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The Lean Practitioner's Handbook



Synopsis

While Lean Thinking is an established approach to developing a culture of continuous improvement, the process of implementing Lean in any organization can be complicated, with programs often ending in failure. The Lean Practitioner's Handbook bridges the gap between the tools and the concepts of Lean and offers a practical, easily accessible resource for anyone preparing for, implementing or evaluating Lean activities. Eaton discusses key areas, such as: aspects of a Lean Program; scoping a program; value stream mapping; 2P and 3P events; rapid improvement events; managing for daily improvement; engaging the team; spotting problems and communicating progress. For Eaton, Lean needs to be part of the organization's culture. Discussing Lean as it applies to organizational change and strategic planning, this book covers a wide variety of tools and concepts and explains how to apply them in practice.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In a remarkably informative Introduction, Mark Eaton explains why he wrote this book, briefly reviews the history of Lean dating back (at least) to 1473 and the Venetian Arsenal's use of a continuous flow manufacturing process to construct an entire ship in less than an hour, and, explains what his narrative provides and how the material is organized. I commend him on introducing each of the chapters with a set of questions to which he responds in the given chapter. He makes clever use of other reader-friendly devices when concluding chapters, such as Figures, boxed "What you need to do," and "Closing thoughts" sections which will facilitate, indeed expedite

frequent review of key points later. Eaton provides a wealth of information, insights, and counsel to help practitioners master the most important Lean concepts as well as the tools and techniques needed to apply them effectively, at all levels and in all areas of the given enterprise. He also focuses on various Lean concepts as well as initiatives that include "scope" improvement projects, "Value stream events," management of daily improvement efforts, increasing the quality and extent of engagement of members of cross-functional teams such as those that remove barriers, improve cycle time or reduce first pass yield. These are among the dozens of passages that caught my eye, also listed to indicate the scope of Eaton's coverage.

Any time you are trying to learn something new or you need to jog your memory you will find a reference guide helpful. Mark Eaton, as consultant, author and lean practitioner himself, authored a practical reference guide that will be useful on a day-to-day basis. The Lean Practitioner's Handbook bridges the gap between the tools and the concepts of Lean and the practical use of the tools. Eaton discusses key areas, such as: aspects of a Lean Program; scoping a program; value stream mapping; 2P and 3P events; rapid improvement events; managing for daily improvement; engaging the team; spotting problems and communicating progress. This book covers a wide variety of tools and concepts and explains how to apply them in practice.

List of Chapters

- 1 Planning for Lean
- 2 Key Lean concepts
- 3 Scoping projects
- 4 Value stream mapping events
- 5 2P/3P events
- 6 Rapid improvement events (RIE)
- 7 Managing for daily improvement (MDI)
- 8 Leader standard work (LSW)
- 9 Strategic planning
- 10 Engaging the team
- 11 Ensuring success
- 12 Communications and celebrations
- 13 Key tools and concepts

The book also includes a wide range of templates and checklists to help you prepare for and deliver Lean events and activities and embed the changes that arrive. These checklists and templates are also available online by registering at [...]. It is structured from the standpoint of conducting a lean event or project focused on one area. As a result this book is well suited for those in frontline to middle management roles, individuals we would refer to as practitioners. Each chapter starts with a series of questions Eaton intends on answering for the reader.

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