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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 22, 2011: TMG, HRQMC, and Alcoa Howmet Team delivered World Class Lean Six Sigma Champions Training in Hampton Roads, VA.

“Extremely well thought out and executed training! The keynote speaker, Lean Tools, Plant Tour, Strategic Planning, and Focus on People First was a powerful rhythm for the 2 day event. Loved how the event brought us back to how we measure culture and behavioral issues to energize the Lean journey” Tanya Jeliaskova, Vice Chair American Society for Quality Hampton Roads Section

On April 21, 2011, twenty seven professionals from Earl Industries, Bauer Compressors, Swisslog, Manchester Industries, ADS Inc, MARAD, TRADOC, and Measurement Specialties joined Training Modernization Group, Inc. (TMG) for a very successful two day Lean Six Sigma Champions Training at Alcoa Howmet in Hampton, VA. TMG partnered with Hampton Roads Quality Management Community (HRQMC) and Alcoa Howmet to provide this two-day workshop for leaders in Hampton Roads and the surrounding areas. Major General Stephen Layfield, the keynote speaker, began day one with “Changing When Your Life Depends on It,” a powerful first hand account of how he has seen leadership overcome apathy through the leader’s responsibility to connect people and processes. Following Major General Stephen Layfield the president and founder of TMG, Joe Barto, discussed the balance between the two core Lean principles: Continuous Improvement and Respect for People. Mr. Barto also spoke on how successful organizations manage the balance and build a culture of “How good can we be?” Joe Barto IV, Program Manager and Lean Black Belt at TMG, led the group through the basic Lean 101 White Belt Training to baseline the entire group on the fundamentals.

Day two of training began with a tour of the Alcoa Howmet facility, highlighting the plant’s Lean Six Sigma efforts and processes. After completing the tour, Brian Kurtyka and plant manager Sabodh Kumar, explained the Alcoa Business System (ABS) and opened the floor to questions and suggestions. Gary Lawson, Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt, spoke next on best practices, alignment, strategic planning, and sustainment. Following lunch, Joe Barto continued the workshop by speaking on “The Courage to Lead a Lean Transformation” and “What’s Next: Lean Program Evolution.” At the end of the workshop, participants were encouraged to provide feedback and their biggest take-home thoughts collected over the two days. Each participant was presented with a Lean Six Sigma Champions certificate at the end of the workshop and challenged to “Play Like Champions” when they returned to their companies. “This training represents a tremendous opportunity, right here, in Hampton Roads to learn from each other and to walk the ground in one of our local plants,” says TMG Founder and

President, Joe Barto, "...it was a great group who learned a lot and gave each other courage to pursue the goal of Lean Six Sigma which is consistent near-perfect performance."

The next Lean Six Sigma Champions Training will be held in Norfolk, Virginia at the Bauer Compressor Plant August 23rd and 24th, 2011.

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