Lean Supply Chain Management Essentials: A Framework For Materials Managers
Synopsis

Presenting an alternate approach to supply chain management, Lean Supply Chain Management Essentials: A Framework for Materials Managers explains why the traditional materials planning environment, typically embodied by an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system, is an ineffective support system for a company that wants to adopt Lean practices. It begins by defining supply chain management basics, including roles, objectives, and responsibilities from a traditional framework. Next, it describes Lean basics and explores the conflicts between Lean and the traditional framework. The book focuses on the materials management aspects of Lean, such as leveling work into the value stream, heijunka scheduling, standard work, and the concept of intervals, including Every Part Every Interval (EPEI). By combining traditional materials management tools, such as Sales and Operations Planning (S&OP), with Lean manufacturing approaches and applying them to different manufacturing environments, the authors clarify the logic behind why you are doing what you’re doing with Lean components and how they fit together as a system. Specifically, they explain how to: Determine which leveling strategy to use to smooth production. Calculate interval to determine lot sizes in various production environments. Apply Lean to purchasing, warehouse, and logistics areas. Use your value stream map for green initiatives and risk management. Replace capacity planning and shop floor control with visual factory, operator balance charts, EPEI, and plan for every part. Illustrating why balancing demand and capacity is better than trying to balance supply and demand, the book includes a definitive chart that matches Lean tools to the planning and control charts that have served as the model for ERP systems. It integrates the principles learned from Toyota’s fifty-plus-year journey with Lean principles to provide the up-to-date understanding required to approach the application of Lean to your supply chain with a methodology that allows for experimentation, learning, and continuous improvement.

Book Information

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I bought this book because I have some specific work in the area of supply chain management. I was cautious because the blurb on said that it was aimed at operations people with an APICS background. My concern was that APICS seems to have a rather ambivalent approach to lean and much of their training over the years has been attempting to blend lean manufacturing with the MRPII foundations of their "body of knowledge". But I have seen Bill Kerber speak in these issues and I know he is made of sterner stuff :-) My fears were completely wrong. This book gives a clear and unambiguous approach to the big picture lean supply chain from sales through production to procurement and supplier partnerships. The authors cleverly introduce each topic from the APICS view-point and then clearly describe how lean companies approach the topic. The lean approach is in most cases the direct opposite of the traditional methods. The explanations are practical, logically presented, and supported by clear examples and some interesting quotes from the pioneers of lean manufacturing. This book perfectly fit my needs for the tasks I was working on. I highly recommend this book - both as a "lean guy" and a Fellow of APICS for more than two decades.

Must have must read to have on every mfg. professional's shelf. Blend of operational and lean philosophy in one place

I use this as a source book in all of my investigations and applications of Lean and APICS CPIM materials. There are conflicts and these need to be understood. Kerber does an excellent job on
guiding you through the maze.