JIT, TPS, and Lean Operations

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Learning Objectives

When you complete this chapter you should be able to:

- 1. **Define** just-in-time, TPS, and lean operations
- 2. Define the seven wastes and the 5Ss
- 3. Explain JIT partnerships
- 4. Determine optimal setup time

Learning Objectives

When you complete this chapter you should be able to:

- 5. Define kanban
- 6. Compute the required number of kanbans
- 7. Explain the principles of the Toyota Production System

Toyota Motor Corporation

- Largest vehicle manufacturer in the world with annual sales of over 9 million vehicles
- Success due to two techniques, JIT and TPS
- Continual problem solving is central to JIT
- Eliminating excess inventory makes problems immediately evident

Toyota Motor Corporation

- Central to TPS is employee learning and a continuing effort to produce products under ideal conditions
- Respect for people is fundamental
- Small building but high levels of production
- Subassemblies are transferred to the assembly line on a JIT basis
- High quality and low assembly time per vehicle

TPS Elements



ophers inside the main pro-

JIT/TPS/Lean Operations

Good production systems require that managers address three issues that are pervasive and fundamental to operations management: eliminate waste, remove variability, and improve throughput



Just-In-Time, TPS, and Lean Operations

- JIT focuses on continuous forced problem solving
- TPS emphasizes continuous improvement, respect for people, and standard work practices in an assemblyline environment
- Lean operations emphasize understanding the customer

Eliminate Waste

- Waste is anything that does not add value from the customer point of view
- Storage, inspection, delay, waiting in queues, and defective products do not add value and are 100% waste



Ohno's Seven Wastes

- Overproduction
 - Queues
 - Transportation
 - Inventory
 - Motion
- Overprocessing
- Defective products

Eliminate Waste

- Other resources such as energy, water, and air are often wasted
- Efficient, sustainable production minimizes inputs, reduces waste
- Traditional "housekeeping" has been expanded to the 5Ss



The 5Ss

- Sort/segregate when in doubt, throw it out
- Simplify/straighten methods analysis tools
- Shine/sweep clean daily
- Standardize remove variations from processes
- Sustain/self-discipline review work and recognize progress

The 5 Ss

- Sort/segregate when in doubt, throw it out
- Simplify/straighten methods analysis tools

Two additional Ss

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- Safety built in good practices
 - Support/maintenance reduce variability and unplanned downtime

Remove Variability

- JIT systems require managers to reduce variability caused by both internal and external factors
- Variability is any deviation from the optimum process
- Inventory hides variability
- Less variability results in less waste

Sources of Variability

- Poor production processes resulting in improper quantities, late, or nonconforming units
- Unknown customer demands
- Incomplete or inaccurate drawings, specifications, or bills of material

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 Both JIT and inventory reduction Both JIT and inventory reduction are effective tools in identifying

Improve Throughput

- The time it takes to move an order from receipt to delivery
- The time between the arrival of raw materials and the shipping of the finished order is called manufacturing cycle time
- A pull system increases throughput

Improve Throughput

- By pulling material in small lots, inventory cushions are removed, exposing problems and emphasizing continual improvement
- Manufacturing cycle time is reduced
- Push systems dump orders on the downstream stations regardless of the need

Just-In-Time (JIT)

- Powerful strategy for improving operations
- Materials arrive where they are needed when they are needed
- Identifying problems and driving out waste reduces costs and variability and improves throughput
- Requires a meaningful buyer-supplier relationship



JIT and Competitive Advantage

JIT TECHNIQUES:

Suppliers:	Few vendors; Supportive supplier relationships; Quality deliveries on time, directly to work areas.
Layout:	Work-cells; Group technology; Flexible machinery; Organized workplace; Reduced space for inventory.
Inventory:	Small lot sizes; Low setup time; Specialized parts bins
Scheduling:	Zero deviation from schedules; Level schedules; Suppliers informed of schedules; Kanban techniques
Preventive maintenance:	Scheduled; Daily routine; Operator involvement
Quality production:	Statistical process control; Quality suppliers; Quality within the firm
Employee empowerment:	Empowered and cross-trained employees; Training support; Few job classifications to ensure flexibility of employees
Commitment:	Support of management, employees, and suppliers

JIT and Competitive Advantage

WHICH RESULTS IN:

Rapid throughput frees assets Quality improvement reduces waste Cost reduction adds pricing flexibility Variability reduction Rework reduction

WHICH WINS ORDERS BY:

Faster response to the customer at lower cost and higher quality—

A Competitive Advantage

JIT Partnerships

- JIT partnerships exist when a supplier and purchaser work together to remove waste and drive down costs
- Four goals of JIT partnerships are:
 - Removal of unnecessary activities
 - Removal of in-plant inventory
 - Removal of in-transit inventory
 - Improved quality and reliability

JIT Partnerships



Concerns of Suppliers

- Diversification ties to only one customer increases risk
- Scheduling don't believe customers can create a smooth schedule
- Lead time short lead times mean engineering or specification changes can create problems
- Quality limited by capital budgets, processes, or technology
- Lot sizes small lot sizes may transfer costs to suppliers

JIT Layout

Reduce waste due to movement

TABLE 16.1

JIT LAYOUT TACTICS

Build work cells for families of products

Include a large number operations in a small area

Minimize distance

Design little space for inventory

Improve employee communication

Use poka-yoke devices

Build flexible or movable equipment

Cross-train workers to add flexibility

Distance Reduction

- Large lots and long production lines with single-purpose machinery are being replaced by smaller flexible cells
- Often U-shaped for shorter paths and improved communication
- Often using group technology concepts

