

...helping you to focus on what you do best
the lean office



Manufacturing companies have excelled at reducing waste in their production processes now it's the turn of the Office.

Maximise Your Office Efficiency -with Japanese Lean Improvement techniques

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What is 'Lean'?

The ideas behind lean thinking were originally developed at the automotive giant Toyota.

The term was first introduced in the book "The Machine that Changed the World", showing the performance gap between Japanese & Western automotive industries. This superior performance was described as 'lean' production because Japanese methods used less of everything - human effort, inventories, capital investment, facilities, and time.

Common Misconceptions

Most practitioners of Lean don't see or have experience of supply chain. If you can't see the supply chain, you cannot even begin to have theory on how to manage them.

Some organisations think having a 'Lean Team' in itself makes them Lean, in reality this is no more than a badge to say they're up to date with forward business thinking. As a consequence some organisations can have 'Fat' Lean teams.

In order to realise actual business benefits, Lean should be embedded on a Line basis rather than centralised

Inventory -whilst most organisations know what they have but have no idea what it 'should' be for optimal results.

Lean Thinking For All

Although Lean has its origins in the Automotive industry, other industries and sectors are benefiting from implementing a Lean strategy.

No longer does Lean only apply to manufacturing, indeed most of Bryan Wood's latter lean successes have been achieved in the office and this is the biggest opportunity for industry, however a structured approach is essential.

Areas Of Excellence

All too often, 'Areas Of Excellence' are created within existing organisations, which, whilst good on the day the consultant's fee is due, are not sustainable in the long term because the appropriate support and direction is simply not available. The 'Area Of Excellence' is a gifted, parentless child and can fail as surely as a stone castle built on sand.

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Measurable and Sustainable

How do you identify what this 'platform' actually does, and what it looks like?

Quite simply - there is no individual model which will fit and operate in any environment. There is no standard method to do this. Every situation is different, and each requires a tailored approach based on a thorough understanding of how the business, and individuals within it, currently operate. This understanding must be inclusive of detailed operational activities, through to Board level BUT tailored approach shouldn't be used as an excuse for consultants to treat you as a cash cow.

People Power

Businesses are run by, and depend on people. It is imperative that for any initiative to be successful, you must identify and win the hearts and minds of those individuals who can embrace the philosophy and principles of continuous improvement.

What's Special About The Adurasys Way?

In short, we operate Lean Consultancy.

Consultants are all too often theoretical overcomplicating issues so they can extend the implementation time. Others will push a purely stand-alone, short term focused specific improvement tool(s).

Anyone can read a book or learn the theory, even those who have implemented Lean successfully in anger within industry/commerce (ie, not as a consultant) will rarely have implemented it more than once.

Our primary objective is to create and actively encourage a self-sustaining, continuously improving organisation, within which individual improvement tools will be embraced and assimilated for overall business benefit. Together we establish a target that suits your organisation and work with you to provide a fixed price solution.

Bring this refreshing approach, tried and tested by Bryan Woods at Nissan and Lotus, to your business, cutting edge Lean solutions that work for ANY industry, not only Manufacturing.

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What Now?

Contact us to arrange a free no obligation consultation or come along to one of our two hour Lean Office Seminar

Lean FAQ

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Define Lean Thinking

The pursuit of continuous elimination of waste in all areas.

Three Biggest Problems In Adoption

- 1) Training and allowing empowerment of people who've previously had little input or control in their roles.
- 2) Eliminating fear of change at all levels
- 3) Communicating the image of what is possible to Management

Three Problems In Maintaining Lean

- 1) Management of lean programme transfer from consultant to employees, at consultant exit point, ie, the creation of lean 'ownership' within the business.
- 2) Reduction in Management drive /interest over time - tendency to move onto 'next project'
- 3) Providing/maintaining appropriate training to allow ongoing development of individual's capability as lean thinking becomes more advanced within the business

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Challenges Of Lean In The Office Environment

- Awareness of office politics; very important to involve the appropriate personnel from the outset.
- Minor office routines tend to be less documented than 'shop floor' - need to ensure these are understood and documented before making changes.
- Office lean tends to remove paperwork/approvals, and bureaucracy and therefore remove individuals' authority which may be resisted if not managed correctly.
- Individuals tend to have more ownership and jealously protect their immediate work areas and possessions- as these often reflect status-care is needed.
- Changes in procedures etc in one area will often impact downstream- need to map the entire process under review to ensure single areas are not sub-optimised or even compromised.