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**Kimberley Construction Building New Role as Government Contractor**

A year-old commercial and residential construction company is taking its first major steps into government contracting after CIRAS helped the company understand the intricacies of selling to the government.

Kimberley Construction was formed in September 2018 as an offshoot of Kimberley Development, a 41-year-old Ankeny home building company. Troy Sydow, project manager for the newer company, said the home developer realized last year that it had been turning away smaller upscale renovation jobs and decided to form a new division to capture that work.

Within a few months, Kimberley Construction had begun taking on commercial renovation work as well, and it was pondering the government sector. Sydow contacted CIRAS and began asking questions.

[Read More](#)

**ILC to Tour Kentucky Toyota in May**



If you've ever had a moment of curiosity about how Lean is practiced at the company that helped create it, then CIRAS has a trip that should fan the flames of your interest.

The Iowa Lean Consortium is sponsoring a Kentucky Lean Tour designed to explore the best practices in Lean leadership by taking ILC members on an in-depth walking tour of the largest Toyota plant in the world.

[Learn More](#)

**ILC Mentors Help Put Lean Training into Practice**



John Magnussen, continuous improvement manager for Pella Corporation, likes to compare Lean management techniques to riding a bicycle: getting trained is great; but at some point, you just have to grab the handlebars and go.

"You didn't learn to ride a bike by reading a book," Magnussen said. "You went out, and you rode a bike! You can read and train all you want, but until you go and actually practice it, you're not going to know."

But wouldn't it be nice to have someone running beside you as you learned?

[Read More](#)

**Webinar Week - A Special Series Spotighting Government Agencies**

Experts from the CIRAS Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) want to help get you started with a special week of webinars in March designed to explain how the buying process works at various levels of government agencies around the state.

This five-part series includes webinars that will explain:

- \* Iowa Department of Transportation
- \* U.S. Department of Agriculture's FPAC Business Center
- \* City of Cedar Rapids
- \* U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers, Rock Island District
- \* U.S. General Service Administration

[Learn More](#)

**Upcoming Conferences, Trainings, & Workshops**

The Center for Industrial Research and Service (CIRAS) seeks to make Iowa better by educating its businesses about the latest research-proven methods and best practices of industry. Here are just a few of the ways we plan to do that in the coming month.



**Market Research Tools**

February 25th

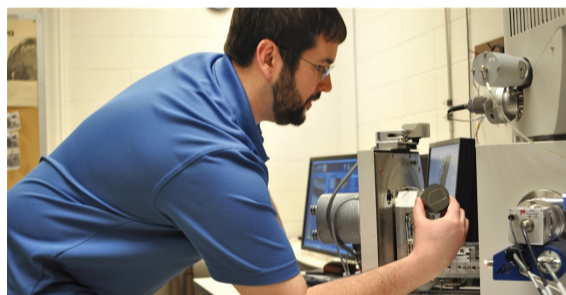
[Register Here](#)



**CIRAS: Materials, Structures, Nondestructive Evaluation Lab Tour**

February 13th

[Register Here](#)



**Material Identification & Characterization at Iowa State**

February 27th

[Register Here](#)



**Iowa Building Codes and Construction Networking**

March 5th

[Register Here](#)



**ILC Personal Effectiveness Workshop**

March 10th

[Register Here](#)



**2020 Industrial Fermentation and Downstream Processing Workshop**

March 18th

[Register Here](#)



**Marketing to the Government**

March 18th

[Register Here](#)

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