Increased Flexibility

- Cells designed to be rearranged as volume or designs change
- Applicable in office environments as well as production settings
- Facilitates both product and process improvement

Impact on Employees

- Employees may be cross trained for flexibility and efficiency
- Improved communications facilitate the passing on of important information about the process
- With little or no inventory buffer, getting it right the first time is critical

Reduced Space and Inventory

- With reduced space, inventory must be in very small lots
- Units are always moving because there is no storage



JIT Inventory

 Inventory is at the minimum level necessary to keep operations running

TABLE

JIT INVENTORY TACTICS

Use a pull system to move inventory

Reduce lot sizes

Develop just-in-time delivery systems with suppliers

Deliver directly to point of use

Perform to schedule

Reduce setup time

Use group technology

Reduce Variability



Reduce Variability



Reduce Variability



Reduce Inventory

- Reducing inventory uncovers the "rocks"
- Problems are exposed
- Ultimately there will be virtually no inventory and no problems

- Invertory
- Shingo says "Inventory is evil"

Reduce Lot Sizes



Reduce Lot Sizes

- Ideal situation is to have lot sizes of one pulled from one process to the next
- Often not feasible
- Can use EOQ analysis to calculate desired setup time
- Two key changes necessary
 - Improve material handling
 - Reduce setup time

 $Q_p^* = 1$

Reduce Setup Costs

- High setup costs encourage large lot sizes
- Reducing setup costs reduces lot size and reduces average inventory
- Setup time can be reduced through preparation prior to shutdown and changeover

Lower Setup Costs



Reduce Setup Costs



JIT Scheduling

- Schedules must be communicated inside and outside the organization
- Level schedules
 - Process frequent small batches
 - Freezing the schedule helps stability
- Kanban
 - Signals used in a pull system

JIT Scheduling

Better scheduling improves performance

TABLE

JIT SCHEDULING TACTICS

Communicate schedules to suppliers

Make level schedules

Freeze part of the schedule

Perform to schedule

Seek one-piece-make and one-piece move

Eliminate waste

Produce in small lots

Use kanbans

Make each operation produce a perfect part

Level Schedules

- Process frequent small batches rather than a few large batches
- Make and move small lots so the level schedule is economical
- Freezing the schedule closest to the due dates can improve performance

Kanban

- Kanban is the Japanese word for card
- The card is an authorization for the next container of material to be produced
- A sequence of kanbans pulls material through the process
- Many different sorts of signals are used, but the system is still called a kanban



Kanban



Kanban



More Kanban

- When the producer and user are not in visual contact, a card can be used; otherwise, a light or flag or empty spot on the floor may be adequate
- Usually each card controls a specific quantity or parts although multiple card systems may be used if there are several components or if the lot size is different from the move size

More Kanban

- Kanban cards provide a direct control and limit on the amount of work-in-process between cells
- If there is an intermediate storage area, a twocard system can be used with one card circulating between the user and storage area and the other between the storage area and the producing area

Advantages of Kanban

- Small containers require tight schedules, smooth operations, little variability
- Shortages create an immediate impact
- Places emphasis on meeting schedules, reducing lead time and setups, and economic material handling
- Standardized containers reduce weight, disposal costs, wasted space, and labor

JIT Quality

Strong relationship

- JIT cuts the cost of obtaining good quality because JIT exposes poor quality
- Because lead times are shorter, quality problems are exposed sooner
- Better quality means fewer buffers and allows simpler JIT systems to be used

JIT Quality Tactics

TABLE

JIT QUALITY TACTICS

Use statistical process control

Empower employees

Build fail-safe methods (poka-yoke, checklists, etc.)

Expose poor quality with small lot JIT

Provide immediate feedback

Toyota Production System

- Continuous improvement
 - Build an organizational culture and value system that stresses improvement of all processes, kaizen
 - Part of everyone's job
- Respect for people
 - People are treated as knowledge workers
 - Engage mental and physical capabilities
 - Empower employees



Toyota Production System

Standard work practice

- Work shall be completely specified as to content, sequence, timing, and outcome
- Internal and external customer-supplier connection are direct
- Product and service flows must be simple and direct
- Any improvement must be made in accordance with the scientific method at the lowest possible level of the organization

Lean Operations

- Broader than JIT in that it is externally focused on the customer
- Starts with understanding what the customer wants
- Optimize the entire process from the customer's perspective

Building a Lean Organization

- Transitioning to a lean system can be difficult
- Lean systems tend to have the following attributes
 - Use JIT techniques
 - Build systems that help employees produce perfect parts
 - Reduce space requirements

Building a Lean Organization

- Lean systems tend to have the following attributes
 - Develop partnerships with suppliers
 - Educate suppliers
 - Eliminate all but value-added activities
 - Develop employees
 - Make jobs challenging
 - Build worker flexibility

Lean Sustainability

- Two sides of the same coin
- Maximize resource use and economic efficiency
- Focus on issues outside the immediate firm
- Driving out waste is the common ground

Lean Operations in Services

- The JIT techniques used in manufacturing are used in services
 - Suppliers
 - Layouts
 - Inventory
 - Scheduling



