

an introduction to

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LEAN MANUFACTURING

a smart way to run a business



Lean manufacturing is a way to cut waste of any kind, whether it's time, material or talent — a business philosophy that aims to maximize efficiency by smartly allocating resources, maximizing space, recycling old material and applying employees to jobs best suited for their skills.

additional tools

develop a structure of methodologies and apply discipline and order

Material Replenishment and Flow
Standard Work
Visual Factory
Quality Control Process Charts
Voice of the Customer
Quick Change Over



embrace the 5S methodology

SORT separate unnecessary from necessary items
SET IN ORDER designate a place for all necessary items
SHINE keep workplace materials and tools clean
STANDARDIZE implement standards for optimal conditions
SUSTAIN manage and maintain performance

is it worth the effort?

nearly 70% of executive manufacturing leaders surveyed in 2011 said their lean efforts led to a reduction in manufacturing costs of less than 5%



47% had hoped to achieve savings in excess of 5% by implementing lean manufacturing and operational improvement practices

but

only 31%

actually reached that mark



common obstacles

taking more time than expected (36%)
not well planned and managed (36%)
lack of resources (33%)
poor cross-functional cooperation (39%)
wrong targets, goals and objectives (29%)

why you should give it a try

overall — 91% of respondents described their improvement efforts as “**very effective**” or “**somewhat effective**”