

# Lean Flow in the Green















## YOU ARE A MANUFACTURING COMPANY



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## Lean Flow Holistic Approach















**550 Minutes** 











#### LEAN LINE DESIGN

DATA

CALC.

**AYOUT** 

- Create Process Flow Charts
- Develop Standard Operation Worksheets
- Define Product/Process Matrices
- Create Multi-Product Process Flow Charts
- Calculate Takt
- Determine Resource Requirements
- Review Actual Requirements vs. Design
- Create a Block Diagram
- Develop Standard Operations
- Create the Facility Layout
- Define Cells

#### LINER PROCESS FLOW CHART







Star	ndard	Operation Work Conten	t Sheet						page	of
Proces	s Name	Packing			Produc	t(s)	Ne	ew Guinea Impatier	าร	478
Written by <b>A like K.</b>					Checke	Checked by Oscar C.				
Work Seq-	Waste	Work Content	Asset / Tool No	Labor	Mach. Time	Elapsed	Tool Excho Freg	Critical Areas (right & wrong, safety and ease in operation)	Q C Fr	ity Std. k Oper.
010	(4)	hpply box label		.08		.08		Ensure correct label		
020		can label		.08		0.16				
03		nsert packing list		.08		0.24		Ensure correct list		
04(		nsert bag and scan		.08		0.32				
05	X	Aside empty Crate		.04		0.36				
06		Aside finished box		0.4		0.40				
	10	Prcent of Total is Waste	Totals	0.40		0.40				
1		Sto	n		Q	C		rdiz	(	e
		Not ho	w F	a	st		bı	ut how		or







1) Calculate Takt

Work time/day

**Customer Requirements** 

2) Calculate Standard Weighted Time

 $\Sigma$  (Std.Time X Req.)  $\Sigma$  (Req.)

3) Calculate People& Machine design requirements

Std. Weighted Time Takt





#### PROGRESSIVE WORK UTILIZE MANUFACTURING PRINCIPLES





#### **PROGRESSIVE STICKING/PLANTING**



#### SIMPLE AND EASY NO NEED FOR NEW OR FANCY EQUIPMENT





#### I LOVE LUCY IN CHOCOLATE FACTORY

It's not how fast they can work, but how long it takes to do the Job correctly starts and stops (interruptions) is the focus





#### **PRODUCT SHIPPED BY WEEK**









• The number of zones and pullers assigned to the zones is calculated

Pov O

The number of drivers is also calculated





							Master Pull #	2
	D. II.						Farm:	FV
Maste	er Pull repo	ort					Zone:	А
							Load Date:	9/1/2017
Location	Item Number	Description	ContainerID	Height ID	Qty To Ship	Rack Req	Rack Seq	Comments
A01	100020	2.25-GAL ALMOND FLOWERING	3G	H07	270	4.23	1,2,3,4,5	
A03	100125	2.25-GAL EUONYMUS BRNING BUSH	3G	H05	10	0.11	5	
A05	100151	SYRINGA LILAC 3G ASST BFN	3G	H04	10	0.08	5	
A04	100112	2.25-GAL FORSYTHIA ASSORTED	3G	H06	160	2.12	6,7,8	
A06	100051	2.25-GAL PUSSYWILLOW ASSORTED	3G	H11	180	4.55	9,10,11,12,13	
A09	100021	2.25-GAL BOXWOOD WINTERGREEN	3G	H04	360	3.04	14,15,16,17	
A08	100097	2.25-GAL QUINCE ASSORTED	3G	H03	20	0.12	17	
A11	100022	2.50-QT NANDINA FIREPOWER DWAR	1G	H04	224	0.59	17	
A10	100126	2.50-QT BOXWOOD WINTERGREEN	1G	H04	128	0.34	18	
A13	100024	2.25-GAL YEW UPRIGHT	3G	H05	270	2.93	19,20,21	
A12	100023	2.25-GAL YEW SPREADING	3G	H04	100	0.84	22	
A15	100052	2.50-QT SPRUCE COLORADO BLUE	1G	H04	160	0.42	23	
A17	100025	2.5 QT ARBORVITAE EMERALD GREE	1G	H03	352	0.66	24	
A16	100053	2.5 QT SPRUCE ALBERTA DWARF	1G	H03	160	0.30	24	
A18	100026	2.50-QT BOXWOOD WINTERGEM	1G	H04	672	1.77	25,26	
A21	100055	3.25-GAL BOXWOOD GREEN MOUNTAI	5G	H07	160	3.13	27,28,29,30	
A20	100054	2.50-QT JUNIPER OLD GOLD	1G	H02	224	0.25	30	
A23	100002	ILEX DWF BURFORD HOLLY 3G PRO	3G	H06	310	8.22	31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39	
A22	100001	ILEX DWF YAUPON HOLLY 3G PRO	3G	H04	100	0.84	40	
A25	100056	2.25-GAL VIBURNUM ASSORTED	3G	H04	80	0.67	41	
A24	100027	2.25-GAL PHOTINIA RED TIP	3G	H06	10	0.13	41	
A24	51169018	BOX GRN VELVET	18" BB	H06	6	0.00	41	
A24	65300036	EUONYMUS ALATUS COMP	36" BB	H06	6	0.00	41	
A26	100174	ALTHEA APHRODITE PK N03	3G	H05	10	0.11	41	
A27	100028	2.50-QT LILAC ASSORTED	1G	H02	23	0.03	41	
A28	100057	2.25-GAL BOXWOOD WINTERGEM	3G	H04	80	0.67	42	
A30	100029	2.5 QT JUNIPER BLUE STAR	1G	H02	864	0.98	43	
A32	100058	2.50-QT EUONYMUS GOLDEN	1G	H03	64	0.12	44	
A50	100002	ILEX DWF BURFORD HOLLY 3G PRO	3G	H06	30	0.80	44	

