Productivity conferences on successful demonstration companies in Pakistan

PO demonstration projects showcase practical applications of productivity tools and techniques in the industry, service, and agriculture sectors. These projects represent a concerted effort by demonstration companies, national productivity organizations (NPOs), the APO, and designated experts to establish models of productivity improvement. The outcomes can then be shared with other enterprises within the country as well as with other APO member countries for greater multiplier effects.

Pakistan is a recent beneficiary, after hosting a demonstration project on Six Sigma and Total Productive Maintenance. "The project started in November 2008 with the arrival of APO expert Masaji Tajiri to assist the two selected companies: Nishat Mills Private Limited, a weaving unit; and Interloop Private Limited, a hosiery manufacturer. The project was successfully completed in August 2009, providing both companies with enormous potential for future improvement in terms of productivity and monetary savings," explained General Manager Ejaz Rasul Chawdhry of the NPO, Pakistan.

In an effort to communicate the success of the project more widely, the NPO, Pakistan organized national conferences in two major cities, Lahore and Karachi, on 17 December 2009 and 8 February 2010, respectively, in collaboration with the All Pakistan Textile Mills Association, Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI). Leading industrialists, association members, and senior officers from public-sector organizations attended to hear presentations by demonstration company representatives.

The recent conference held in Karachi was attended by Federal Minister for Industries and Production Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani, who inaugurated the conference by stress-

ing that the "NPO should reach out and expand its services to Sindh, Punjab, Balochistan, and Sarhad provinces." FPCCI President Sultan Ahmed Chawla delivered the welcome address, while NPO Pakistan CEO Khawaja Muhammad Yousuf briefed the participants on the APO and the role of the NPO Pakistan. At the conference CEO Yousuf told participants that he was reorganizing the NPO and developing increased linkages with public- and private-sector stakeholders. "We believe that for enhancing regional and national competitiveness,



CEO Yousuf (L) presenting a memento to Federal Minister Bijarani (2nd R)

Pakistani industrialists/experts should implement the concepts of total productive maintenance," he explained, confirming the commitment of the NPO to offer technical assistance and consultancy to ensure productivity improvement domestically.

Innovation and Quality Manager Syed Salman Masood and Best Practice Officer Sajeel Siddique, NPO, Pakistan, who were assigned to the demonstration companies, presented an overview of the projects and the details of productivity tools and techniques adopted by the companies.

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