

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

# Lesla Nichols



Lesla Nichols has spent over two decades guiding organizations toward improved competitive strength by applying the principles of the Toyota Production System (TPS). To accomplish this, she creates an army of problem solvers among the organizations' employees and managers. Her work focuses on system and process improvement to create a close connection between each employee and the customer.

As a key leader within Toyota's North American Operations and TPS centers, Nichols led teams who analyzed and solved the toughest operation-

al problems within Toyota and its supply base.

Nichols' career has a variety of positions including Toyota production manager, communications firm consultant, research assistant to U.S. Senator Wendell Ford and campaign press secretary to a former Governor. Prior to opening her own consultancy, Nichols was with the Greater Boston Manufacturing Partnership.

She is a partner with Rasmussen Consulting, serves on the board of a prominent US manufacturing company, and writes extensively for online media.