

Total Productive Maintenance

Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) is a way of looking at maintenance, through a reversion to the old ways on a mass scale. In Total Productive Maintenance, the machine operator performs much, and sometimes all, of the routine maintenance tasks themselves.

This auto-maintenance ensures appropriate and effective efforts are transferred, since the machine is wholly the domain of one person or a team. Total Productive Maintenance is a critical accessory to any lean manufacturing programme.

If machine uptime is not predictable and if process capability is not sustained we cannot produce to the pace of sales. One way to think of Total Productive Maintenance is 'deterioration prevention'.

TPM is a proactive approach that essentially aims to prevent any kind of slack before occurrence. Its mantra is 'zero error, zero work-related accident, and zero loss.

All Lean organisations strive to reduce waste in all facets of their operations. Some of the least understood and most overlooked sources of waste relates to the condition and maintenance of processing equipment.

One premise of Lean Manufacturing is that equipment is ready to run whenever it is required (to meet customer demands). If the equipment is unexpectedly shutdown in order to be repaired, critical deliveries could be missed. Poor equipment maintenance regenerates the 'old' thinking that extra product inventory is needed as an insurance policy just in case process equipment is not operational thereby undermining Lean efforts, adding more waste to processes.

A Total Productive Maintenance effort focuses the organisation on keeping equipment functioning at optimal status by reducing the frequency of breakdowns, the need for long, costly rebuilds and by avoiding many equipment malfunctions and intermittent equipment problems. With this goal achieved, much of the day-to-day responsibility for routine maintenance is reallocated to the person closest to the equipment, the equipment operator.

Who should attend?

Operators, maintenance personnel, managers and supervisors in manufacturing environments.

Course duration:

Workshop (Classroom element) - 4 to 5 Hours.

Maximum number of delegates: Eight (8) per session.