

# GBMP Leading Kaizen in a Lean Environment



LEARN METHODS AND TOOLS FOR LEADING AND SUPPORTING CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT IN YOUR ORGANIZATION. THIS CLASS FOCUSES ON THE USE OF THE SIX-STEP PROBLEM SOLVING PROCESS TO ASSESS THE CURRENT CONDITION, BRAINSTORM IMPROVEMENTS, AND IMPLEMENT AND MEASURE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF COUNTERMEASURES.

**Overview:** A one-day course for anyone who is interested in learning how to lead more effective improvement teams. Through a class simulation, emphasis is given to the “go see” approach to problem solving, an approach that encourages hands-on learning by spending time on the shop floor and observing at the point where the problem manifests itself. In addition, attendees will be introduced to methods and a variety of tools for documenting and quantifying processes and problems. Tools such as “travel/layout maps”, relational diagrams, standardized work charts and value stream maps are covered. At the same time, the class reinforces the important people issues that are the cornerstone of kaizen, creating small improvements by everyone, everyday. Time is also spent discussing how the kaizen leader can best manage a team to accelerate improvement activities. This class is intended to give a basic understanding of how the kaizen leader can use proven continuous improvement methods and tools to increase the success of improvement teams. It provides many takeaway ideas that students can bring back and immediately apply in their own plants. As part of the class, students will work in teams to document a problem, brainstorm improvements, and implement and measure countermeasures. This course is designed to help kaizen leaders take the next steps in developing problem-solving and improvement team leadership skills.

## **After taking this class attendees will be able to:**

- ✓ Describe the role of the kaizen leader in facilitating continuous improvement and achieving improved quality, cost, lead-time and product selection
- ✓ Apply the six-step problem solving method
- ✓ Use the “go see” method and understand why it outperforms traditional means of problem-solving
- ✓ Teach their kaizen teams how to apply and use additional problem-solving tools
- ✓ Lead and manage more successful kaizen teams
- ✓ Point to specific types of methods and problem-solving tools that focus improvement behavior

**Who should attend?** This introductory course is appropriate for kaizen leaders or managers from all disciplines within the organization. It is geared to anyone interested in learning how to focus problem-solving efforts for best results. It is especially relevant for anyone with new responsibility for leading teams of people in continuous improvement activities. It should be a required course for any new manager in a company practicing continuous improvement who has no previous background in leading kaizen activities.

**Time Commitment?** 8 hours

## **Course Outline:**

- What is Continuous Improvement and why is leading kaizen important?
- Applying the Six-step Problem-Solving Process
- Using tools to identify, quantify and solve problems
- Simulation: Practice the kaizen way of problem-solving
- Next Steps for Kaizen Leaders



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