

Value Stream Mapping: A Review

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Abstract

Today, in every organization, Lean has become a buzzword, when they are aware that Lean identifies and eliminates waste. It is called 'Muda' in Japan. It means non-value activities. In the manufacturing industry, it performs very vital and significant activities for the effective management and successful journey with lean charting the product flow and acceptable services through various functions and tasks to provide value added products and services to their customers, called as value stream, which means the changes made at the time of production of any product from the stage of conception to sale and marketing. Therefore, this term implies changes that add value. However, the application of Lean and value added function needs an elaborate understanding of all the procedures involved to eliminate waste at every stage and they can be identified to eliminate. The powerful and authoritative lean tool is also called Value Stream Mapping, which clearly identifies the waste. This review paper defines the concept, value and utility of Value Stream Mapping, by exploring several literatures concerning VSM effectiveness and will be helpful with regards to the advanced research in the similar context field.

Keywords: Value stream mapping, Lean Manufacturing, Mapping Symbols, Muda, Non-value activities, Five Principles