

A Review on Waste Reduction through Value Stream Mapping Analysis

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Abstract

Manufacturers face cost-reduction and efficiency challenges in their operations. They need to find ways to reduce production time, costs and eliminate waste in order to improve operating performance and product quality to survive in today's highly competitive world, Value Stream Mapping (VSM) technique involves flowcharting the steps, activities, material flows, communications, and other process elements that are part of the transformation process. In this respect, Value Stream Mapping helps an organization to identify the non-value-adding elements in a targeted process and brings a product or a group of products that use the same resources through the main flows, from raw material to the arms of customers. This paper discusses the method of Value Stream Mapping and its benefit to different industries. The paper also presents a Literature Review to summarize the various applications of this technique and improvements achieved in lead time, cycle time and inventory reduction by various industries. The paper concludes with highlighting VSM's important contribution to revealing and curtailing extravagances in the target process.

Keywords-

Production time, Value stream mapping, Non value added time

I. INTRODUCTION

The use of Value Stream Mapping (VSM) has been attributed to the cause of much of the success that Toyota of Japan has had since the 1980's. VSM is a systematic methodology to identify wastage of resources such as time, material, movement and similar actions in a manufacturing process. It developed as a result of the work conducted by Taiichi Ohno at Toyota in the 1960's and 70's.

Bo & Mingyao[1] report that VSM can create a high-level look at total efficiency, present a visual representation of material flow, product flow and information flow to identify improvement opportunities and thereby help to identify applicable lean improvement tools and their implementation. (Bo & Mingyao, 2012) Summarize that VSM can make us understand where we are (current state), where we want to go (future state) and map a route to get there (implementation plan).

VSM helps to visualize the station cycle times, inventory at different stages, and flows of manpower and information across

the entire supply chain. VSM enables a company to 'see' the entire process in both its current and desired future state, so as to develop an effective road map that prioritizes the tasks needed to be completed to migrate from the current state to the future state.

II. VALUE STREAM MAPPING METHODOLOGY

To start improving productivity by identifying waste and then removing it by implementing lean principle in the industry there is no other tool better than VSM. The Value Stream Mapping method (VSM) is a visualization tool under the umbrella of Lean Manufacturing (Toyota Production System) tools. It helps in understanding and improving work processes, the goal of VSM is to identify, demonstrate and decrease waste in the process. The various steps in the VSM methodology are shown in Figure 1 and are discussed in the following sections. The process analysis is carried out by collecting the data from various enquiries with expertise in shop floor, workers and directly participating in measuring the time of various processes (Vendan & Sakhtidashan, 2010).

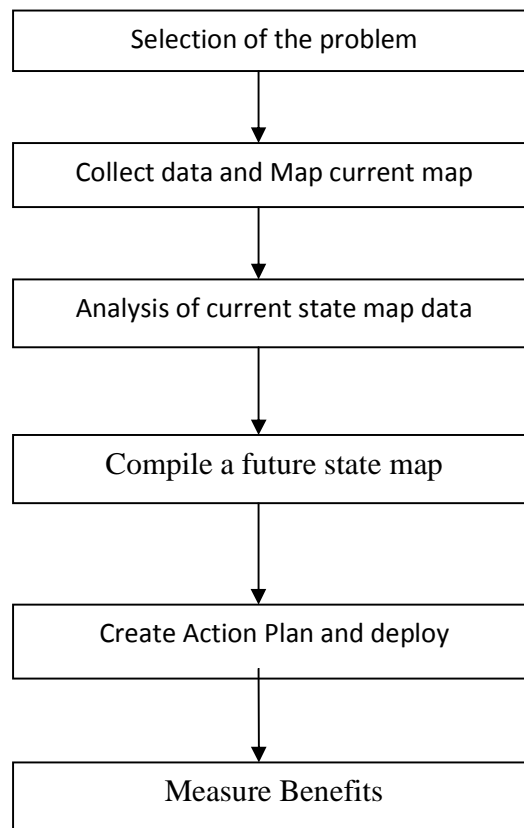


Figure 1 Methodology of Value Stream Mapping

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

1. Bo & Mingyao [1] use value stream mapping tool in a Chinese enterprise to reduce costs, increase efficiency and improve product quality. They suggested a combined kaizen plan to implement lean manufacturing and manage each opportunity plan as a project.
2. Rajenthirakumar et. al [3] reported a noticeable reduction in cycle time and increase in cycle efficiency with an application of value stream mapping (VSM). They constructed

