# Why You and Your Leaders Should Attend the Lean Leadership Learning Tour

**Subject:** Investing in Our Leadership – Lean Learning Tour Opportunity

Dear [Boss’s Name],

I’d like to request the opportunity to attend the [**Lean Leadership Learning Tour**](https://www.lean.org/events-training/events/lean-leadership-learning-tour/) **(May 13-16, 2025) in Kentucky**. This exclusive experience, hosted by the Lean Enterprise Institute and Toyota, offers a rare, firsthand look at lean leadership in action at Toyota, GE Appliances, and Summit Polymers—three organizations that have successfully embedded lean principles into their culture and operations.

### **Why This Experience is Critical for Our Growth**

**1. Learning from Industry Leaders**  
This tour provides direct access to executives and practitioners at companies that have sustained and evolved their lean practices for decades. Observing these organizations will help me bring back proven strategies and best practices that we can apply within our team.

* **Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky** – Go beyond the tram and walk the shop floor to see how Toyota sustains TPS as a business strategy, not just an operational system.
* **GE Appliances** – Learn how lean leadership fueled over $1 billion in U.S. manufacturing investments and engage with the leaders to learn how their teams drive cultural transformation.
* **Summit Polymers** – See how a Tier 1 supplier has successfully maintained lean excellence for 30+ years, even through leadership transitions.

**2. Strengthening Our Leadership Approach**  
Lean leadership isn’t just about tools—it’s about developing people to solve problems, drive improvement, and sustain long-term change. This experience will provide key insights into:

* **The role of leadership in lean transformation**
* **Success and failure modes of lean initiatives**
* **Practical management techniques to sustain continuous improvement**

**3. Peer-to-Peer Learning & Networking**  
I will have the chance to engage with executives (including some from Summit Polymers, GE Appliances, and LEI), CI professionals, and managers from various industries, exchanging challenges, insights, and solutions. These connections will provide valuable benchmarking opportunities, and a network of like-minded professionals committed to lean excellence with whom I can brainstorm on future lean thinking.

### **Why Our Leaders Should Attend Too**

To maximize impact, I strongly recommend sending a leadership team member as well (hopefully yourself)! This will allow us to align on key learnings and immediately apply them to our organization. Attending together ensures that we:

* **Gain a shared understanding of what world-class lean leadership looks like**
* **Accelerate implementation by applying learnings more effectively**
* **Foster leadership development across multiple levels of our organization**

### **Investment & ROI**

The total cost for the program is **$6,600 per person** (or **$6,000 for LEI Co-Learning Partners**), including three nights’ hotel, meals, and local transportation. The insights gained from this experience will directly impact our ability to **lead change, develop talent, and drive continuous improvement**—far outweighing the investment.

My commitment to you is that if you send me on this Lean Leadership Learning Tour, I will return to work prepared to share insights and take aways with our team in a meeting to extend the message to others. Furthermore, I will call out specific changes I will make to my leadership approach as a result of this learning opportunity.

### **Next Steps**

I’d love to discuss how this aligns with our goals and how we can use this opportunity to strengthen our leadership and lean transformation efforts. Please let me know a time that works for you to talk further.

You can learn more about the tour here: [**lean.org/tour**](https://lean.org/tour)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Best,**  
[Your Name]  
[Your Title]  
[Your Company]