



## *Strategic Improvement Black Belt*

A public course starting August 26, 2025 instructed by

*Charles A. Liedtke, Ph.D.*

*Strategic Improvement Systems, LLC*

*Strategy / Quality / Analytics / Improvement / Innovation*

[www.strategicimprovementsystems.com](http://www.strategicimprovementsystems.com)

### **Course Description**

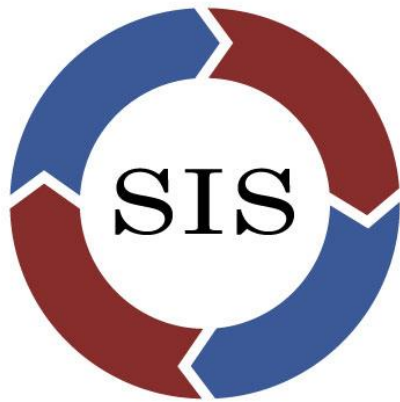
Organizations need employees who can help leaders identify and prioritize strategic issues and then launch and execute projects to accomplish strategic objectives. The field of ***Strategic Improvement*** continues to evolve with the integration of Lean and Six Sigma, the growing importance of Strategic Planning and Innovation, and the emergence of Big Data Analytics and AI. A *Strategic Improvement Black Belt* possesses knowledge and skills in these and other areas. One of the *best practice* project execution approaches is *Lean Six Sigma*. This approach combines the "waste out" Lean techniques with the structured Six Sigma problem-solving method and tools to provide leaders with a way to improve both efficiency and effectiveness. This ten day *Strategic Improvement Black Belt* course prepares participants for this organizational role through nine days of application-oriented training, practical assignments, project work, a final presentation, and a rigorous final exam. Participants will take their *Strategic Improvement* expertise to the *next level* and prepare themselves for the *Strategic Improvement Master Black Belt* level of mastery.

**Length:** 9 Training Days (3 Days; 3 Days; 3 Days) + 1 Final Exam & Presentation Day.  
**Dates:** August 26-28; September 24-26; October 29-31; & December 17.  
**Location:** Days 1, 4, 7, & 10 **In-Person** - Twin Cities Venue; Zoom the other days.  
**Pre-Requisites:** *Lean Six Sigma / Strategic Improvement Green Belt* (or equivalent).  
**Projects:** Every person will complete a project by December 31, 2025. Joint projects OK.  
**Price:** **\$5,300** Per Person by 8/18/25 or **\$5,100** if Payment-in-Full is Made by 7/15/25.  
**Note:** Payment instructions are on Page 3.  
**Class Times:** 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. CST **In-Person**; 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. CST on **Zoom**.

**Course Content:** *Green Belt Review; Visioning; Advances in Strategic Planning; Hoshin Kanri; Project Portfolio Management; Statistical Methods; Advanced Lean Six Sigma Techniques; JKK; Big Data Analytics; AI; Innovation; Coaching & Change Models; and Organizational Culture.*

### **Certification Requirements**

- Attend nine days of training + the Final Event Day (make-ups possible for missed days)
- Successfully complete a project by December 31, 2025 (meet the project requirements)
- Make a successful final presentation (meet the presentation requirements)
- Score at least an 80% on the final exam



**Strategic Improvement Systems**



### **Course Instructor**

**Charles A. Liedtke, Ph.D.** is the Founder and Owner of Strategic Improvement Systems, LLC, a management consulting company designed to assist leaders in improving the performance of their organization from a strategic perspective. Charles conducts research, consults, and provides customized training on *Strategy, Culture, Quality, Analytics, Improvement, and Innovation*. He has worked with organizations worldwide on strategic improvement initiatives including Fortune 500 companies, privately-held companies, non-profit organizations, hospitals, clinics, and government entities. His most recent research reports were on *Quality, Analytics, & Big Data; Big Data in Hoshin Kanri; Information-Based Customer Value Creation; Advances in Strategic Planning; Shaping Organizational Culture; Visions & Visioning; Advances in Horizontal Interaction*, and *Artificial Intelligence for Strategic Improvement*. Charles served as an editor for the Japanese Society for Quality Control on the English version technical standards on *Guidelines for Daily Management* and *Guidelines for Policy Management*. Those two works made the *best practice* technical standards from Japan accessible to all English speakers.

Charles earned a Ph.D. in Business – Operations and Information Management from the University of Wisconsin-Madison specializing in strategy; strategic improvement; and quantitative analysis. Charles also earned a Ph.D. Minor in Statistics and an MBA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison; an M.S. Degree in Statistics from Iowa State University; and a B.S. Degree in Economics from South Dakota State University.

# *Strategic Improvement Black Belt*

## *Starts August 26, 2025*

### **Registration & Payment Information**

#### **To register . . .**

Send an email message with the registration information below to [charles@sisliedtke.com](mailto:charles@sisliedtke.com)

- Name & Title/Position
- Organization
- Email Address
- Payment Preference

#### **To pay . . .**

**Price: \$5,300      Payment-in-Full** in the Amount of **\$5,300** is Due By **August 18, 2025**  
**\$5,100      If Payment-in-Full** is Made Before **July 15, 2025** (*Early Bird Price*)

**Payment-in-full** must be received by **August 18, 2025** to attend the course. There are three ways that you can pay for the course:

1) Mail check to “Strategic Improvement Systems, LLC” at the address below with the registration information (above).

Charles A. Liedtke, Ph.D.  
Strategic Improvement Systems, LLC  
4310 Trillium Lane West  
Minnetrista, MN 55364

2) Submit a purchase order with the registration information and you will be sent an invoice.

3) Submit the registration information and indicate that you would like to pay by credit card. You will then be sent an invoice through PayPal.

A person's registration is transferable to another person at any time until the course begins. There will be a 90% refund (**\$4,770** or **\$4,590** for an Early Bird Registration) for a cancellation until August 18, 2025. There are no cancellation refunds after August 18, 2025, but a 90% credit for future SIS events will be issued. There are no refunds for someone who attends part of the course.

Price of **\$5,300** (or **\$5,100 for Early Bird Discount Payment**) per participant includes:

- 9 training days (4 days in-person) + the Final Event Day (in-person)
- Set of learning materials (book and binder)
- Coaching and project consulting from Dr. Charles A. Liedtke
- Data analysis support from Dr. Charles A. Liedtke
- Food and beverages during the in-person days.
- *Strategic Improvement Black Belt* certificate when requirements are met

**Questions:** You can email Charles at [charles@sisliedtke.com](mailto:charles@sisliedtke.com).

**Privacy Notice:** Registration information will only be used for internal administrative purposes by Strategic Improvement Systems, LLC and will not be shared with any third party.