

NEWS RELEASE



Achievement Dynamics

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For immediate release

GUIDANT CORPORATION COMMITS TO LEAN TRANSFORMATION Secures services of lean experts Achievement Dynamics and Lean Learning Center

St. Paul, Minn., August 6, 2003 – Achievement Dynamics (ADI, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.), a nationally-recognized lean consulting firm and the Lean Learning Center (Novi, Mich.), a provider of lean curriculum, have been selected by Guidant Corporation to provide both educational services and on-site training and consulting for its Guidant Cardiac Rhythm Management (CRM) manufacturing facilities in St. Paul, Minn., Clonmel, Ireland and Dorado, Puerto Rico.

Achievement Dynamics will help Guidant CRM to develop and implement their lean production operating system including planning, in-plant training, specialist development and executive coaching for lean systems internalization. In addition to the on-site training, Guidant CRM will send select personnel to the Lean Learning Center for instruction in the rules of lean, utilizing techniques such as discovery simulations, case studies, personal planning and journaling.

“Guidant is committed to becoming the number one cardiac rhythm management company in the world,” said Randy Doyle, vice president, manufacturing, Guidant CRM. “Understanding lean principles and implementing lean manufacturing on the plant floor will accelerate the rate at which we become number one.”

Achievement Dynamics was founded as a management consulting firm in 1991. It is known for its expertise in the principles and practices of lean manufacturing, organizational development, process improvement, and human resource development. In combination with corporate partner The Lean Learning Center (Novi, Mich.), a provider of lean curriculum, the companies provide a full complement of lean transformation services. Industries served include aerospace, automotive, communications, public utilities, health care, food processing, retail and more. For more information visit www.leanlearningcenter.com

Guidant Corporation pioneers lifesaving technology, giving an opportunity for better life today to millions of cardiac and vascular patients worldwide. The company, driven by a strong entrepreneurial culture of 11,000 employees, develops, manufactures and markets a broad array of products and services that enable less invasive care for some of life's most threatening medical conditions. For more information visit www.guidant.com.

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