

“Beyond the Chain: Building Earth-Centered Sustainable Supply Networks”

Michael D. Ford, Principal, TQM Works Consulting

5:45pm – 8:15pm, Wednesday 12th March 2025

Lumi’s Italian Restaurant, 4 Little Falls Road, Fairfield NJ 07004

ASCM Greater North Jersey



Join us for a thought-provoking session as we explore the evolution from traditional end-to-end supply chains (E2E SC) to Earth-to-Earth supply networks, highlighting the vital role our planet plays in every step of the supply process. From the extraction of raw materials to the ultimate disposal of waste, every supply chain has an impact on the Earth. This perspective emphasizes the urgency of adopting sustainable practices and proactive solutions.

In today’s interconnected world, organizations rarely work with just one supplier or customer. Instead, they manage complex, dynamic networks with numerous stakeholders—many of whom may be competitors, subcontractors, or partners. This shift in perspective moves us from thinking about supply chains to thinking about supply networks.

(Image source: Colourbox)

The facilitator will moderate discussion centered on these primary points of discussion:

- Corporate social responsibility (CSR) that considers all stakeholders
- The 3 P’s of the triple bottom line: people, planet, profit
- The 5 R’s: reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, responsible disposal
- Evolving from a linear SC to a circular SC
- Sustainable engineering design
- Product life cycle management (PLCM)

This session will include an interactive CSR exercise challenging the audience to discern between proactive versus reactive social responsibility, as well as determining if actions are strategic.

This is a new presentation, originally presented at SAPICS 2024 Cape Town, South Africa and ASCM Connect 2024 Austin, Texas. The facilitator will include case study examples from industry as well as his personal life.

Keywords: corporate social responsibility, supply network, sustainability

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) – a business model that helps a company be socially accountable to itself, its stakeholders, and the public. *(Source: Investopedia.com)*

Supply Network – a pattern of temporal and spatial processes carried out at facility nodes and over distribution links, which adds value for customer. *(Source: Wikipedia.org)*

Sustainability - a social goal for people to co-exist on Earth over a long period of time. *(Source: Wikipedia.org)*

Speaker Biography



Michael D. Ford, M.S.I.S.E., CFPIM, CSCP, CLTD, CTSC, CMQ/OE, CQA, CRE, CQE, ACPF, CPSM, CSSGB is an Earth-to-Earth Sustainable Supply Network Expert with TQM Works Consulting. He provides innovative solutions based on forty years of experience in retail, distribution, manufacturing, training, and consulting. His work history includes software implementation, business planning, inventory control, distribution planning, and corporate training. This includes a broad range of experience in manufacturing from engineer-to-order to make-to-stock, as well as distribution, non-profits, service, and Department of Defense.

Ford has presented at over 400 industry events throughout the U.S., Canada, Japan, Nigeria, South Africa, Australia, Saudi Arabia, The Netherlands, and United Arab Emirates. He has provided over 7,500 hours of classroom training, averaging 4.5/5.0 on evaluations. He has taught accredited and continuing education courses for multiple Penn State and State University of NY campuses. He has delivered on-site training at BAE, Lockheed Martin, IBM, Raymond Corp, Universal, Pfizer and many others.

Ford combines his technical expertise with personal skills, to develop a unique outside-the-box approach to life's challenges. He is a charismatic speaker who specializes in delivering training that is "edutaining."

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/michaeldavidford/>

Agenda

5:45pm – Networking and drinks sponsored by TQM Works Consulting

6:15pm – Buffet dinner: salad, chicken marsala, salmon, pasta, vegetables, cheesecake & coffee/tea

7:00pm - Chapter announcements

7:15pm – Presentation

Registration required (no walk-ins please): \$45 ASCM members; \$55 general public; \$25 students

<https://gnj.ascm.org/>

Attendees will earn one point toward certification maintenance.

Venue directions: <https://tinyurl.com/2m2t6w9n>