



Continuous Improvement COMPANY SELF-ASSESSMENT

This company self-assessment is designed to help manufacturing organizations who are looking to get started, reboot, continue, or enhance their journey to build and sustain a culture of continuous improvement. Anyone, from the CEO and frontline supervisors to production workers, can complete the assessment. Consider having several at your organization complete, either independently or as a team. The purpose is to provide insights into whether a collaborative working group for operational excellence would be a good fit for your company and if now is the time to get started.

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|--|------------|-----------|
| 1. Do you feel your organization has built and is sustaining a culture of continuous improvement? | Yes | No |
| 2. Do employees know how their role affects the overall organization? | Yes | No |
| 3. Do employees embrace change and work together as a team to remove barriers? | Yes | No |
| 4. Do employees feel empowered to make decisions about their work? | Yes | No |
| 5. Does your onboarding and ongoing employee training teach the basic principles of lean? | Yes | No |
| 6. Can all employees name the 8 wastes? | Yes | No |
| 7. Do you routinely document improvements with before and after photos/video? | Yes | No |
| 8. Do you routinely walk the floor ('go to see') and periodically tour other operations with the goal to gain new insights, to make immediate improvements, and adopt new practices? | Yes | No |
| 9. Are you consistently meeting on-time delivery and customer demands, despite the shortage of skilled labor? | Yes | No |
| 10. Do you have the ability to take on significantly more work and maintain high quality standards? | Yes | No |

Score: # Yes _____ # No _____

(See reverse for scoring key) →

Scoring Key

Score: # Yes _____ # No _____
(from reverse side)

YES to ALL 10 Questions:

Congratulations! Your company is on a successful journey!

Sustaining continuous improvement is sometimes a challenge and your company may need support for engaging your entire team.

YES to 5-9 Questions:

Your company may want to consider support for sustaining your journey.

There is always more to do. Joining with other manufacturers on the same journey to learn from one another, touring other facilities, and getting support from an expert lean facilitator can transform your organization to the next level.

YES to <5 Questions:

Lean Together™ is a great place for your company to start.

Maybe your organization has participated with 5S or value stream mapping in the past and improvements haven't been sustained, or perhaps you just don't know where to begin. Getting support from experts and like-minded manufacturers is a great way to get going... and makes continuous improvement simple and fun.

Answering **YES** to all the self-assessment questions will provide positive impact for your company in a variety of ways, here are just a few:

- Improves operations or retaining customers and competing for new business
- Increases efficiency to meet current customer demand and quality expectations - more profitability
- Establishes a workplace environment that attracts and retains the best employees

The Lean Together™ program is a structured approach with practice and collaborative learning for companies to achieve success in their continuous improvement journey.

Lean Together™ provides support no matter what your score! Learn more at: nwirc.org/lean-together.