

*Executive Master Lean Black Belt  
for the international certification*

# IIBLC® Certified Black Belt in Lean



# IIBLC® - Certified Black Belt in Lean

**Lean focuses on the Customer and the elimination of waste**, which is defined as anything that does not create value for the Customer.

The first to talk about “Lean Production” were J.P. Womack and D.T. Jones, who described the revolutionary Toyota Production System (TPS), developed and refined between the 1950s and 1960s, with Taiichi Ohno as its main architect and inspiration. The same authors later revisited and systematized Lean concepts in the famous book “**Lean Thinking**”, illustrating business cases where astonishing results were achieved through the adoption of **this philosophy**.

Over the past 30 years, thousands of companies worldwide have adopted the Lean approach, **achieving extraordinary improvements** in both manufacturing and service operations, with remarkable results in terms of **market share, customer service, cash flow, and profit**.



*“The Lean Black Belt course organized by Advance School is a top-level training program, clearly structured, in-depth, and above all focused on delivering concrete results. One of the aspects I appreciated most is its highly practical approach: real case studies, hands-on exercises, and tools that can be immediately applied within the company. The training materials are comprehensive, up to date, and clearly explained, even in the more technical sections. The course does not simply train methodology experts; it prepares true continuous improvement leaders, capable of managing complex projects and generating measurable value for the organization.*

*Special mention goes to the instructor, Stefano, whose expertise and constant availability represented a fundamental added value throughout the entire training journey.*

*I highly recommend the Lean Black Belt training to anyone who wants to take their skills to the next level and stand out in the field of operational excellence.”*

**Ezio Camandona** | Manufacturing Quality Responsible - Wabtec Corporation





## IIBLC® Professional Certification

IIBLC®, the International Independent Board for Lean Certification ([www.iiblc.org](http://www.iiblc.org)), is a non-profit association that promotes three professional Lean certifications based on the Book of Knowledge developed and continuously updated by IIBLC®.

- **Certified Green Belt in Lean (CGBL)**
- **Certified Black Belt in Lean (CBBL)**
- **Certified Champion in Lean (CChL)**

### These certifications represent:

- For companies: a guarantee that their employees have acquired outstanding-Lean skills.
- For professionals: an objective recognition of their expertise based on an international standard.

IIBLC® Lean certification exams are currently held in 19 countries: France, Belgium, Spain, the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Ukraine, Russia, Mexico, the Philippines, Costa Rica, Malaysia, Hong Kong, China, Tunisia, Morocco, and the United Arab Emirates. **In Switzerland and Italy**, the exams are administered by **Advance School**.

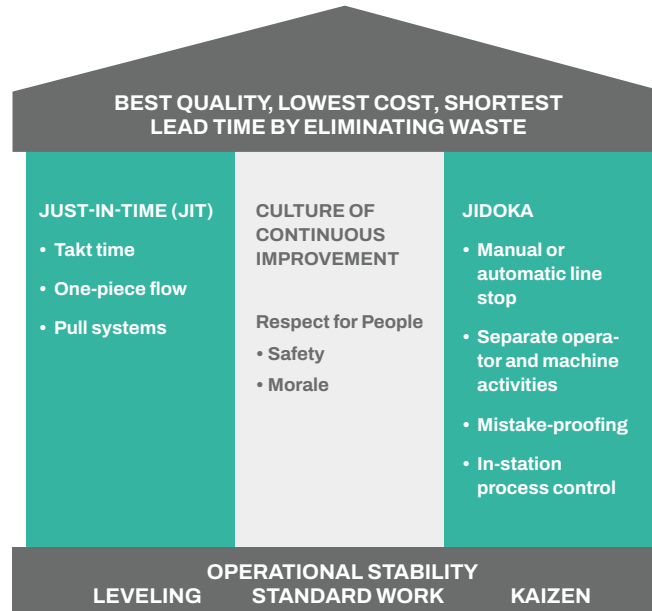


## The 3 IIBLC® Lean Certifications





## The house of Toyota



## Training program

Advance has designed this Master to transfer specialized knowledge in the Lean field and to prepare participants for the **Certified Black Belt in Lean (CBBL) professional certification** issued by the International Independent Board for Lean Certification (IIBLC®).

The program is structured into two phases:

1. **Theoretical phase**, focused on preparing candidates for the IIBLC® Black Belt theoretical examination.
2. **Practical phase**, dedicated to the development of a project to be submitted to the IIBLC® committee in order to obtain the certification.



## Course objectives

The Master has the following objectives:

- To transfer knowledge of **Lean strategy tools and techniques**.
- To provide the necessary skills to move from a “current state” to a “**future state**” in improvement projects across different environments (e.g., manufacturing and services, and various industry sectors).
- To offer a **practical approach** for successfully implementing Lean initiatives, managing the required cultural and organizational change.
- Through the analysis and discussion of a specific project proposed by the participant, to support its implementation while accelerating learning and the development of **Project Leader competencies**.
- To **prepare participants for the Lean Black Belt (CBBL) examination** of IIBLC®, which includes both a theoretical and a project-based component.



