

Brenda L. French

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Global Supply Chain Management

Training, coaching, and driving process improvements in global supply chain management.

Global Supply Chain trainer and change management agent for a Fortune 500 manufacturer. Expert in lean manufacturing and best practices to improve material flow and inventory management. Extensive International experience in China, Thailand, Korea, India, Russia, South Africa, and Australia. Led flawless greenfield launches and brownfield transitions, reduced downtime, improved efficiency, and reduced costs. Team builder with a demonstrated ability to find creative methods to break through cultural and language barriers.

- Global Supply Chain Management (SCM)
- Supply Chain Best Practices
- Business Process Commonization
- Process Reengineering
- Greenfield Plant Launch
- Training, Mentoring, Coaching
- Lean Manufacturing
- Materials Management
- Process Improvements
- Audit Compliance
- Downtime Reduction
- Gap Closure Plans

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

FORD MOTOR COMPANY INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS—Asia Pacific Region

2007-Present

Senior Supply Chain Support Consultant—International Operations—Shanghai, China (10/2010-Present)

Audit and assess supply chain operations and drive process improvements at 62 manufacturing sites in high-growth, emerging markets. Train, mentor, and coach supply chain managers and staff in best practices, lean concepts, waste reduction, inventory control methods, and safety to improve performance and compliance with Ford and local national requirements. Identify gaps and create gap closure plans to assist plants in reengineering processes.

- Guided a joint venture plant in China to significantly reduce line downtime from several hours per day to less than 10 minutes per day.
- Coached and calibrated a plant from an assessment score of 62 to a solid performance of 91 by developing coaching materials that included a photo-based training manual with best practices from other locations.
- Coached and calibrated a Russian plant, providing concrete methods for closing performance gaps and building a long-term relationship as a valuable resource to the plant.
- Built strong relationships with manufacturing leaders throughout in the region.

Operations Manager—Ford Global Supply Chain—Asia Pacific—Seoul, S. Korea (10/2007-10/2010)

Single point of contact for global supply chain, supporting all manufacturing sites in the Asia Pacific region. Assessed supply chain operations and drove process improvements at the Ford Powertrain facilities. Trained and coached supply chain staff in procurement processes, production scheduling, and material flow to meet customer requirements. Ensured flawless launches for supply chain activities at new greenfield sites.

- Led flawless launches of new greenfield facilities in Thailand, China, India, and Korea with no supply chain issues that impacted production.
- Subject Matter Expert for India Powertrain greenfield launch. Relocated to India for 10 months to rescue a fractured team with a failing launch. Unified, revitalized, and coached the team to a successful launch.
- Introduced and launched global common supply chain business processes at multiple brownfield locations.

EXPERIENCE, Continued

GENERAL MOTORS POWERTRAIN—Michigan, U.S.

1997-2007

Manager, Supply Chain Management – Flint Engine South (7/2001-9/2007)

Manager, Supply Chain Management – Bay City Components (9/1998-6/2001)

Manager, Supply Chain Management – Saginaw Malleable Iron (4/1997-8/1998)

Managed supply chain operations for each of the plants. Managed and coordinated all materials. Coached, trained, and developed 6-20 salaried staff.

- Achieved a “strong” rating in the FORD audit for the Bay City Component plant – one of only two in the division.
- Consistently achieved passing scores for audit compliance on asset management at all three sites.
- Achieved ISO certification and passed the Lean Manufacturing Assessment at Flint Engine South.
- Successfully ramped new greenfield line from 1400/day to 2200/day with zero impact to customer.
- Launched and ramped a new V6 engine in a compressed timeframe while meeting all customer requirements.

EARLY CAREER

DELPHI ENERGY AND ENGINE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Positions included Site Production Control Coordinator, Synchronous Site Pull Coordinator, Material Supervisor, Plan Scheduler, and PC&L General Supervisor

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN—Flint, Michigan

Masters of Business Administration (MBA), *with distinction*

Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), *with distinction*

TRAINING

- APICS, CIPM Certified Production and Inventory Management, 1999
- Certified Calibrator for Ford Global Manufacturing System Short Lead Time, 2010
- Goldratt Institute: Jonah/Theory of Constraints, 1989
- American Graduate School of International Business, Thunderbird, Phoenix, Arizona, 1999

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint)