



Comment board



*Additional Secretary **K. Srinivasan**, ELCINA Electronic Industries Association of India.*

Participant, multicountry observational study mission on the Management of Technology (MOT), Japan, 22–26 June 2009.

“My participation in this project was immensely beneficial to me. The study mission had a very balanced mix of lecture presentations by experts

and site visits to highly successful companies. This enabled me to gain a clear insight and enhanced my knowledge of the subject. Upon my return, I shared my knowledge with my colleagues and also prepared a report that was published in the July 2009 issue of *ELCINA Electronics Outlook*, our association’s journal. The article captures the key learning points obtained from the mission such as the concept of MOT, R&D, value creation, and how to harness the outcome of research results to an enterprise. MOT plays a crucial role in bridging the gap between the domain of research and invention on one side and the financial and business world on the other. There is very little understanding of what occurs in between the two domains, and this is where MOT provides a vital link. Therefore I will continue sharing my knowledge with my colleagues and within the industry.”

*Factory Manager **Eric M. Huber**, Boncafe International Pte. Ltd, Singapore.*

Participant, training course on *Monozukuri* (Art of Manufacturing), Japan, 20 October–11 November 2008.

“I would like to share my experience of the immense benefit this training course has brought to my establishment. We have adopted and practiced the various concepts, productivity tools, and techniques that I learned from the course, especially 5S practices. When the factory floor is cluttered with a ‘mess’ of stores, it is no longer a facility but rather becomes a heap of trash. This is especially so when the facility is both a manufacturing plant as well as a storage area for finished products, supporting goods, and raw materials. A sug-

gestion to conduct 5S on the factory floor was discussed at our regular quality meeting between me as the factory manager and my supervisors/line leaders. *Seiri*, which means ‘sorting and arrangement of goods in an organized, neat manner’ is the first of the 5S concepts adopted from *monozukuri*. This practice not only enabled us to arrange our tools and products in a systematized manner, but also enabled us to eliminate unwanted, unused, ‘old’ material. In this way we were able to optimize the space. This practice of *seiri* has made the floor a much cleaner, more uncluttered, and neater environment to work in.”

*Manager **Chantalux Mongkol**, Productivity Promotion Department, Thailand Productivity Institute.*

Resource person, training course on the Development of Productivity Practitioners: Basic Program (DPP: Basic), Philippines, 6–31 July 2009.

“It was meaningful that, as a training course graduate, I shared my career development experiences based on the knowledge that I received from the basic and advanced courses. It was my hope that my story would inspire other course participants to draw up an action plan to become productivity experts themselves. However, the courses I attended were just the beginning of a long journey. I had to open myself up to new learning experiences whenever new assignments were given to me. After the basic course in 2000, I joined a government project as a 5S auditor and later became a member of the Ministry of Industry’s 5S Audit Committee. I created and managed many projects on the One Tambon, One Product movement to promote productivity for communities and government after attending an APO project on community development. Since 2004, I have been assigned as a project manager to promote productivity in education, teaching productivity to students in primary and secondary schools. It was a challenging new area for me but I learned how to integrate productivity concepts and tools and how to create solutions and strategies. In 2006, I was also involved in productivity promotion for SMEs. Onsite experience and networking with people in the field really enhanced my management skills, technical skill, and confidence.” 🌀