Controlling Chaos: How to Change Fast, Come Out Ahead, and Stay There

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CONTROLLING CHAOS: HOW TO CHANGE FAST, COME OUT AHEAD, AND STAY THERE

About 350 manufacturers will meet at the Dayton Convention and Exhibition Center Nov. 9-11 for the sixth annual leadership conference, "Controlling Chaos: How to Change Fast, Come Out Ahead, and Stay There," sponsored by the University of Dayton. Experienced leaders will offer successful strategies for satisfying customers and staying ahead of competitors, a "re-engineering road map" to help companies make critical changes and tips on defense conversion and other opportunities. Among the topics addressed:

RE-ENGINEERING THE PROCESS FOR FAST CUSTOMER RESPONSE -- NCR Corp. chairman and CEO Jerre Stead will share tips on how to provide fast customer response amid ever-changing demands and needs. "I say if you’re in a meeting, any meeting, for 15 minutes, and we’re not talking about customers or competitors, raise your hand and ask why." Keynote address, Nov. 9, 9:35-10:25 a.m.

SATURN: THE NEW KID ON THE BLOCK -- General Motors executive Thomas Manoff will discuss his experiences from the beginning of the Saturn venture to its present-day success. Vice president of finance for Saturn Corp., he will explain how and why the corporation formed and the financial aspects needed to create new manufacturing systems. Case study, Nov. 9, 1:30-3 p.m.

FROM EVOLUTION TO REVOLUTION -- Henry Duignan, COO of Ross Operating Valve Co., portrays the next paradigm shift for industry. His focus on subjective customer involvement will describe a process that enabled Ross Operating Valve to reduce full production of a prototype from three years to 36 hours. Keynote address, Nov. 10, 2:35-3:30 p.m.

CREATIVITY FOR DEFENSE CONVERSION -- For new products, you need new ideas. Robert Deffeyes of Ohio Advanced Technology Center and Robert Barthelemy of the Air Force Training Systems Group will define attributes needed to spark new ideas and discuss how ideas translate into products, markets, defense conversion and successful problem solving. Their examples span from tractor tire markets to the National Aerospace Plane. Workshop, Nov. 11, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For more information, call Carol M. Shaw, director of UD’s Center for Competitive Change, at (513) 229-4632.