Thursday, September 14, 2017

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Load # 916719 Load Sequence 3 of 40	Store_2			Order # 820599 Seq on Order 3 of 6				
Drop # S		[	Rack Type CC		# of Sh	elves	820599 - 3	]
upermarket Rack	Shelf #	Product #	Description	Qty	Height	UPC	Retail Price	Comment
25	4	100010	JUNIPERUS TOPIARY 7G ASST BFN	6	18	7.64677E+11	\$59.98	
28	3	100014	TOPIARY CONIFER ASST 5G BFN	8	22	7.64677E+11	\$59.98	
26	2	100011	JUNIPERUS TOPIARY 7G ASST BFN	6	22	7.64677E+11	\$59.98	
24	1	100008	TOPIARY CONIFER ASST 5G BFN	8	22	7.646776.111	\$59.98	



Thursday, September 14, 2017

































#### PRE STAGE MASTER PULL

					Mas	ter Pull #	3
Maste	r Pull repor	t				Farm:	FV
						Zone:	A
ocation	Container ID	Description	Qty To Ship	Load Number	Rack Sequence	Shelf	Height ID
04	#2	JUN GOLD LACE	20	Total Required			
	#2	JUN GOLD LACE	2	213737	17	1	н03
	#2	JUN GOLD LACE	18	213737	17	6	н03
04	#2	ARB FIRE CHIEF	6	Total Required			
	#2	ARB FIRE CHIEF	6	213737	17	3	H03
06	3G	2.25-GAL PUSSYWILLOW ASSORTED	10	Total Required			
	3G	2.25-GAL PUSSYWILLOW ASSORTED	10	213737	13	2	H11
11	#2	RASPBERRY SHORTCAKE	6	Total Required			
	#2	RASPBERRY SHORTCAKE	6	213737	18	1	н03
13	3G	2.25-GAL YEW UPRIGHT	10	Total Required			
	3G	2.25-GAL YEW UPRIGHT	10	213737	14	3	H05
14	#2 BALL	HYD M LA DREAMIN	6	Total Required			
	#2 BALL	HYD M LA DREAMIN	6	213737	17	2	H05
17	1G	2.5 QT ARBORVITAE EMERALD GREE	32	Total Required			
	1G	2.5 QT ARBORVITAE EMERALD GREE	32	213737	15	4	H03
21	5G	3.25-GAL BOXWOOD GREEN MOUNTAI	8	Total Required			
	5G	3.25-GAL BOXWOOD GREEN MOUNTAI	8	213737	14	2	H07
22	3G	ILEX DWF YAUPON HOLLY 3G PRO	30	Total Required			
	3G	ILEX DWF YAUPON HOLLY 3G PRO	10	213737	11	1	H04
	3G	ILEX DWF YAUPON HOLLY 3G PRO	10	213737	11	2	H04
	3G	ILEX DWF YAUPON HOLLY 3G PRO	10	213737	11	3	H04
23	3G	ILEX DWF BURFORD HOLLY 3G PRO	30	Total Required			
	3G	ILEX DWF BURFORD HOLLY 3G PRO	5	213737	7	3	H06
	3G	ILEX DWF BURFORD HOLLY 3G PRO	5	213737	7	4	H06
	3G	ILEX DWF BURFORD HOLLY 3G PRO	5	213737	8	1	H06
	3G	ILEX DWF BURFORD HOLLY 3G PRO	5	213737	8	2	H06