present and future states of value stream maps to improve the production process by identifying waste and its sources. The production flow was optimized thus minimizing several non-value added activities/times such as bottleneck time, waiting time, material handling time, etc.

3. Rajenthirakumar & Thyla [7] show how the value stream mapping and other lean tools such as kaizen can be used to map the current state of a production line and design a desired future map. They reduced change

over time by 10 min and increase productivity by 25 %.

4. K. P. Paranitharan et.al [5] provide useful platform for research in implementation of lean tools in any manufacturing unit. Their results show a significant improvement in productivity, reduction of lead time and reduction in inventory. These can be achieved by creating flow by layout modification and balance to TAKT time.
5. R.M. Belokar et. al [6] reported a case study of application of VSM in an automobile industry where they achieved nearly 67% improvement in cycle time by improvement in value adding activities.
6. D. Rajenthira Kumar et. al [2] report the methodology and results of implementation of VSM lean in anwind turbine gearbox assembly line of a gearbox manufacturing company in India. The waiting time was reduced by almost 60 hours.
7. A case study is described by D. Rajenthira Kumar et. al [8] where lean tools and techniques are adapted for the consumer durables manufacturing company. The work is focused on a specific product family, table-top wet grinders. Value stream mapping was the main tool used to identify the opportunities for various lean techniques. Also “before” and “after” scenarios in detail are described in order to illustrate the potential benefits such as reduced lead-time and improve lean rate. TAKT time is reduced by 26%, cycle time is reduced by 8%.
8. Goriwondo, W. M., Mhlanga et. al [4] detail the use of the VSM tool in reducing waste in bread manufacturing for a company in Zimbabwe. The case study shows how the VSM tool was used to identify and reduce defects by 20%, unnecessary inventory by 18% and motion by 37%. This was achieved through the development of the Future State Map which has an increased throughput of 16%.
9. Rumbidzayi Muvunzi et. al [10] used the value stream mapping process to reduce waste in a manufacturing set up located in Southern Africa economic region. The methods of data collection and how the samples were to be selected were designed and selected. The product family selected for the research work was the micro-concrete roof tile production (MCR). Possible improvements were proposed and a Future State Map (FSM), which has more efficient processes and optimum space and labour utilization, was created using Microsoft Visio Software. Wasteful processes and practices were rectified which included waste in the form of waiting time, processing, defects arising during, molding, transporting, stacking and curing of the tiles and over consumption of raw materials. Productivity increased from 20 220 tiles per month to 28 350 tiles per month. There was reduction of defects from 245 defective tiles per day to 10 defects thus saving the company up to \$4419.9 per month.

10. Renu Yadav et. al [9] describes the implementation of value stream mapping technique in manufacturing of helical springs by a railway spring manufacturing company. It focuses on product family, current state map improvements and the future state map. The aim is to identify waste in the form of non value added activities & processes and then removing them to improve the performance of the company. Current state map was prepared to describe the existing position and various problem areas. Future state map was prepared to show the proposed improvement action plans. The achievements of value stream implementation reported are

reduction in lead time, cycle time and inventory level. It was concluded that the company could reduce the manufacturing lead time from 36.86 days to 34.06 days.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The results of the different papers reported in literature and discussed above are summarized in this section.

a) Reduction in TAKT time

Figure 2 shows the reduction in TAKT time of four different industries after value stream mapping implementation.

