

Meet the Instructors



Joost Vles,
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 Manager*

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Joost M Vles, CPIM, CSCP, Materials and Supply Chain Manager, Moog Industrial Controls Division.

Joost M Vles holds a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Buffalo (EMBA). He is certified in Production and Inventory Management (CPIM) and is a Certified Supply Chain Professional (CSCP) from APICS, the Association for Operations Management. He is currently a Materials and Supply Chain Manager at Moog Inc. From 1988 to 2007, he was an associate at Luvata (formerly American Brass) in Buffalo, New York where he was Director of Operations and Plant Manager. Previous positions held at Luvata were Director, Customer Service & Inventory Teams, Manager Inside Sales, Manager Manufacturing Systems and various leadership positions in IT.

Joost is active in the community; serving as APICS District Manager Committee Chair, Past President of APICS Buffalo Chapter, and the Buffalo & Erie County Workforce Development Consortium (Chair). He also teaches courses on operations management, scheduling and inventory control systems, teamwork and leadership and is recognized by APICS as a Lead Instructor for the CPIM modules (Certified in Production and Inventory Control.)



Matt Bartels,
CPIM
*President,
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Matt Bartels holds a Masters of Business Administration degree from Regis University and a Bachelor's degree in Materials Management from Michigan State University. He is certified in Production and Inventory Management (CPIM) from APICS, the Association for Operations Management. He is currently Director of Customer Service and S&OP for Rich Products. From 2000-2008 Matt held various leadership positions in Rich's Supply Chain. Previous to Rich's Matt held various positions in the Supply Chain across several industries including automotive, plastics, plumbing, and distribution.

Matt has extensive experience leading acquisition integrations and supply chain improvement projects focusing on the customer experience. He establishes a high performance team environment and leads initiatives designed to improve the value chain and deliver a better customer experience

Matt serves on the APICS Board of Directors (President Buffalo Chapter) and teaches course in operations management, presentation skills, leadership, and associate development.



Jeffrey Ball,
CSCP
*Director of
 Business Development,
 APICS Buffalo*

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Mr. Ball joined the American Brass Company as Supervisor of the Shop Floor Control Team. The SFC Team helped to spearhead a significant innovation at the Buffalo Operations by introducing and implementing a Bar Code Scanning System on the factory floor. This system automated the Buffalo production and inventory tracking systems and eliminated all handwritten production and inventory reports.

Mr. Ball has served as Director of Information Services, Director of Production Planning and Inventory Control, Director of Value Engineering and Customer Programs, Director of Lean Manufacturing, and most recently he has developed and implemented a company wide Sales and Operations Planning Process that integrates the Sales, Marketing, Production, and Finance operations.

Mr. Ball's unique experience in Information Technology, Manufacturing Planning, and Customer Services Systems has been instrumental in helping the Buffalo plant to reduce working capital inventories by over 50%. Mr. Ball is also a leading member of Aurubis's Global Supply Chain Team and is helping to implement "best practices" around the globe at many of Aurubis's facilities.

Mr. Ball holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Administration from Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pa, a Masters of Business Administration from Canisius College, in Buffalo, NY, and is Certified in Supply Chain Management by APICS (CSCP).

He is a member of Leadership Buffalo, served on the Board of Directors for APICS Buffalo as President, Vice President, and Director of Chapter Development. He is an Adjunct Professor of Operations Management at Daemen College, and has served on the Board of Directors for BornHava, a school for disabled children in WNY.