

# What Is Lean

By

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*“Passion for Lean”*

**“Learning by Doing ▪ Hands - On ▪ Team Based”**

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## WHAT IS LEAN

*The art of making continual improvement  
**Lean and Kaizen are fundamentally the same***

*Lean is a culture dedicated to continuous, sustainable improvements, at all levels, forever focusing on **eliminating Muda or waste** in all systems and process of an organization.*

*Lean involves everyone's' efforts – **Top management and co-workers alike, it begins and ends with people.***

*Lean business strategy puts the customer at the forefront of the organization's considerations, recognizing always the customer's needs in terms of Quality, Cost and Delivery and striving to continually improve them.*

## WHY LEAN

*Checkmate the global competition*

*In today's rapidly liberalizing markets, **COMPETITIVENESS** is the critical success to survive and grow profitably. Hence to be competitive on a sustainable basis, a comprehensive strategy of continual improvement is critical. Lean provides "how to's" for developing and **IMPLEMENTING** such strategies enabling organizations to become world class.*

## WHAT IS THE LEAN APPROACH

*The common sense low cost way*

*In Lean, the spiral of progress is based **on new ways to tackle problems**; learning to perceive new concepts based on real experiences. Lean adopts a **"learning by doing"** approach against the traditional theoretical / classroom approach. It takes place at the **Real work place**, where daily work is done and value is created.*

***The Lean approach is biased for action and not talk.** Everyone from top to bottom participates and have two roles; to standardize and improve work methods. Lean is put into practice by means of simple and practical methods, methods that might be thought to be common sense but are not common practice.*

## CONDITIONS FOR SUCCESS

### TOTAL MANAGEMENT INVOLVEMENT

Management commitment is the essential ingredient in creating and maintaining the drive for improvements and Top management defines the company's objectives, set priorities and monitor the success of Lean implementation. Lean will not work as a process bolted on to the company. It has to be fully integrated into the way the company is managed. **Lean forms the link between the improvement activities and company policies.**

### A SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT IN TIME

The Lean system is not a magic wand, it cannot work without effort! It is important to dedicate the right resources at the right level to concentrate efforts on developing a workable Lean system. **Management and supervisory staff must agree to devote their time to support and assist the sustenance of Lean activities.**

### AN OPEN MIND FOR IMPROVEMENT

Opposition to progress, force to habits and the fear of change are enemies of Lean – many other factors can hamper the improvement process and undermine the resolution to take on the impossible. **An attitude to view problems in a positive light and look at problem as an opportunity to improve is the spirit of Lean.** To successfully support the introduction of Lean, Top management themselves must be open to be challenged on current practices, so as to set an example for everyone else in the business.

### A STEADY PACE OF CHANGE

The best style of Lean implementation involves steady change, moving smoothly from one success to another. **Every standardized improvement provides the foundation for the next.** This pace of regulation helps to maintain momentum and reduce the risks of developing a slack in improvement efforts.

### PROCESS STANDARDS AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Making it easy to everyone to understand the targets and progress of the Lean process enhances total involvement in the improvement process. Displaying information and targets in an attractive way in the workplace raises interests and motivation and is a good way to promote recognition of improvement efforts. Lean enables the **“Work place to Speak”.**

Application of **LEAN** means to **seek Excellence or even Perfection**  
**In Every aspect of the enterprise through continual elimination of waste”**