Richard J. Schonberger, Ph.D.

Richard Schonberger has been delivering lean/TQ-related lectures, workshops, and seminars globally since 1981. His latest book (2007) is *Best Practices in Lean Six Sigma Process Improvement: A Deeper Look . . . with Telling Evidence from the Leanness Studies*. His other books, include *World Class Manufacturing* (1986); and *Japanese Manufacturing Techniques* (1982), the first Western-authored book detailing the Toyota/lean methodology. Richard is author of 170-plus academic and practitioner articles.

Following early years as a practicing industrial engineer, Schonberger was chaired professor (operations management and information systems), University of Nebraska; and later affiliate professor (management science), University of Washington. His honors include: 1996 Puget Sound Engineer of the Year; 1995 Academy of the Shingo Prize for Excellence in Manufacturing; 1990 British Institution of Production Engineers' International Award in Manufacturing Management; and 1988 IIE Production and Inventory Control Award.

Currently, Richard is director of the "Global Leanness Studies" and the "World Class *by* Principles" international benchmarking project.