## *Detailed program*

### → 1. Recap Value Stream Mapping

- Green Belt concepts review and methods to lead a successful VSM analysis

### → 2. Manufacturing

- VSM in a manufacturing environment
- The 8 Steps
- Mixed Model Value Streams
- Product Families
- Pacemaker
- Flow
- Pitch and Scheduling

### → 3. Office/service

- VSM in an office environment
- Muda in the office
- Inventory types
- Speed/Cost/Quality Interaction
- The 6 steps
- Changing Demand

### → 4. Resource & Development (R&D) innovation

- VSM in a R&D environment
- Product Development Essentials
- What makes the Development process different
- Lean Product development tools and principles
- Rapid Project execution

### → 5. Healthcare

- VSM in a Healthcare environment
- Muda in Hospitals
- VSM “families”
- Standardised Work
- Visual management
- 5S
- Kanban
- Error prevention
- Creating flow
- Design

→ *6. Total Productive Manufacturing (TPM)*

- TPM concepts and theory are explained
- Basics
- Pillars of TPM
- Eliminate losses
- Preventive Maintenance
- Process Quality Management
- Management of new equipment
- Office TPM
- Education and Training
- Safety and Environmental Management

→ *7. Project Management*

The module illustrates the necessary competencies and knowledge to successfully manage a project:

- Project Charter
- Schedule Development
- Cost Management
- Risk Management
- Progress Reporting
- Project Closing
- Organizational Process Assets

→ *8. Complementary techniques*

- Additional Six Sigma Principles and Tools
- Process Mapping
- Theory of Constraints
- Kaizen Events

→ *9. Change and sustainability*

This part of the course focuses on soft skills on 3 levels:

- Individual Level
- Group Level
- Organisational Level

→ 10. Project deliveries

- Setting, follow-up and final presentation of the participant's project



*"The IIBLC® Certification program is specifically structured into different levels, depending on the competencies the candidate aims to acquire. I find this approach both effective and strategic, and I believe that Advance School has developed an extremely useful and practical course."*

*Andrea Fano | Operations Manager*



## Exercises

During the course, **practical exercises** will be conducted to allow immediate verification and application of the concepts presented in class. Lean tools used in real implementations will be employed to identify value streams and sources of waste. Additionally, several successful Lean implementation case studies will be discussed.



## Who the course is for

- Plant Directors
- Managers and staff members in Production, Supply Chain, Quality, Procurement, and Organization within industrial and service companies
- Members of Lean transformation teams
- Companies aiming to implement Lean and train their workforce through a structured and up-to-date program
- Operations consultants
- Production and process engineers



## Requirements

**A good knowledge of the English language** is required to attend the course, as the training materials and the final exam are in English.

Important: in order to take the Black Belt exam, it is mandatory to have previously passed the IIBLC® Green Belt exam.



## Training path

We designed **2 Lean Black Belt training paths**, delivered over 6 months by certified instructors:

- **Classroom path:** 5 training days + 2 individual Live Webinar sessions for the practical phase
- **Live Webinar path:** 6 sessions of 3 hours each + 2 individual Live Webinar sessions for the practical phase.

The course includes:

- A training phase delivered by certified instructors
- A self-study phase with remote support from the instructor
- Exam simulation with discussion of the results
- An individual coaching phase focused on the development and presentation of a Lean Black Belt project to the IIBLC® committee.



## Instructors

The course is delivered by **IIBLC® certified instructors** with extensive teaching and professional experience in the Lean field. The instructors at Advance School are Senior Managers with **over 20 years of experience** in **End-to-End Supply Chain and Operations Management** within multinational and structured corporate environments. Their extensive industry experience enables them to share real-world examples and successful case studies with participants in class, enriching the learning experience, fostering discussion, and accelerating professional growth.



## Training locations

**Switzerland:** Basel.

**Italy:** Milano.



## Registration fees

Fees are listed on the following websites:

Trainings in SWITZERLAND: [www.advanceschool.ch](http://www.advanceschool.ch)

Trainings in ITALY: [www.advanceschool.org](http://www.advanceschool.org)



## Exam and Certification

In order to obtain the **CBBL - Certified Black Belt in Lean certification**, candidates are required to pass a theoretical examination held in paper-and-pencil format at Advance School's premises in Basel, as well as present a Lean Black Belt project.

The exam consists of:

1. **Theoretical part:** a written multiple-choice test in paper-and-pencil format, comprising 60 questions in English.
2. **Practical part:** a written report demonstrating the candidate's practical application skills. The report must be submitted directly to IIBLC® within one year of passing the theoretical exam.



## In-house trainings

**In-House** delivery mode is typically used when a client requests a **training course for a specific group of employees**. Advance delivers In-House courses either on-site or via Live Webinar throughout Switzerland and internationally through its team of instructors.

The In-House courses offered by the school can be either from the standard catalog or **customized according to the client's specific needs and objectives**. An experienced consultant from our team will conduct a detailed needs analysis and then develop a tailored training program.



## How to register

To register please fill the **Enrolment Form**



### COMPANY

ADVANCE is a leading training and consulting company with offices in Switzerland and Italy, collaborating with top Managers, Directors, and Management Consultants operating worldwide.

Advance is ASCM Premier ELITE Partner, delivering APICS-certified courses that set the global standard for supply chain excellence.

### MISSION

To develop excellent skills in Operations Management and contribute to the success of its partners, both companies and professionals. To achieve this, ADVANCE relies exclusively on accredited training programs and instructors with proven teaching and professional experience.

### ABOUT IIBLC®

IIBLC®, the International Independent Board for Lean Certification ([www.iiblc.org](http://www.iiblc.org)), is a non-profit association that promotes three professional Lean certifications based on its own Book of Knowledge. It aims to provide an objective and independent validation of Lean methodology knowledge and skills for companies and professionals, and to become an international reference point through a standardized certification system. Founded in 2009, IIBLC® now administers certification exams in 19 countries. It is completely independent from any consulting organization or company. The members of the Content Committee are international experts in the field who collectively authored the reference guide known as the “Book of Knowledge.” Advance School is the only Exam Centre in Switzerland and Italy.



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