Message From Director:

This, the first issue of 2012, covers some new developments.

Soon after we inaugurated Kaizen Institute's first Green office in the world (at Pune, India) during end August 2011; we put together the know-how & do-how of mapping 7 types of green wastes, & kaizen ways of mitigating them.

Our 3P (Production Preparation Process) program became pretty robust; and we put together a number of our case studies for referral.

Our colleague, Vishal Kulkarni presented both during our annual consultant meet held in the last week of 2011. The Consultant Meet also had its' highlight - the annual awards ceremony for recognizing the contributions of our team members. The winners feature elsewhere in this newsletter.

IndiZen 2012, India’s 3rd National Convention on Operational Excellence is scheduled for Feb 14 & 15 at Hotel O in Pune. This year’s theme is ‘Lean & Green’. One of the tracks is ‘Excellence Inside’ tours to the best OE practicing companies in Pune, India. Visits to two of the Platinum certified ‘Green’ campuses, is part of the itinerary.

We are also proud to announce that the world’s leading authority on ‘Visual Management’, Dr. Gwendolyn Galsworth has consented to be our chief guest & keynote speaker during IndiZen 2012. She will also conduct a full-day public session on ‘Visual Workplace, Visual thinking’ on Feb 16 at the same venue. We invite all readers to register, because it is not everyday that world’s leading experts come to our doorstep, and make their profound wisdom available to us at Indian rates.

Before I sign off - It is a matter of gratification that within one year of its' first edition (in celebration of Kaizen Institute 25th anniversary), an improved second edition of ‘Kaizen® K'quotes for a Kaizen® Culture’ is coming out very, very shortly. 150 new quotes have been added. Now, it contains 500 quotes divided into 40 headings. Orders could be placed with AKhemkar@kaizen.com

- Vinod Grover
Kaizen Story: Tiger in the toilet

Once a stranded tiger entered the washroom in a corporate office and hid in a dark corner. Since there were people outside the washroom through the day, the tiger was afraid to come out. Many people frequented the washroom, but the frightened tiger didn’t touch anyone. However, after four days it couldn't bear hunger anymore, so it caught a man who had come in, and ate him. This man happened to be an Assistant General Manager in the organization, but nobody noticed his disappearance. Since nothing untoward happened, the tiger became bolder and after two days caught another man and ate him. This man was the General Manager of the organization. Still, nobody worried over his disappearance (Some people even happy that he was not seen in the office).

Next day, the tiger caught the Vice President who was a terror in the organization. Again nothing happened. The tiger was very happy and decided that this was the perfect place for him to live.

The very next day the happy tiger caught a man who had entered the washroom while balancing a tray of teacups in one hand. The frightened man fell unconscious. Within fifteen minutes a huge hue and cry ensued, and everyone in the office started looking for the man. The search team reached the washroom, flushed out the tiger and saved the unconscious man. He was the tea supplier in the office.

Moral of the story:

It is not the position, but our usefulness to others that makes us lovable and respectable.

Acknowledgement: From the book “Tiger in the toilet” by K. Ajayakumar

Please share your feedback / suggestions for improvements to JPandya@kaizen.com