

# Lean Manufacturing (What is it?)

## Increasing Global Competition

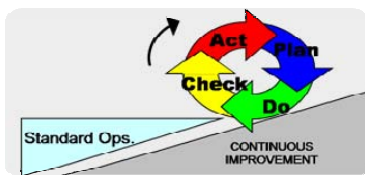
Faced with an increasing global market, to survive we need to be as efficient and effective as we can, and always looking to be more so than our competitors.

Lean Manufacturing is part of a business wide strategy aimed to **increase market share** whilst at the same time attempting to **minimise operating costs**. In the face of ever increasing global competition businesses are driven to **improve flexibility, sharpen market responsiveness, improve output and simultaneously to reduce overall costs**. Lean manufacturing is one of the key but not only, means by which this is being achieved.

## Often defined as:

*Lean Manufacturing is now the name used for a collection of business performance improvement tools and concepts that focus on enhancing **Quality, Cost, Delivery and People's contributions** through the application of tried and tested best practices, the elimination of waste and continual improvements in **workplace safety and sustainability**.*

## How to determine your “Lean Manufacturing” training needs



There are many good training courses. However, lean is best applied using the PDCA model. The model, by definition (Plan-Do-Check-Act), requires flexibility. This is best taught by an instructor that has years of experience with lean manufacturing implementations. It is best taught by someone that has seen failure as well as success.

## Competitive Manufacturing “Qualification” & Lean Manufacturing

1. Competitive Manufacturing training package has been developed in consultation with industry to cover a broad range of modern manufacturing excellence and continuous improvement skills and is now available to all Australian Manufacturing organizations.
2. Competitive Manufacturing training is considered necessary for manufacturers to become more globally competitive.
3. Competitive Manufacturing comprises theory and shop floor mentoring and delivers tangible business outcomes through participation in identified workshop improvement projects.

**Train your workforce and yes they may leave, but what if you don't train them and they stay?**

## Tip

Always establish your business needs first before you start any training, there are many Federal, State and local incentives available to help cover the cost of training and development programs.