SC MEP

LEAN PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Lean Project Management (LPM) delivers better project outcomes, faster and at less cost. Used for over 50 years by tens of thousands of small and medium sized manufacturers around the world.

"We were following our Stage-Gate process to the letter, and we fully implemented our project management training. But projects were still predictably late and over budget. We didn't really understand why [our] product development was missing the mark until we learned about Lean Product Development. Things are much better now. We've made significant improvements to our process and to our performance."

Director of Engineering, Commercial Products Manufacturer

TOOLS USED:

- Stand-up coordination meetings
- Schedule & cost estimation techniques
- Visual project boards
- Fermi estimation
- Time-slicing
- Prioritization
- Milestone tracking
- Resourcing
- Monte Carlo simulation
- Executive-level considerations

BENEFITS:

- **Shorter project lead times**
- **Higher project success rates**
- **Increased project capacity**
- **Reduced project resourcing requirements**
- **Improved schedule and cost estimate reliability**
- **Eliminated need for project update meetings**
- **Improved project efficiency**
- **Less project stress and chaos**

Timeline: The training & consulting sessions will be spaced to accommodate the client's scheduling needs.

1 **Day 1:** In-person fundamentals training

2 **Day 2:** In-person review, practice, & implementation

THE PROBLEM WITH PROJECT MANAGEMENT:

Even project managers with formal project management training usually experience late, overbudget, and out-of-scope projects. And traditional methodologies seem unable to help.

- Goals are not being clearly defined.
- Unambiguous priorities are not being set.
- Resources are being over-allocated.
- Project estimates for cost and lead time have no credibility.
- Managers struggle to concisely report project status.
- The project needs, goals, and justification are not being documented.
- The daily firefight prevents any meaningful progress.
- The workplace is marked by chaos, confusion, and mental noise.
- Customers are increasingly unhappy with your offerings.
- The new technologies and tools introduced since the 1950's have not improved the success rate.

THE SOLUTION:

Lean Project Management fills in the gaps left by the typical project management process by focusing on clarity, communication, and coordination. It delivers greater project value and minimizes project waste by solving the problems that other methodologies ignore. And project teams prefer it because it reduces stress and chaos. The main suite of tools includes:

- **Stand-up meetings and visual project boards** improve communication and reduce the need for lengthy status updates and non-valued added meetings.

- **Time Slicing** improves the quantity and quality of work being done by eliminating interruptions so the brain's prefrontal cortex to do its job during normal working hours.

- **Monte Carlo and Fermi estimation tools** make schedule and cost projections more understandable, defensible, and reliable. Padding and sandbagging are eliminated.

- **Milestone scheduling and tracking** give a more realistic picture of project progress.

- **Improved resourcing and prioritization** help avoid overallocation and bottlenecking.

- And application of **Queuing Theory** ensures the project pipeline doesn't get bogged down.

Each project involves both a technical side and a human side. Yet, most project management methodologies focus solely on the technical side—due dates, checklists, process flows, specifications, schedules, and budgets. That explains why there are so many software programs and apps for project management. But the human factor is equally important. Failures occur at interfaces—where two or more things come together. And with projects, failures occur at the human interface—where people come together. So, Lean Project Management brings the technical side and the human side together in a way that eliminates mistakes, reduces work, and produces better project outcomes.