

# The New Zealand Construction Clients Group



**Construction  
Clients' Group**  
CONSTRUCTING EXCELLENCE



## Meeting No. 16

when: **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2009, 09.00 Hrs. to 12.30 Hrs.**

where: **Mainzeal, Level 3, 181 Vivian Street, Wellington**

theme: **Lean Thinking for Lean Times**

**Construction productivity\* has generally fallen in New Zealand and has trended away from the rest of the economy. Conversely where practitioners have introduced Lean Construction philosophy and tools this trend has been reversed – One tool from the Lean toolset, “Last Planner™” has been sweeping New Zealand and creating some impressive results.**

Lean needs to be fully understood and applied to lift construction productivity and there can be number of pit falls present in their effective implementation – Constructors and designers need to be open to a change in thinking, Lean is a philosophy as much as a suite of tools. There is also clear need for Clients to embrace the principles and become fully integrated with the construction team to maximise the project benefits. Recent experience from the growing number of New Zealand based practitioners has shown that real and significant improvements can be made to productivity, cash flow and programmes become more predictable and projects can be rescued from delay.

**09.00am Welcome & Introduction, CCG Update by Chair - Joe Hollander.**

**09.15am Host Introduction – Dave O’Donovan – Wellington Manager, Mainzeal.**

**09.30am “Lean Construction” - Amanda Warren, Principal, Constructing Excellence (NZ) Ltd.**

Amanda will describe the Lean philosophy and its key principles including the ‘7 types of waste’ and explain how adopting Lean can help you to maximise productivity. Q&A

**10.00am “The Airplane Game” Interactive Workshop**

Nothing demonstrates Lean better than seeing it in action. Using lego in teams of six, participants will form a production team delivering airplanes. Introducing Lean principles demonstrates how to become faster, more predictable and improve quality in production.

**10.45am Morning Tea**

**11.00am Last Planner™ Theory - Amanda Warren, Principal, Constructing Excellence (NZ) Ltd.**

Amanda will take us through the theory of Last Planner, showing how it is a quite different approach than conventional planning and why it is so successful as a tool. Q&A

**11.30am Implementing “Last Planner™ ” – Present Industry Experience**

**John Bryant – Group Senior Engineer – Higgins Construction.**

John will review his experience in implementing Last Planner™ in to two major roading construction JV’s – the performance changes achieved, necessary success criteria, pit falls and effectiveness of the tool. He will also review the lessons Higgins have learned to carry forward to future projects. Q&A

**12.00pm Discussion**

**12.30pm Close and light buffet lunch.**

\* - Figures taken from Dept. of Building and Housing Task Force Report 2009

**Sharing, Learning, Innovating, Together’**

Contact: Tim Warren, Partner, Constructing Excellence (NZ) Limited

Telephone: 04 299 3171 or Mobile: 021 243 4298

[www.constructing.co.nz](http://www.constructing.co.nz)

