



公益社団法人 日本プラントメンテナンス協会  
Japan Institute of Plant Maintenance

JIPM Presents:

# Manufacturing Workforce & Equipment Excellence Summit 2026

The premier executive gathering for manufacturing leaders across North America—a summit where **Japanese management philosophy** meets practical application on the **manufacturing** and **TPM** (Total Productive Maintenance).

Two days of **high-impact lectures**, followed by **exclusive factory tours** at **Toyota** and **Nissan** facilities.

Sponsor



Local Coordination by: JES Japan Efficient Systems Inc.



# Executive Lecture Event

## - 2 Days

August 18–19, 2026 / Westin Huntsville, Huntsville, AL



An exclusive, high-caliber gathering where senior executives from Japanese manufacturing companies operating in the United States take the stage. The two core themes — **Human Resource Development** and **Equipment Management** — represent the twin pillars of sustainable manufacturing performance. Attendees will also hear presentations of real activities and achievements from **TPM Award-Winning Companies**, offering benchmarking insights applicable across industries.

### Theme 1 Lectures by Executives from Japanese Manufacturing Companies

Speakers will discuss the latest initiatives and leadership-driven approaches to Human Resource Development and Equipment Management. The presenting companies will vary over the two days.

\* Only the keynote address will feature the same content delivered by Mr. Yuji Hiraoka. (Day 1: Japanese-*AI* translation to English provided/ Day 2: English)

Please see the next page for details.

### Theme 2 Presentations by TPM Awards Winners

Japan Institute of Plant Maintenance is the originator of TPM (Total Productive Maintenance). TPM have spread worldwide, and companies are achieving significant results. Among them, we will hear presentations from companies that have won TPM awards regarding their initiatives and achievements.

### Networking

Representatives from the presenting companies will also join us for lunch. This will be an opportunity to network with leaders who are driving the North American manufacturing industry.

# Executive Lecture Event

## - Day 1

August 18, 2026 / Westin Huntsville, Huntsville, AL



## Keynote

10:00 – 12:00 (Speak in Japanese -AI translation to English provided)



### **Strengthening the Production Foundation - Starting with a Commitment: "We Won't Let a Single Person Leave"**

**Mr. Yuji Hiraoka**  
Senior Vice President  
Toyota Motor North America, Inc.

I am Toyota's sole "turnaround specialist" a professional dedicated to revitalizing factories worldwide and elevating them to top-tier status by leveraging the "Three Pillars Activities," a systematic framework designed to strengthen production foundations through the consolidation of Toyota's extensive manufacturing know-how.

Five years ago, I was dispatched to the United States with the specific mandate to apply this expertise and elevate all of Toyota's North American plants to a world-class level.

However, upon actually visiting the facilities, I discovered that every single plant was grappling with severe employee turnover—a crisis so acute that strengthening their production foundations was, at that moment, simply out of the question.

Consequently, I decided to pivot my strategy and begin with a singular objective: ensuring that not a single employee would quit. By prioritizing this goal, I was subsequently able to proceed smoothly with strengthening the production foundation, ultimately achieving significant improvements across all key performance indicators (KPIs).

In this presentation, I will introduce a foolproof strategy—one that simply cannot fail—for achieving the objective of "retaining every single employee," thereby addressing a critical challenge currently facing numerous manufacturing plants throughout North America.

# Executive Lecture Event

## - Day 1

August 18, 2026 / Westin Huntsville, Huntsville, AL



Lunch /  
Networking

12:00 – 13:15

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## Lecture 1

13:15 – 14:00 (Speak in Japanese -AI translation to English provided)

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### **KAIZEN of Maintenance work**

Abstract :

1. Visualization of a Factory utility.
2. Visualization of a maintenance spare parts.

**Mr. Takehito Nakayama**  
Senior Vice President  
TG Missouri Corporation

## Lecture 2

14:00 – 14:45 (Speak in English)

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### **“Manufacturing – A New Workplace”**

Abstract :

Providing insight on changing the perception of Automotive Manufacturing; Adapting to the ever changing workforce in North America.

**Mr. Joe Neuman**  
President  
AISIN DRIVETRAIN INC.

# Executive Lecture Event

## - Day 1

August 18, 2026 / Westin Huntsville, Huntsville, AL



### Coffee Break

14:45 – 15:15

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### Lecture 3

15:15 – 16:00 (Speak in English)

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#### **Improving productivity through production innovation and accelerated training of chemical operators**

Abstract :

Daikin Decatur plant has reached 30 years of operation and is facing challenges such as dependence on individual skills, skill transfer, and rising manufacturing costs. To address these issues, we are working to improve productivity through production innovation and accelerated development of chemical operators.

**Mr. Michael Cagle**

Senior Manager of Process Engineering  
Daikin America, Inc.

### TPM Presentation

16:00 – 17:00

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**Coordinating speakers**

# Executive Lecture Event

## - Day 2

August 19, 2026 / Westin Huntsville, Huntsville, AL



## Keynote

10:00 – 12:00 (Speak in English)



### **Strengthening the Production Foundation** **- Starting with a Commitment: "We Won't Let a Single Person Leave"**

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# Executive Lecture Event

## - Day 2

August 19, 2026 / Westin Huntsville, Huntsville, AL



Lunch /  
Networking

12:00 – 13:15

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## Lecture 1

13:15 – 14:00 (Speak in English)

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### **Developing Manufacturing Excellence: From Future Workforce to Frontline Asset Ownership**

Abstract :

At Nissan Decherd Powertrain, we are developing the future manufacturing workforce through an innovative approach that transforms students and frontline team members into skilled asset owners focused on safety, reliability, and operational excellence.

