



Jeff Craig  
UK

## Lean Six Sigma Training



I've been involved with Logistics, Warehousing, & Transport for most of my career, in various guises. Introduced to Lean Manufacturing in 2005 I've dedicated a wealth of my spare time to acquiring knowledge of the many forms and shapes it takes. I've applied many of its tools and techniques in various ways. Supply Chain and Continuous Improvement are my two main areas of interest and make great bedfellows!

I joined the CILT in 2009, transferring membership to the IOM the following year. Keen to formalise my ad-hoc 'on-the-job' training, I applied to Aspire in November 2012 to request funding to undertake a Lean Six Sigma Green Belt course. I had some misgivings as I realised that this was not a course offered by CILT / IOM but put my case together and sullied forth!

With a little negotiation agreement was reached and I was awarded the funding I had requested. I classroom-studied for 5 days in February at a centre in Manchester, certifying as a Green Belt on the final day.

Around the same time I found myself back in the job market. Applying all my efforts to finding a suitable position I have little doubt that my new qualification has been a great aid to my CV and was instrumental in landing me an almost perfect role. During the interview process for a Warehouse Management position my IOM Membership was scrutinised and the application of the Green Belt knowledge discussed. Keen to implement process improvements and install KPIs into their operation my new Employer views my certification as a critical element of my skills arsenal.

On a personal level Lean Six Sigma training not only reinforced the Lean Manufacturing knowledge previously acquired but has also equipped me with a formal means of interrogating ERP data in a rational and structured manner. Data driven improvements can thus be coupled with Lean tenets of working, driving improvement; adding value for the Customer.

I would encourage Members to avail of Aspire and the services they offer. The team behind the initiative are extremely professional, knowledgably, and their enthusiasm for what they are doing is incredibly infectious. The application process is very straightforward and communication on the individuals' case progress second to none.