



May 2014

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## Caution: Improvements in Progress

To our readers -

Just as we urge those we work with to continuously improve their operations, we too are always thinking about how we can improve our services and the way we promote the message of continuous improvement (CI) across Minnesota government.

If you have corresponded with us or attended one of our training programs in recent days, you may have seen or heard about some of the changes on the way. Over the course of the next month, we will be introducing a number of improvements to how our office presents itself and communicates with its stakeholders. A new website, a continuing expansion of training programs (including how we advertise and deliver them), and updates to this newsletter are just a few of the things you can expect to see very soon.

We'll have the full story on these changes and improvements next month. In the meantime, we ask for your patience and encourage you to enjoy this light, transitional issue of our newsletter. Below, you'll find a quick look back at the past, as well as our usual listing of training programs, which are now all [open for registration](#).

Here's to the continuing CI journey,

Mary Jo Caldwell  
Director of Continuous Improvement

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## Where We've Been and Where We're Going

The "e-Lean Update" has been published for over five years, highlighting the growing use of continuous improvement methods in Minnesota government.

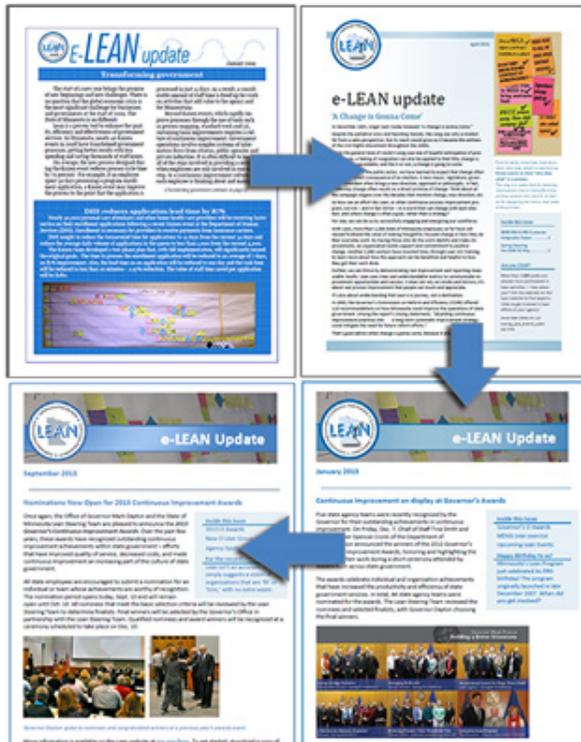
How long have you been reading?

### Inside this issue

[A Taste of Things to Come](#)  
[Upcoming Training Courses](#)

### Lean Fun Fact

The first issue of this newsletter was published in January 2009 and it looked [just a little bit different](#) from what you know today.



A look back at the different iterations of the e-Lean Update over its five years of publication.

Over the past five years, the Lean website has served as a hub for continuous improvement resources and information. It hasn't undergone any major changes since its initial introduction, but that is about to change.

Stay tuned to [our website](#) in June to see the changes unfold.



What will the new online home for continuous improvement resources and info look like? Find out in June.

## Upcoming Events

June 12, Lean 101, Full, ([Waitlist](#))

June 12, Effective Problem Solving, Full, ([Waitlist](#))

June 16-17, Kaizen Facilitator Training, Full ([Waitlist](#))

Aug. 5, Lean 101, [Register](#)

Aug. 6-7, Kaizen Facilitator Training, [Register](#) **5 open seats**

Sept. 8, Lean 101, [Register](#)

Sept. 8, Effective Problem Solving, [Register](#) **1 open seat**

Sept. 11, Leading CI Projects, [Register](#)

Oct. 6, Lean 101, [Register](#)

Oct. 7-8, Kaizen Facilitator Training, [Register](#)

Nov. 3, Lean 101, [Register](#)

Nov. 3, Effective Problem Solving, [Register](#)

Nov. 4, Leading CI Projects, [Register](#)

Dec. 2, Lean 101, [Register](#)

Dec. 3-4, Kaizen Facilitator Training, [Register](#)

View all Lean events at [www.lean.state.mn.us/calendar](http://www.lean.state.mn.us/calendar)

Register for trainings at [mnlean.eventbrite.com](http://mnlean.eventbrite.com).