Teaching Last Planner® using Villego®

“I learned more in this class (Last Planner® and Villego® simulation) than in any other class in my whole time in university!”
(Graduate student – San Diego State University, 2015)

What is Villego®?
- A Last Planner® (LPS®) simulation using Lego® that illustrates the benefits of using lean thinking and lean behaviors promoted by LPS® (pull) in Round 2 over traditional scheduling (CPM) and the management process (push) in Round 1.

Why is Villego®?
- The simulations provide a safe learning environment and a sample project to quickly learn the principles and benefits of Last Planner® and experience them using a hands-on “learning by doing” approach which promotes information retention rates of ~90%.

- Comparative results over both rounds regularly show significant schedule reduction (~66%), negative vs. positive profits and an “Aha! moments” illustrating the key components of LPS®.

Where and when to use Villego®?
- Villego® is commonly used in lean boot camps and introductory sessions to LPS® and Lean construction in advance of project kick-offs or as part of a wider learning curriculum.

- If the participants have an active project a LPS® kick-off is recommended within 72 hours to maximize learning outcomes and information retention rates (learning by doing).

Who should be involved in Villego®?
- Villego® is beneficial to all AEC participants but usually works at 3 Levels - Senior Management (including Owners Reps.), Last Planners® (designers and trade foremen) and students.

Key Takeaways and learning outcomes from Villego®
- Commonly, participants experience increased collaboration, communication, teamwork, better understanding of other peoples’ needs and other key Lean concepts of push/pull, flow, production system design, systems thinking, PDCA, kaizen and detailed short-term planning.

- A short YouTube clip of Villego® at a San Diego Community College District capital project kick-off shows a professional’s experience of the simulation.

For more information:
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