

## ***Steven Spear joins GBMP Board of Directors***

December 28, 2009 - Boston, MA – GBMP, Inc, a not-for-profit corporation whose sole focus is to help companies become more productive, competitive and profitable, is thrilled to welcome Steven Spear to its Board of Directors. GBMP helps companies through Continuous Improvement (Lean Manufacturing and Six Sigma) education and shop-floor implementation. In striving to fulfill this mission, GBMP has become a leading contributor in strengthening industry and increasing employment opportunities in the Northeast.

*“Globalization and the acceleration of information have made it ever harder to be competitive, delivering great service to customers; meaningful, secure work to employees; and good returns to owners. GBMP has been out in front of this wave of commoditization, pulling others along, teaching them how to construct ever better ways to do more with less effort. It is a real privilege to join the GBMP Board and be part of this effort”* said Steven after his first meeting with the Board in December.

*“We are excited to welcome Steven to our a board, a group committed to building the strength, visibility, and influence of GBMP in order to create a more robust business community in New England,”* added Bruce Hamilton, President of GBMP. *“Steven brings to our board an incredible breadth of experience and knowledge.”*

Steven Spear is author of the award winning and critically acclaimed book, ***Chasing the Rabbit: How Market Leaders Outdistance the Competition***, is a Senior Lecturer in MIT's Engineering Systems Division and is a Senior Fellow at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement. An expert about how generate and sustain advantage, even in the most hyper competitive markets, Spear has worked with clients spanning high tech, heavy industry, software, healthcare, new production design and manufacturing. He helped develop and deploy the Alcoa Business System, which recorded hundreds of millions of dollars in operating savings, and he was integral in developing the 'Perfecting Patient Care' system for the Pittsburgh Regional Healthcare Initiative. As a result, PRHI reduced and eliminated scourges like central line associated infections, surgical site infections, and patient falls. Along with the removal of unnecessary suffering and fatality were reductions in overburden on staff, and improvements in quality of care

Spear has published in the NY Times, the Boston Globe, Annals of Internal Medicine, and Academic Medicine, and he has spoken to audiences ranging from the Association for Manufacturing Excellence to the Institute of Medicine. His 1999 Harvard Business Review article, "**Decoding the DNA of the Toyota Production System**", is part of the 'lean manufacturing' canon, and "**Fixing Healthcare from the Inside, Today**" was an HBR McKinsey Award winner in 2005 and one of his four articles to win a Shingo Research Prize. Previously employed by Prudential-Bache, the US Congress Office of Technology Assessment, the University of Tokyo, and Harvard Business School, Spear has a doctorate from Harvard Business School, masters in engineering and in management from MIT, and a bachelors degree in economics from Princeton.

**About GBMP:** *Based at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, GBMP has worked with hundreds of companies resulting in millions in cost savings and increased sales. Each year GBMP trains over 7000 people on Continuous Improvement principles in customized, on-site classroom and shop-floor training sessions and educates over 1000 more people in public workshops, plant tours and the Manufacturing Roundtable. GBMP awards The Shingo Prize for Operational Excellence in the Northeastern Region of the United States, in eleven states, from Maryland to Maine.*