



Continuous Improvement: Creating Continuous Flow

Overview: This one-day course introduces students to the basics of “Flow” production and describes how creating continuous flow benefits customers and drives significant waste from processes. This class helps set the stage for Just-in-Time production and includes a basic, hands-on simulation that contrasts batch and queue and continuous flow production systems. Attendees will get an overview of cellular production and learn how to plan and implement a continuous flow work cell, including the specific steps to design/establish flexible work cells from selection of products that can “flow” together to optimal layouts for best operator communication and feedback. Class time is set aside to allow attendees to engage in specific discussions of how to set-up continuous flow on their own shop floor.

After taking this class attendees should be able to:

- ✓ Describe the continuous flow and batch and queue production
- ✓ Explain how continuous flow is used to drive waste from a process
- ✓ Plan and set up a simple continuous flow work area
- ✓ Use standard work-in-process to limit inventory levels while maintaining flow
- ✓ Understand how to use specific tools to document and plan continuous flow work areas

Who should attend? This introductory course is appropriate for employees, supervisors and managers who want to improve production flow. It is especially relevant for individuals who will be involved in designing, implementing or operating continuous flow production cells

Time Commitment: 8 hours

Course Outline/Topics:

- What is Continuous Flow?
- Benefits of Continuous Flow versus traditional manufacturing methods
- Simulating a Batch and Queue and Continuous Flow system
- Prerequisites for Creating Continuous Flow
- Tools and Techniques for setting up Continuous Flow