

Award-winning Aerospace Supplier Launches Lean Transformation Project with Florida MEP

Celebration, FL: After receiving a coveted industry award for supply chain excellence, Vought Aircraft Industries announced that it would embark on a new round of efficiency improvements designed to achieve still further improvements in its production processes. Intent on proving that nothing breeds success like success, Vought will partner with the Florida Manufacturing Extension Partnership (Florida MEP), which will lead the new Lean transformation project in July. “Vought’s, Stuart, Florida general manager Paul Sandhu has had senior staff participate in MEP open Lean Workshops and is now eager to bring the Lean transformation to their facility” said Project Manager, Phyllis Morese

“Vought repeatedly receives recognition as one of the top aerospace suppliers, but that’s not the most extraordinary aspect of the company’s achievement,” said Florida MEP Board Chair Gene Lussier. Recently, Vought received a supplier excellence award from Gulfstream for the second consecutive year. So how does the company follow up on this award? By engaging Florida MEP to undertake a Lean training initiative to help identify further efficiency improvements. That kind of commitment to continuous learning and improvement marks the sign of a truly world class manufacturing enterprise.”

Vought is an independent aerostructures company that excels in its role as a Tier 1 integrator -- filling the gap between prime contractors and traditional build-to-print subcontractors by providing large complex aerostructure assemblies on a turnkey basis. The company serves a wide customer base that includes Boeing, Airbus, Gulfstream, Lockheed Martin, Sikorsky, Bell Helicopter, Hawker Beechcraft, and Cessna.

Earlier this year the company received the No. 2 ranking on the list of iSixSigma’s Top 10 Best Places to Work for Six Sigma professionals. In receiving the ranking Vought beat out such well known industry giants as Textron (No. 3), Chevron (No. 4) and Xerox (No. 7). In the last two years 209 Vought employees have completed the Six Sigma green belt training; projected savings of all black and green belt projects exceeds \$25 million.

“We’re very pleased to be working with Florida MEP to implement further Lean initiatives,” said Paul Sandhu, general manager for the Vought facility in Stuart, Florida. “Vought is committed to meeting the demands of an increasingly complex global aerospace marketplace with innovative design approaches, advanced materials and process technology. The best way for our company to stay ahead of the competition is to strive for continuous improvement. The accolades we’ve received have only been won because our employees work together as a team to provide superior value to our customers.”

About Vought Aircraft Industries

Vought Aircraft Industries, Inc. (www.voughtaircraft.com) is one of the world’s largest independent suppliers of aerostructures. Headquartered in Dallas, Texas, the company designs and manufactures major airframe structures such as wings, fuselage subassemblies, empennages, nacelles and other components for prime manufacturers of aircraft. Vought has annual sales of approximately \$1.8 billion and about 6,600 employees in nine U.S. locations.