



Lean Six Sigma

Improve Speed, Quality & Cost with Lean Six Sigma

Does your operation experience the following?

- ▶ long lead times
- ▶ poor cash flow
- ▶ low profitability
- ▶ increased customer complaints
- ▶ too many returns or low first pass yields
- ▶ Do you spend more time firefighting than improving? Do you lack hard data to support decision-making or gauge your progress?

Many firms have problems with **waste** (resulting in long delivery times and excess inventory) and **variation** (creating poor quality and higher costs) in their processes across the enterprise. An assumption is that each issue requires a difference approach.

Fortunately there's a solution that can address both waste and variation. Designed for small and midsize manufacturers, **Lean Six Sigma** is a comprehensive business improvement system that can be applied to your whole enterprise. It combines the strengths of both approaches: the speed and flexibility of Lean to eliminate waste and improve cycle time and the data-driven analytical tools of Six Sigma to increase precision and reduce variability. Lean Six Sigma successfully drives speed, quality and cost simultaneously.

Lean Six Sigma Benefits:

- ▶ Increase the bottom line by 25-40%
- ▶ Improve profitability up to 40%
- ▶ A proactive approach featuring real continuous improvement rather than firefighting
- ▶ Improve decision-making based on real data and observations
- ▶ Leverage data and analytical tools to reveal root cause and solutions
- ▶ Eliminate waste, improve delivery and cut excess inventory
- ▶ Improve quality – reduce rejects/returns, eliminate the costs associated with poor quality, and produce better first pass yields

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Steps of Implementation

▶ **Assessment:**

look at current performance using constraints approach

▶ **Executive & Employee Overview:**

familiarize staff with DMAIC (Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, Control), a process for project management and how to collect data

▶ **Value Stream Map:**

map all of the steps in the value stream to identify areas for improvement

▶ **Implement improvements**

examples of some tools used:

- ▶ Lean tools: 5S, Cell Flow, Setup Reduction
- ▶ Six Sigma: Root Cause Analysis, Gauge RNR,

3. Outcome-focused results

4. A method to address culture and change management issues through communications and employee involvement

5. High ROI/payback.

Gain the precision of Six Sigma and with the speed and flexibility of Lean into one powerful approach.

About WMEP

WMEP is a private, nonprofit consulting organization committed to the growth and success of Wisconsin manufacturers. A leader in Next Generation Manufacturing, WMEP brings best practices to Wisconsin firms to help them achieve world-class performance through innovation and transformation. WMEP receives financial support from the Wisconsin Department of Commerce, and partners with many public and private organizations to serve Wisconsin manufacturers.

To learn more about how Lean Six Sigma can help your business, call WMEP at 1-877-856-8588.

The Difference with Lean Six Sigma

Lean Six Sigma is a comprehensive system for improvement yet flexible enough for smaller firms to execute successfully since they choose the tools to meet their needs. It's based on years of experience successfully implementing both approaches in a wide variety of manufacturing facilities.

Lean Six Sigma is superior to other combined methods of Lean and Six Sigma because it provides:

1. Customization to fit your needs
2. Scalability (made for small and midsize manufacturers)

