

Summary of Experience

Claus Weichelt has over 25 years of industry and consulting experience in manufacturing operations with a very strong focus on the implementation of Lean tools and techniques as well as in the company-wide implementation of lean production systems in a variety of situations. Having worked with a wide range of companies with different cultures, structures, systems and processes, Claus has a heavy orientation toward helping each client develop their (location-) specific strategies - designing and delivering a range of training / improvement programs targeted to their needs. Emphasising team development and learning, Claus' efforts have included the conversion and consultation of production system design and review, lean production (TPM, kanban, JIT-production, SMED, etc.), value stream mapping (VSM), kaizen/continuous improvement, problem solving, balanced scorecard, policy deployment, change management, process development, layout planning and asset optimization. His career is marked by diverse experience and success across multiple industries including automotive, food, electrical, electronics, plastics, glass/mirror, engine and shoe manufacturing for clients including Ford Motor Company, BASF, Valeo, Harting, TRW, Flabeg, Frosta, Veritas, Hutchinson, Uniq, Huyck.Wangner, Würth Elektronik, URSA, HYMER. From his base in Germany, he has worked in various other countries in Europe (including Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, France, Spain, Austria, and the Netherlands) and the USA. Prior to his consulting career, Claus began in line roles in operations with Metzeler Automotive Profile Systems in the areas of production and logistics.

Selected Accomplishments

- Helped implement a lean production system for a leading automotive supplier including current & future state VSMS, development of location-specific strategies, training and coaching/facilitation of the transformation process that resulted in increase of productivity up to 45% and stock-reduction by 35%.
- Helped implement a lean production system for a paper machine fabric & felt producer including value stream mapping, development and implementation of lean standards, training in lean tools, SMED and customer-demand workshops resulting in significant reduction of change-over times, increased planning stability and stock reduction.
- Developed and implemented a lean management system (vision/targets/scorecard/masterplan/review process) for a global producer of automotive and solar mirrors including the training and coaching of senior management, support of the implementation of standards and processes in the different locations, controlling of data quality for all KPIs, adaptation of controlling and IT systems, and coaching of review processes.
- Optimized teamwork in the production areas of a shoe industry manufacturer including the analysis of the current situation, design and implementation of team training on "Team leadership and team development", and coaching management in the scheme of strategic change processes (change management).
- Led a lean deployment effort in two production areas of a glass wool producer including value stream mapping, facilitation of future state development, definition of strategy, and coaching to help the teams realize the opportunity to improve OEE with the impact of significant reduction of material costs and to reduce inventories.
- Helped implement CIP-processes to improve performance in the filling-line area by 22% of ready-to-serve meals producer in the food industry including analysis of the processes and line-performance, development and implementation of monitoring system for OEE and productivity, and training and facilitation of teams.
- Helped implement a lean production system for a polymer production site of a plastics manufacturer including current & future state VSMS, development of a location-specific strategy, training in lean tools, and coaching/facilitation of the transformation process that resulted in an increase of overall output by 7%.
- Conducted an analysis of the potential opportunity and then supported the implementation of a lean production system for a PCB manufacturer in the electronics industry that reduced performance-losses (OEE) by 55%.
- Led an analysis of the processes and line performance of a die casting operation in the metals industry and then developed and implemented a monitoring system for OEE and productivity that resulted in a step-change to OEE.
- Led several operations projects for an electrical components manufacturer of plug and socket connections to optimise the material flow in the mechanical processing and reduce the set-up time within the plastic and die cast paint shop that included training of a multi-functional team to analyse the production area, evaluation of the results and development of the potential for improvement, conducting of workshops to optimise the set-up procedures (SMED) by up to 80% coaching during the implementation of the results.

Educational Background

„DV-Business Economist,“ main emphasis on manufacturing organization and logistics VFBH/Universität Bremen
Bachelor of Science, Social Economist, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen