

HW 8b: due 12/14 (IND E 537)

Read Bicheno, “The Lean Toolbox” and Womack and Jones, “Lean Thinking”

Write a term paper, 25 pages maximum, describing what you think are the most important lessons in the book for manufacturing industries in general. Discuss lean production based on the material covered in this class, including the plant tours. Describe how each of the companies rates, in your opinion, in terms of lean production application and the implications on the ability of these companies to become world class competitive. Be specific in terms of examples, quotes, information and data sources, etc. Follow good technical writing practice, including providing citations to this book, other sources, and personal observations or statements from tour leaders. Feel free to use your library research skills to enhance the technical and factual content in the report.