VISIT [WWW.RIT.EDU/KGCOE/ISE/FACILITIES/PPDLAB.HTML](http://WWW.RIT.EDU/KGCOE/ISE/FACILITIES/PPDLAB.HTML)

## QUICK FACTS

NUMBER OF VISITORS TO THE LAB DURING THE IMAGINE RIT INNOVATION FESTIVAL	<b>450</b>
NUMBER OF STUDENTS DURING THE PAST ACADEMIC YEAR THAT PARTICIPATED IN EXERCISES IN THE LAB	<b>161</b>
NUMBER OF DESIGNED LAB ACTIVITIES AND EXPERIENCES DEVELOPED IN THE LAB (UP FROM 9 LAST YEAR)	<b>26</b>
NUMBER OF COURSES THAT MAKE SIGNIFICANT USE OF THE LAB (UP FROM 3 COURSES LAST YEAR)	<b>4</b>



Heijunka boxes built by students