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#### THE RESULTS

Typical savings seen in Lean Flow implementations:

- Productivity improvements 20 40%
- Floor Space savings of up to 30%
  As high as 4 times the volume in the same floor space
- Reduced Shrink of up to 50%
- Reduced Credits/Claims
- Increased capacity in greenhouses of up to 100%
  From 1 turn to 2 in one season
- Controlled environment
  No more chaos during peak periods
  Easier to manage
- Doesn't matter how small or large you are percentage wise the savings are same

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#### MANAGEMENT COMMITTMENT



Hardest part of implementing Lean is getting people to change Flow Vision

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"Don't play in my sandbox"







COVERS



#### Why Midwest Groundcovers Implemented Lean Flow Processes

- Decreased labor availability
- Increased labor costs
- To increase shipping capacity with our current infrastructure
- To improve quality and order fulfillment
- To maximize transportation capacity
- To eliminate waste & nonvalue added work
  - Movement
  - Product spoilage
  - Time
  - Fuel
- To improve profitability





#### Initial Assessment in June of 2015 Identified 5 General Areas for Lean Flow Redesigns

- Distribution & shipping
  - Pulling
  - Truck loading
- Customer Pick-up
- Propagation
- Lean Materials Strategies
- RIO rack optimizer











# Midwest Groundcovers' 5



- St. Charles Corporate headquarters, distribution facility & groundcover production
- Virgil Woody plant & greenhouse production
- Natural Garden Native plant production
- Fennville Perennial plant production
- South Propagation -Propagation



## Distribution & Shipping Implementation With Cart Optimization

- All locations equally impacted
- All departments & employees equally involved
- Most standardized process
- Largest impact to our customers
- Largest limitation on growth
- Less employee stress
- Quickest return on investment
- Most difficult to implement







#### Order Pulling Process For Shipped Orders Before Lean Flow

- Ship all items to St. Charles Nursery
- Stock of all items held in a holding area part of the nursery
- Holding area replenished based on predetermined minimum and maximum inventory set points
- All inventory moved from the dock to the holding area
- Each order was individually picked and brought back to the dock for processing & shipping











MIDWEST



#### Midwest Groundcovers Lean Flow





#### Implemented Moving Supermarket

- Plants are bulk pulled
- All material for ship orders stays on the dock
- Carts are in predetermined locations, organized by load
- Paperwork shows employees how to load the carts – they do not have to "figure it out"
- Order pullers do not have to wait to be given their orders



GROUNDCOVERS

Work & product is now balanced









LLC





MIDWEST GROUNDCOVERS



TK105 first load	TK105 Second Load	TK125 first load	TK125 Second Load
TK104 first load	TK104 Second Load	TK106 first load	TK106 Second Load
TK103 first load	TK103 Second Load	TK129 first load	TK129 Second Load
Semi #2 delivery	Semi #2 delivery		
Semi #1 delivery	Semi #1 delivery		

#### The Moving Supermarket







Μ 



- Programing to change paperwork
  - Was in alpha order, now in geographic order
- Employees are shown how to prepare carts
- Maximizing trailer capacity for internal distribution
- Inventory department must make sure that plants heights are accurate to make the rack optimizer work properly



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#### Lean Flow forced Midwest to Evaluate Plant Labeling

- All plants are labeled with an adhesive ID label when pulled
- Customer label options have been streamlined from 6 options down to 2
- An initial savings of 62% on label stock and toner
- Less labor is needed to prepare and label plants



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- Capacity of order processing and shipping thresholds have increased by 30%
- Decreased holding area by 33% in size and converted the space to production space
- Cross docking of material has increased by 40%
- Improved product quality & decreased damage due to order pulling and transport









#### Cart Optimization at Midwest

- Inventory department keeps accurate height measurements of all items
- Carts are marked in 8" increments to guide employees how to assemble the carts
- Midwest's ERP system calculates the maximum amount of plants that can fit on a cart







#### Lean Flow Implementation Difficulties at Midwest Groundcovers

- Change is difficult
- Complicated computer programing to our ERP system & not getting it all finished for our implementation
- Going live on April 20<sup>th</sup>
- Getting all employees involved
- Getting Lean to be part of the culture of Midwest Groundcovers
- Servicing our pickup customers with our old system
- Managing employees and redistribution of resources







#### Lean is our New Company Culture

- New way of life
- Constantly improving
- Constant reviewing
- Department leaders

## It's a Journey not a Destination





Lean is our part of our Midwest Groundcovers Company Culture

- New way of working
- We are constantly improving methods
- Constant reviewing results
- We have implemented Lean Flow Department Leaders around the company
- Celebrate accomplishments



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It's a Journey not a Destination







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