Previous Project Descriptions

2021:

- Created a market basket pricing index tool for a processed food manufacturer utilizing a refreshable aggregate model based on forward curves in key markets.
- Benchmarked org. structure and FTE's against best practices with improved supply planner workflow and metrics for a global technology company.
- Developed production planning tools for a manufacturing company enabling a shift from reactively building to order to proactively building to stock.
- Made recommendations with supporting implementation tools for improved efficiently in facilities maintenance for a public transit agency.
- Did forecast modelling for a regional health center to stabilize inventories during and after the pandemic by improving integration of warehouse space and 3PL providers.
- Performed a supplier rationalization with scorecard and savings analyses for an international transportation and logistics provider.

Previous Sponsors

- Alaska Airlines
- Boeing
- Carrix/SSA Marine*
- Columbia Distributing
- Continental Mills*
- Darigold*
- Darwin's Natural Pet Products*
- Expeditors*
- F5 Networks
- Fluke Biomedical
- Foss Shipyard*
- Microsoft
- MicroSurgical Technology
- PACCAR*
- Polyform US*
- Puget Sound Energy*
- REI
- Sound Transit
- Tommy Bahama
- Zones*

*Multiple Projects

More Information:
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foster.uw.edu/mscm/projects
What Makes a Good Project?

The project should be of value to you and your organization. If nothing comes immediately to mind, you might consider issues or challenges on the back burner because you have not had the time or resources to address them. Take a look at the functional areas and topics listed below to get some ideas. We would be glad to talk with you about your possible projects. In the meantime, this information will provide further guidance.

Required:

- Strong support from company management
- Sponsor available for weekly check-in
- Can be completed in the eight weeks allotted
- Requires no more than four site visits
- Sponsor company can readily provide access to data and other resources
- Deliverables include actionable recommendations

Fits into one or more of these subject areas:

- Strategy: Supply chain audit, mapping and benchmarking; global network design
- Planning: Forecasting and demand planning, capacity analysis, sales & operations planning
- Distribution: Inventory optimization, warehouse location and efficiency, omnichannel management, transportation and logistics decisions
- Manufacturing and Service: Production planning, service systems design, wait-time analysis, staffing plans
- Sourcing: Make vs. buy analysis, supplier selection process, auctions, scorecards, contracts, CSR benchmarking, procurement
- Process Improvement: Lean and Six Sigma, reengineering, decision support systems, spreadsheet modeling, software selection, project planning, collaborative processes, carbon footprint reduction

Sponsor Time Commitment:

Depending on the scope and nature of the project, you should plan on an hour per week minimum once the project is underway. More time will be required at the beginning to get the scope settled and host a site visit.

Even better if:

- It has large, readily-available, data sets
- It's suitable for Six Sigma problem solving methodologies
- There is a strong likelihood that at least some recommendations will be implemented

Contact:

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