Lean Construction for Trades Toolbox Talk Series

Developed by the AGC Lean Construction Forum
Lean Construction for Trades Toolbox Talk Series

Goals

- Introduce Lean Construction concepts in the field through conversational learning
- Recognize opportunities to review and improve current processes
- Describe how to empower each other to identify and eliminate waste, work safely, and reduce overproduction
- Adopt a Lean culture
Lean Construction for Trades Toolbox Talk Session
Goals: PDCA/How to Continuously Improve

- What is the Plan, Do, Check, Act or Adjust (PDCA) Cycle
- How do I get involved
- What are the benefits of the PDCA Cycle

“How to Continuously Improve” developed by Henry Nutt III, Southland Industries
What is the PDCA Cycle

- The PDCA Cycle comes from the acronym “Plan, Do, Check, Act or Adjust”, and is also known as the cycle of continuous improvement or Deming Cycle (from it’s author Edwards Deming). It represents a continuous loop of planning, doing, checking, acting or adjusting.

- The PDCA Cycle focuses on the success or failure of a plan, followed by needed corrections in the event of a failure. Each steps allows for essential review and what is required for continuous improvement. The idea is as one goes through a cycle, improvement is made each time.
How Do I Get Involved

- Start with your own individual work or the project team’s. Identify what your typical steps are and walk them through each step of the PDCA Cycle and take note what you learn and can do differently for improved results.

- Simply keep a mindset that improvement is always possible. Never settle for status quo or the thought, “this is how we’ve always done it”, or “that’s good enough.”
What are the Benefits of the PDCA Cycle

- It can help an individual or team identify wasted steps by walking through a planned process to make improvements, checking those improvements after completion, and making necessary adjustments.

- It will cause you to not only focus on the work being put into place, but how it’s being done. It allows for time to reflect on the work and evaluate the possibility of a better way to get the work done.
What Can be Improved
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Toolbox Talk: PDCA Cycle/How to Continuously Improve
What Can be Improved
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PDCA/How to Continuously Improve

1. Always keep an open mind to what can be improved.
2. Track your steps with your own work and seek ways to make it better.
3. Get buy-in from your project team before implementing.
4. Expect to learn something new through each PDCA cycle.
5. The tool is not limited to construction field workers only, so share it with the office staff.

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