Learn How to Improve Product Flow to Increase Profitability and Grow Market Share

In companies with a high variety of low-volume products, designing product-focused shop floor cells can be a challenge. Fluctuating volumes, variable product routings and complex machining requirements make it hard to justify a cell with dedicated machines and labor. The result: an inefficient product flow causing large backlogs, excess inventory, poor delivery performance, expediting and long lead times.

Over the past two decades, the Center for Quick Response Manufacturing (QRM), in collaboration with its member companies, has developed proven principles and tools to design shop floor cells for high-mix, low-volume manufacturing settings. Many cell implementations have led to over 80% reduction in production lead times, 50% reduction in inventory and 15-20% reduction in costs.

Join us for this hands-on workshop to learn how to design shop floor cells that successfully address challenges due to product mix variations, shared resources, sub-contracting and scheduling.

What you will learn:

- **Where to start:** Focused Target Market Segment - the nucleus of a production cell
- **Designing the cell:** Analyzing product routings, determining labor and equipment for the cell
- **Capacity planning for the cell:** Lot sizes, utilization, lead times, inventory
- **Addressing challenges:** Shared resources, subcontracting
- **Identifying improvement opportunities:** Impact of setup reduction and cross training
- **Financial justification:** Costs and benefits of the cell implementation

Presenter: Charlene Yauch

Charlene Yauch is the associate director of the Center for Quick Response Manufacturing and serves as a professor of practice in the department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

She has extensive experience working in both industry and academia and has been involved with the QRM Center since 1997.