

Lean Manufacturing Self-Assessment Survey

IS YOUR ORGANIZATION ALREADY RUNNING LEAN? EVALUATE YOUR COMPANY NOW.

1. Do you know what product features that your customers value and are willing to pay for?

- ___1. Yes, we regularly survey our customers for input.
- ___2. We only ask for input when sales are down.
- ___3. We never ask our customers for input.

2. Do you look at your production floor and business practices through your customers' eyes?

- ___1. Yes, we bring our valued customers to the plant and note any comments for changes.
- ___2. Occasionally, a customer mentions items to our sales representative.
- ___3. No. We do what makes sense to our flow and costs.

3. Does your shop floor still operate much the same way it did 15 years ago?

- ___1. No. We have implemented many changes.
- ___2. We have tried to implement a few.
- ___3. Our operation doesn't need to be changed.

4. Is your production floor a patchwork of add-on processes and equipment dropped where space was available without thought to a smooth production flow or efficient use of operators?

- ___1. We have reconfigured our space many times with input from our employees.
- ___2. We don't have much room, but try to locate equipment for a smooth flow.
- ___3. We are too cramped for space to do anything about it.

5. How much do you respect and challenge your employees?

- ___1. We challenge our employees for improved operations and recognition.
- ___2. We try to challenge our employees for ideas as time permits.
- ___3. We just ask for a full day's work.

6. Do you ask employees to suggest improvements and identify ways to eliminate unnecessary steps in an effort to become Lean?

- ___1. We have numerous award and incentive programs in place to eliminate unnecessary steps.
- ___2. We try to ask for input, but we are so busy.
- ___3. We never ask for input.

7. Do you have a system in place to collect, act on and reward their input?

- ___1. We have an automated system to collect input and a reward system.
- ___2. We try our best to reward close to implementation of an idea.
- ___3. We have no system.

8. Do your employees understand how their output impacts someone else's processes downstream, or that they are the "customer" receiving material from upstream?

- ___1. Yes, we have provided training, so our employees view each other as customers.
- ___2. We manage to rotate jobs and responsibilities slightly to educate them.
- ___3. We don't have an understanding workforce.

9. What is your turnover rate for inventory? Do you know what the benchmark for inventory turns is for your industry?

- ___1. We have a great turn rate better than average for our industry.
- ___2. We don't know our industry turn rate, but ours is good.
- ___3. We are not happy with our inventory turns and hold too much in our inventory.

10. How would you spend the dollars freed up from cutting fat from your inventory?

- ___1. We would invest in new technology or updating our employees' skills.
- ___2. We would buy newer equipment.
- ___3. We would keep the excess cash in the bank.

11. Do you communicate your needs and timeframes clearly to suppliers and distributors?

- ___1. Yes. We have a great communication stream.
- ___2. We have a fair relationship, but sometimes there are errors or mishaps.
- ___3. Our suppliers have unrealistic expectations.

TOTAL: Scoring – add up the numeric values for all responses.

If total score is 11-16 you are utilizing Lean.

If your total score is 17-23, you have somewhat adopted Lean techniques, but need an outside facilitator.

If your score is over 24, you need to get Lean.

Contact the MRC at 610-758-4588 to get Lean assistance and training.