



Lean Lexicon

A fundamental truth in working with process improvement is that without standard work we can not sustain the gains. The language of lean is no different. To this end The Lean Enterprise Institute has created the “Lean Lexicon”, a dictionary of the most common lean terms. This is a must book for your organization’s Lean Library.

In order to spread the understanding of Lean we use a unique array of words that help us quickly communicate the fundamental concepts and principles of Lean. As Lean words get used in a wider array of applications it becomes increasingly important to maintain clarity and integrity of their meaning. The Lean Lexicon achieves this goal by first listing the word and its definition then bringing additional depth of understanding to each word through examples, illustrations and cross-references.

The book is written for people with all levels of lean experience. For those who are just learning lean, it contains the most basic words like Inventory, Efficiency, and Waste. For the more experienced lean practitioners there are the less frequent terms like Pitch, Labor Linearity, and Quality Functional Deployment. In addition, the book does an excellent job using pictures to clarify often confused terms like cycle time and lead time. The part I especially like is how they take Japanese Lean words like Jidoka, Mura, and Poka-Yoke and demystify them into plain English.

I highly recommend the purchase of this Lean dictionary, your copy will get dog eared in no time.

Victor I Klein
Managing Partner
Rucker & Associates, Inc.