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LEAN

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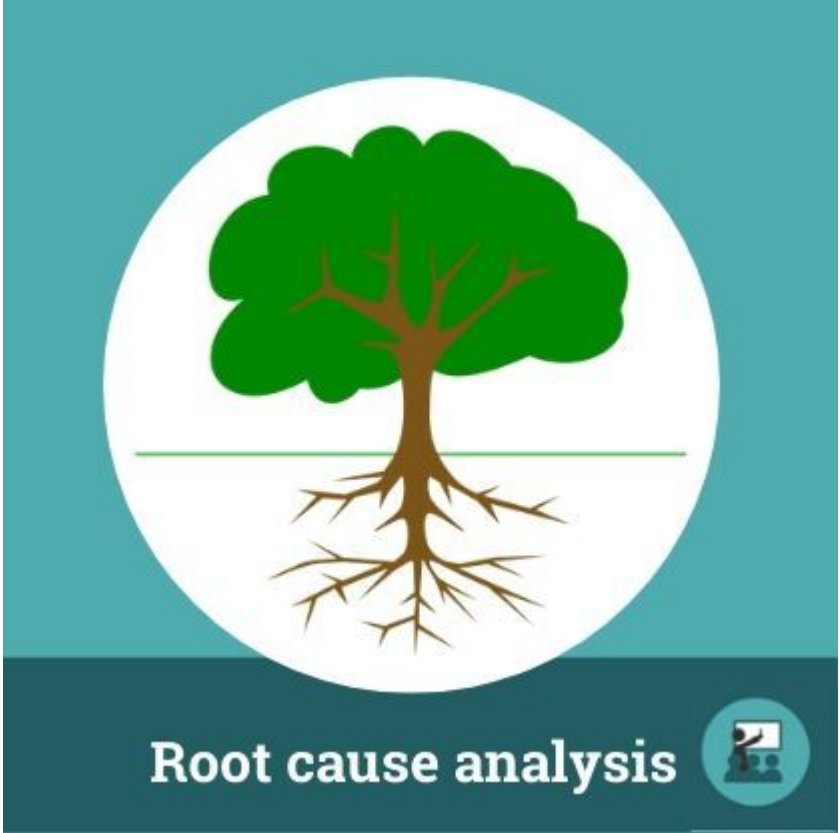
Lean

By Hannah Davis

What is lean?

Lean is a concept of efficient manufacturing operations that grew out of Toyota. Lean constantly improves the way in which value is delivered, by eliminating every resource that is wasteful or does not contribute value. Lean also strives at preserving value with less work; with its ultimate goal of providing perfect value to the customer with little to no waste. This vision is met by each individual worker achieving their full potential and making the greatest contribution possible.

Root Cause Analysis



Root Cause Analysis description

- For this activity, the goal was to try and identify the root cause of why people receive so many emails that causes them to miss important information needed to do today's work.
- This activity can also be applied to everyday life to solve common problems.

Method (Steps used)

- 1. Assess emails to see how many emails you receive a day, who sent the emails, and how many are actually important.
- 2. Identify the causes that led to the problem of receiving too many emails.
- 3. Keep asking yourself, “Why did this problem happen” until you get to the root of the problem

Application of Root Cause Analysis

- I took this activity a step further and used it in school to improve my academic performance.
- After receiving grades that I was not satisfied with, I asked myself, “ Why did this problem happen?”
- After asking myself that question, I then asked myself, “ Did you study enough for the test?”
- After asking myself a series of questions I got to the root of the problem. I did not study enough, began studying too late, and had too many distractions which led to me receiving a grade lower than I aimed for.

Application of Root Cause Analysis

- Lastly, I took this method even further and applied it to my job in Xavier's Library.
- When goals were not being met in a timely manner in the library I asked myself, "Why did this problem happen?"
- After asking myself another series of questions I then found out the root of the problem was I was getting tired of doing the same activity for numerous hours at a time. I then saw that more work was getting done when I was allowed to switch tasks after working for a certain amount of hours.

Conclusion

In conclusion, lean provides an effective way to improve day to day activities. I especially believe that root cause analysis was very helpful in finding and eliminating problems that exist in every aspect of my life whether it is work related or school related.