**Mr. David Sliger**

Vice president  
of Regional Powertrain Operations and  
the Decherd Powertrain Plant  
Nissan North America, Inc.

**Mr. Jason Stanley**

Sr. Manager Manufacturing Workforce Development  
Nissan North America, Inc.

## Lecture 2

14:00 – 14:45 (Speak in English)

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### **Quality improvement through collaboration with OEMs**

Abstract :

Once again, "Jikoutei-wa Okyakusama"  
The next process is the customer

**Mr. Chad Jackson**

Plant Manager  
TEPRO, Inc.

# Executive Lecture Event

## - Day 2

August 19, 2026 / Westin Huntsville, Huntsville, AL



Coffee  
Break

14:45 – 15:15

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Lecture 3

15:15 – 16:00 (Speak in English)

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### Toward Attractive Manufacturing Excellence

Abstract :

Enhancing manufacturing capabilities through “Connected, Flexible, and Lean”, while continuously evolving into a competitive, autonomous factory where people, materials, and information are connected, and people can fully maximize their potential

**Mr. Martin Deschenes**  
Chief Manufacturing officer  
DENSO International America, Inc.

TPM  
Presentation

16:00 – 17:00

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Coordinating speakers

# Executive Factory Tour

## - Day 1

Limited capacity: First come, first served

August 20, 2026



# Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Mississippi, Inc.

1160 Magnolia Way, Blue Springs, MS 38828

**13:00 – 16:00** (Tentative Plan)

On this tour, we will visit the Toyota Motor Manufacturing Mississippi plant where the 'Corolla' is manufactured.

The plant puts Mr. Hiraoka's keynote speech on 'Strengthening the Production Foundation - Starting with a Commitment: "We Won't Let a Single Person Leave"' into practice, allowing you to gain a deeper understanding of the content of his presentation.

Following an overview, we plan to tour the welding and assembly lines.

Notes:

- Due to limited capacity, you will not be able to participate in the factory tour unless you have attended the lecture event (Day 1 or Day 2).
- You must bring your own safety shoes.
- You are responsible for your own transportation to the factory.

### **Please note:**

This factory tour is limited to 20 participants. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Once the tour is full, you will no longer be able to sign up for this package.

# Executive Factory Tour

## - Day 2

Limited capacity: First come, first served

August 21, 2026



# Nissan North America, Inc. Decherd Powertrain Assembly Plant

520 Nissan Powertrain Drive, Decherd, TN 37324

09:00 – 11:30 (Tentative Plan)

On this tour, we will visit the Nissan North America, Decherd Plant where engines are manufactured for Nissan and Infiniti vehicles. Mr. Sliger and Mr. Stanley will be giving a presentation at the lecture event, so you'll be able to gain deeper insights.

Notes:

- Due to limited capacity, you will not be able to participate in the factory tour unless you have attended the lecture event (Day 1 or Day 2).
- You must bring your own 'safety shoes'\* and 'safety glasses'.
- \* If you're wearing leather shoes, you don't need to bring safety shoes.
- You are responsible for your own transportation to the factory.
- If Nissan requests a return visit, please consider it favorably after coordinating with them.

### Please note:

This factory tour is limited to 20 participants. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Once the tour is full, you will no longer be able to sign up for this package.

# Registration & Pricing

## Full Experience Pass

2-day Lecture Event + 2 Factory Tours\* : \$1,200 (Excluding tax)

## Executive Experience Pass

1-day Lecture Event + 1 Factory Tours\* : \$650 (Excluding tax)

\* Factory tours have a limited capacity and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. If you are unable to book a factory tour due to capacity limits, the Standard Pass or 1 Day Pass rates listed below will apply. If you book a Full Experience Pass and only one factory has reached capacity, the price will be \$1,075.

## Standard Pass

2-day Lecture : \$950 (Excluding tax)

## 1 Day Pass

1-day Lecture : \$500 (Excluding tax)

**Please complete the registration process below.**

URL <https://jipm.jesamerica.net>

Mail [info@jesamerica.net](mailto:info@jesamerica.net)



JIPM has outsourced registration and related tasks to JES Japan Efficient Systems Inc..

# Special accommodation offer for participants

Special rates are available for accommodations at the **Westin Huntsville**, the venue for the lecture event.

To take advantage of this offer, please apply via the URL Link below.

**The Westin Huntsville for 179.00 USD per night**  
**- Last Day to Book : Monday, July 20, 2026**



**[Book your group rate for 2026 JIPM USA Conference](https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1760545474287&key=GRP&dt=true&app=resvlink)**

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1760545474287&key=GRP&dt=true&app=resvlink>

- \* Participants are responsible for applying and paying for their own accommodations.
- \* For inquiries regarding accommodations, please contact the hotel directly.
- \* While it is possible to stay at other hotels, JIPM does not provide hotel recommendations.

# Inquiry

## About Event

Japan Institute of Plant Maintenance

Mail: [global@jipm.or.jp](mailto:global@jipm.or.jp)

Event page : <https://jipmglobal.com/activity/Event>



## About Registration

JES Japan Efficiency Systems

Mail: [info@jesamerica.net](mailto:info@jesamerica.net)

JIPM has outsourced registration and related tasks to JES Japan Efficient Systems Inc..

# Sponsor

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