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Contributors

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Peter Kalish is a global business systems leader within the risk and value management technologies laboratory at GE's Research Center. He earned his SB and SM degrees in nuclear engineering in 1984 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Throughout his career, Peter has been a catalyst for change within business systems ranging from manufacturing production to commercial loan underwriting. While at GE Nuclear Fuels in Wilmington, North Carolina, he managed a two-year, \$6 million factory redesign project that tripled production output while holding labor constant, increasing manufacturing yield from 85 to 97.5 percent, and reducing cycle time from seven weeks to seven days. In 1991, he left GE to become product manager and ultimately president and CEO of PROMODEL Corporation, a supplier of discrete event simulation software. In 2000, Peter rejoined GE at its research center to conduct research on the design of robust decision systems that seek to increase the output and reduce the operational risks within manufacturing, commercial-lending, and asset-investing businesses.

Rachelle Klein is a consultant, developing short-term trading strategies for an investment company. She has a doctor of engineering science degree in OR from Columbia University's School of Engineering and Applied Science. She has done research in resource allocation and inventory systems and has worked in the telecommunications, insurance, and financial industries.

Liz Maslin is the Drug Distribution Project's administrator. She has many years experience as a consultant working with a range of companies. She had major responsibility for organizing and managing the data used for the Drug Distribution Project, and in training clinics to use the project's order-request system.

Glenn Munshaw was global manufacturing manager for GE Plastics' high performance polymers division and was responsible for global capacity planning, total cost optimization, product fulfillment, and capital investment in manufacturing operations. While at GE Plastics, he held a number of manufacturing and quality engineering positions. He is now the manufacturing general manager at Johns Manville Corporation's facility in McPherson, Kansas. He has a BSc in industrial engineering and OR from the U of Massachusetts at Amherst.

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Murray James Pyle earned an MS in industrial and operations engineering from the U of Michigan and a master's of mathematics from the U of Waterloo. His academic interests include manufacturing strategies and change management. He is an avid cyclist and tinkers with a 1953 Chevrolet.

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Donald R. Smith teaches management and marketing and directs the MBA program at Monmouth University, West Long Branch, New Jersey. He retired in 2001 from Bell Laboratories after 21 years of service and prior to that taught at Columbia U. He is interested in long-distance cycling and classical music including opera. He and his wife, Pat, have three grown children.

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Leon Wilde is an experienced pharmacist who provides pharmaceutical consultation services to clinics and hospitals and to the pharmaceuticals and indigent care area of the Drug Distribution Project. He led a major expansion of pharmacy services at a federally qualified health center in Oakland, California and serves on several pharmacy and therapeutics committees within and outside California.