

KAIZEN FOR IMPROVEMENT IN INDIAN INDUSTRY - A CASE STUDY

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Abstract

Kaizen events are an increasingly common organizational improvement mechanism to increase productivity through organizational potential and incremental improvements. Kaizen is a daily process, the purpose of which goes beyond simple productivity improvements. It is also a process which refers to continuous improvement, humanizes the workplace, eliminates overly hard work and how to learn to spot and eliminate waste in business process when done correctly. The format for Kaizen can be individual suggestion system, small group or large group. Key elements of Kaizen are quality, effort and involvement of all employees, willingness to change and communication. The process began with recording the present method of operation including detail about machine work, human work and material handling-much like a process observation would. Kaizen strives to empower the workers, eliminating waste such as discards unnecessary steps, combine steps where possible, simplify the operations, and improve sequencing. It incorporated operator involvement in identifying waste and developing better ways to do the process. The purposes of this paper are to introduce the basic concept and characteristics of kaizen. Explain how small improvement makes greater benefit to cost reduction and increase in tool life. And discuss factors that affect the performance of lathe machine and tool life. After implementation of Kaizen, tool life is increased by 15%.and cost of the product was reduced by 20%. Because total time required for different operation were reduced by 24%.

Keywords: Coolant pipe, kaizen, continuous improvement, tool life, etc.