Lean is a way of thinking and doing business that maximises efficiency and productivity, by reducing wastes and improving culture in the workplace. Come along to hear from industry practitioners who are using lean practices to make continuous improvements in their businesses. Hear first-hand how Lean can help you transform your organisation, leading to benefits for both staff and clients/customers.

Paul Niven
Business Manager - Dairy - Van Diemen’s Land Company (VDL)
VDL is Australia’s largest dairy farming company and is based in the Circular Head region of North West Tasmania, with 25 farms, 20,000 milking cows, 10,000 young stock and staff of 110 people. Paul specialises in business process improvement and organisational design and development. He holds a Bachelor of Veterinary Science from the University of Sydney, a Masters of Veterinary Science from the University of Melbourne and a MBA from Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College in the UK. Paul was a participant in the Tasmanian Leaders Program 7 (2013) and was awarded a Nuffield Scholarship in 2014.

Brendon Williams
Factory Manager - Caterpillar Underground Mining
Brendon has 25 years’ experience in heavy manufacturing. As a qualified boilermaker welder, he took up his first leadership role in fabrication management in 2007. He is now the Factory Manager for Caterpillar Underground Mining and has responsibility for all manufacturing operations in Burnie. As a leader with a Lean focus, he has successfully implemented projects to increase efficiencies, capacity of prime products, new supplier development and inventory management. He has conducted extensive benchmarking of manufacturing processes across North America, Australia, China, Indonesia, India, Singapore and Thailand. Brendon holds a Graduate Certificate in Business from University of Tasmania and 6 Sigma Master Black Belt from Caterpillar University.

Courtney Sutton
Production Manager – Simplot Australia
Courtney started out as a civil engineering draftsman before moving into IT. Courtney worked for TAFE Tasmania and Cement Australia, before moving to Caterpillar in 2003 to become a Caterpillar 6 Sigma Black Belt, working on manufacturing process improvements in fabrication. In 2009, Courtney trained as a Lean Black Belt and in 2010 as a 6 Sigma Master Black Belt and worked on projects right across the business. In 2011 Courtney left Caterpillar to apply his skills to the food processing industry as the Continuous Improvement Manager at Simplot Ulverstone. He is now in charge of all production processes for the Ulverstone factory.

Les Souster
Production Manager - James Boag Brewery, Lion Co.
Les has trained in brewing and packaging, engineering, statistical process control, operations management, packaging technology, marketing management, Lean 6 sigma, MBA and has a cert IV TAE. Les has focused on Lean manufacturing practices for more than twenty years with the international brewing industry, including Guinness, as their Head of World Class Manufacturing. Les now works for Lion introducing Lean (Manufacturing Excellence) throughout the business. Les initially developed a roll-out plan which was piloted in West End Brewery Adelaide, followed by Swan and Bentley sites in WA, before moving to James Boag Brewery in Launceston.

RSVP: ccc.events@utas.edu.au by Wednesday 21st May 2014