“Leadership Challenges in a Changing Australian Environment”

Australia is changing in many ways, with flow-on effects inescapably impacting all types of organisations. Sectors are increasingly characterised by uncertainty, with companies scaling down manufacturing in Australia, a push in the food industry, the apparent end to the mining boom and the growth of the service industry. How do businesses respond to this challenging, dynamic environment and improve their performance in the midst of uncertainty?

Speakers include:

Mr Gavin Smith: President, Robert Bosch Australia

Gavin Smith joined Robert Bosch (Australia) Pty. Ltd. in 1990 following 10 years in various Information Technology roles at a number of multinationals here and in New Zealand. In 1997, Gavin made a significant career change, joining Bosch’s Automotive Original Equipment Sales team based in Frankfurt, Germany, where he worked for two years. During the years that followed, Gavin held a number of senior leadership positions in the company’s Australian Automotive Components divisions becoming the Regional President for the Powertrain Division in 2003, and also for the Vehicle Safety Systems Division in 2008. In 2011, Gavin was promoted to the position of President and Chairman of the Local subsidiary Robert Bosch (Australia) Pty. Ltd.

Gavin holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Otago in New Zealand, and an MBA from Monash University in Melbourne. In addition to his Bosch responsibilities, Gavin is a councillor for the Australian Industry Group, and for the German Australian Chamber of Commerce.

Mr Anurag Pandey: Alberta Healthcare Services, Canada

Anurag Pandey currently works as an Executive Director, Process Improvement, in Alberta Health Services (AHS), a large, publicly funded health system in Canada, and is responsible for instilling a culture of continuous improvement in AHS. He is a Professional Engineer and has a Master’s degree in Industrial Systems Engineering, and has worked in the Continuous Improvement field in Alberta for over 15 years.

Anurag helped design the AHS Improvement Way (AIW), a holistic approach to improvement, embodying the principles of Lean Thinking, Six Sigma as well as other improvement methods and combining those with rigorous application of Change Management ideas.

Before joining AHS, Anurag worked in manufacturing, service and the public sectors in a variety of roles that range from the technical to senior management, and has had numerous successes with teams he has worked with. Anurag also teaches the Lean Six Sigma Certificate Course at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, in Edmonton, Alberta.