

## **Research Proposal:**

### **Lean Financial Performance – An exploratory data analysis**

By Eric Olsen

#### Background:

Current research has shown mixed results with respect to the financial performance of companies that have implemented lean manufacturing management practices and those that have not. In order to address this issue more definitively, an extensive database has been compiled of both performance and practice data on 65 companies over a 6-year period from 2001 to 2006.

#### Objective:

The objective of this research project is to perform an exploratory analysis of the data in order to identify relationships between practice and performance variables. The analysis would include, but not be limited to the effects of size, industry, specific lean practices, trend, variability and median performance. A wide range of graphical and analytical techniques may be applied.

#### Consequences:

If done well this study could result in a peer reviewed article in an industry or scholastic journal. Co-authorship with the sponsoring professor is expected.

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