



BCMC 2005

QRM to the Rescue!

The line-up for BCMC educational tracks is in the final planning stages. Find out more about what's in store for you this fall in Milwaukee!



at a glance

- The goal of Quick Response Manufacturing (QRM) is to allow for efficient manufacturing while producing customized products.
- The key to remaining competitive is reaction time and speed.

by Don Groom, BCMC 2005 Chair

Each year, BCMC continues to educate its attendees on and off of the show floor. This year is no different. In conjunction with the three tracks, each session is carefully laid out and is integral to the show as well as what matters most to you. With another highly anticipated seminar line-up, attendees will easily *Ride on Tradition and Innovation*.

Quick Response Manufacturing (QRM) is one of the three tracks to be featured this year at BCMC. Frank Rath, Associate Director of the Center for Quick Response Manufacturing, of the University of Wisconsin, Department of Engineering Professional Development, is set to enlighten attendees on the advantages of implementing QRM. QRM is an approach to manufacturing that provides solutions for production volume that varies or for highly customized manufacturing. Just like JIT (just in time) and lean manufacturing methods work well for high-volume, repetitive production, attendees will learn about another approach to manufacturing management that they can use to become more effective and efficient. This track will be moderated by a component manufacturer and will focus on implementing the principles of QRM in a truss operation.

So what is QRM? QRM is a company-wide philosophy that gives you a set of principles, methods and tools to reduce lead time in all of your operations. QRM is universal and can be applied by anyone in your company. The key to competitiveness in today's global manufacturing environment is speed. The ability to adapt—to be agile and fast—can give you an edge, especially when your customers want customized products in a hurry. Reducing lead time throughout your organization, from order entry and engineering through manufacturing and shipping, is the most effective way to use speed as a competitive advantage.

The following are some of the concepts you'll learn by attending this seminar.

- Shorten lead times to design and produce jobs
- Reduce manufacturing costs
- Increase labor productivity
- Eliminate costly excess inventory
- Cut waste and inefficiency
- Boost product quality

Building your business and bottom lines are what QRM comes down to. This customized program will show you how these principles can be used within your operation to help you evolve and have even greater success.

In today's market, time, speed, dependability and accuracy are parts of the key ingredients for component manufacturers to build a successful business. Oftentimes, design, inventory control and lead time reduction do not intermingle as you would like them to. Our builder customers face a wide variety of specific needs and demanding deadlines, and in turn, you have to meet these with unique products for each demand. This track will provide ideas to help you address this challenge. As always, the BCMC Committee strives to plan educational sessions that provide solutions and ideas for component manufacturers. **SBC**

Source: *How to Implement Quick Response Manufacturing*. University of Wisconsin - Madison Center for Quick Response Manufacturing.

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