TRAINING A GREEN COLLAR CHAMPION



Increasing competitiveness through reduced costs and environmental impact.

Combining Lean and Green practices is fast becoming one of the foremost methods to cut costs, increase productivity, implement sustainable practices, retain jobs and engage new customers, all while minimizing the impact on the environment.

As with Lean, this new direction requires a change in company focus and within the organizational culture. Advancing this focus requires new employee roles and skill sets across the organization.

Objective

This training certification program will raise worker awareness of the importance of becoming more environmentally focused and provide the skills needed to lead workplace-based sustainable practices.

Approach

This intensive three-day combination of classroom and on the shop floor training provides project-based return on investment results for participating manufacturers.

This certification program is partially funded through the Connecticut Green Jobs Partnership Grant.

"This type of activity leads to additional opportunities through a shift in mind set - enabling everyone to look at our daily processes - in the office or in the plant - in a new way and identify ways to continuously improve.

CONNSTEP has given us the Green tools to complement our SYNCHRO [Lean] Program, reducing our impact on the environment while saving us money."

Bob Castonguay
SYNCHRO Improvement Services
TRUMPF

CONNSTEP

Training a Green Collar Champion Program

Day One:

Energy Management & Equipment Excellence

Key concepts of energy and how to identify opportunities on the shop floor and in the office.

Day Two:

Lean Manufacturing & Green Thinking

Key concepts of Lean Manufacturing, environmental sustainability and how to identify opportunities on the shop floor and in the office.

Day Three:

Putting it into Practice: On the Floor Training

Team-based work to identify sustainability and Lean improvement opportunities as a result of the training. Opportunities will be prioritized and action plans for implementation developed.

45-Day Follow-Up Review

Determine status of previously identified opportunities as a result of training. Teams required to report on activities and results to enhance success and reinforce learning.

Certification Requirements

A certificate will be issued to participants who complete the training and demonstrate the required knowledge and skills through assessment of the following criteria:

- *Attendance and participation in all sessions, including the 45-day follow-up review meeting;*
- *A question and answer test conducted at the end of each module where the participant will be evaluated based on response and scoring of the testing; and*
- *An evaluation of the participant's contribution and input during day three, the on-the-floor training.*

Lean & Green Project Results

- 96-employee company
  - $13,000 annual savings in rework, scrap reduction and energy conservation
  - $6,500 one-time savings through avoided unnecessary costs

- 130-employee company
  - $128,000 annual savings in chemical waste reduction and associated handling fees
  - $7,500 savings through standardizing sample sizes for laboratory quality checks
  - $4,200 annual savings in order entry process streamlining (2,000 administrative hours saved per year with new process)

- 100-employee company
  - $55,000 savings in scrap and rework
  - Lead time reduction (from 4.9 days to less than 1)
  - $25,000 reduction in material purchases
  - $30,000 in avoided workers' compensation costs - greener practices are safer

- 60-employee company
  - 25% reduction in start-up time
  - 1,200 pound reduction in hazardous chemical use
  - 1,361,000 gallons of water conservation per year
  - $6,500 annual savings

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