

NEWS RELEASE FOR APPROVAL

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Lean Six Sigma Expert Bonnie Smith Joins Rucker and Associates

RALEIGH, N.C. (June 21, 2010) – Rucker and Associates, Inc. (Rucker) today announced the addition of Bonnie Smith to the consulting firm. Smith is a sought-after, dynamic speaker and author of numerous articles on the integration of Lean and Six Sigma. She joins Rucker with more than 15 years of experience, having played a pivotal role in creating the synthesis of Lean principles and Six Sigma tools now known as Lean Six Sigma.

According to Founder and President David Rucker, the addition of Smith bolsters team expertise. “Bonnie Smith is highly qualified to guide organizational change and continuous improvement across industries,” said Rucker. “Clients often find it amazing to realize how much revenue their companies lose due to hidden problems in their processes. Smith is an expert who addresses these quality opportunities and trains clients for future success.”

Rucker and Associates is a powerful consultancy that helps organizations accelerate business performance by implementing Lean Six Sigma procedures. The company improves process change in manufacturing facilities, service and distribution organizations, healthcare settings, higher education, retail and construction companies.

Prior to joining Rucker, Smith served as managing director of TBM Consulting Group, responsible for deploying its Lean Six Sigma program worldwide. At TBM, Smith worked closely with Wrigley, McCain Foods Limited, EDS, and manufacturing companies such as Michelin and Energizer.

Smith also has worked for York International as director of total quality management and plant manager of their largest refrigeration facility with 530 employees and \$140 million in revenue.

She achieved industry’s highest training certification as a Six Sigma Master Black Belt during her tenure at General Electric Company. Smith was a member of the team that created the GE Green Belt training program and was responsible for integrating both Lean manufacturing and Six Sigma into a newly acquired GE subsidiary.

Her early career included pharmaceutical and biotechnology experience with Merck and Wyeth-Lederle.

Smith graduated from The United States Military Academy at West Point in 1987 with a degree in mechanical engineering. She served as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, supervising 160 people with a \$2.2 million budget.

Rucker and Associates is a high-performance consultancy dedicated to helping companies discover dramatic new efficiencies using Lean Manufacturing and Six Sigma improvement methodologies. Rucker staff use a hands-on consulting approach to train organizations’ internal teams to implement continuous improvement. Through Rucker’s unique mentoring process, client teams are taught to internalize and accelerate their change processes. Engagements often lead to dramatic results as every Rucker project features an unconditional guarantee.

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