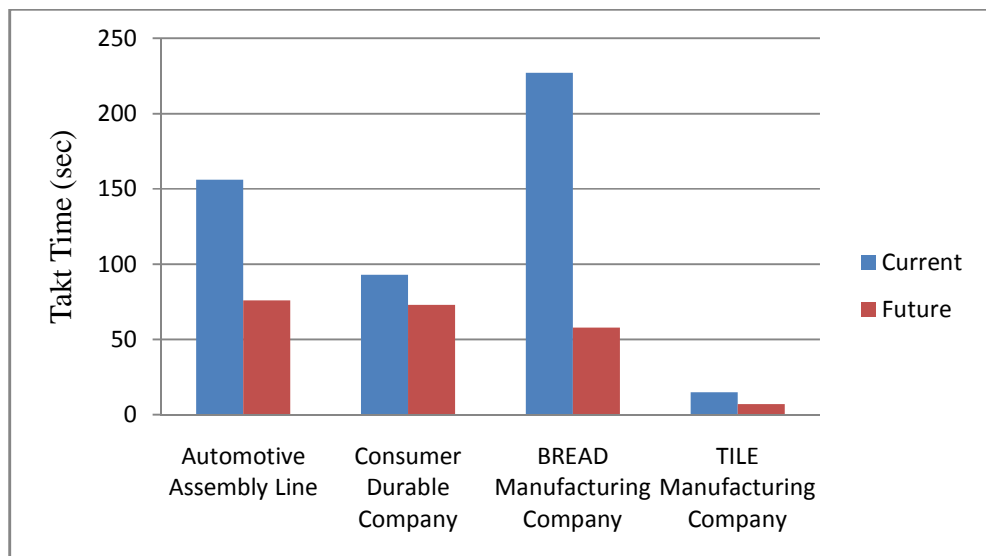


Figure 2 Reduction in TAKT time

b) Reduction in cycle time

Figure 3 shows the comparative view of Cycle Time before and after value

stream mapping implementation in different industries.

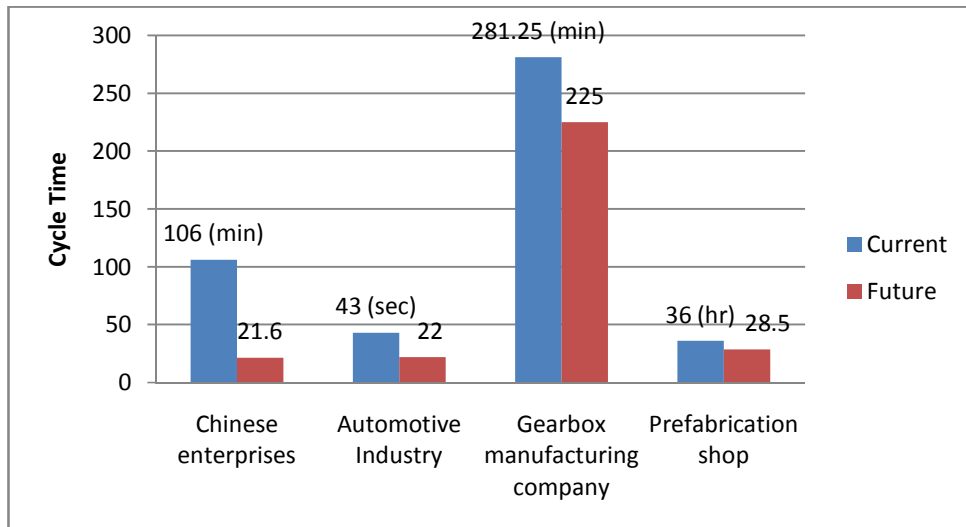


Figure 3 Reduction in cycle time

c) *Reduction in Inventory*

Value Stream Mapping is also helpful in inventory reduction. According to Bo & Mingyao [1] inventory in current state map was reported as 327,000 units and in future state map it was 65000 units. Similarly the study by

Rajenthirakumar & Thyla [7] shows that the inventory in current state map was reported as 2200 units and in future state map it was 200 units. In the study by K. P. Paranitharan et.al [5] the inventory found in current state map was 5 units and in future state map it was 2 units.

d) *Reduction in Lead Time:-*

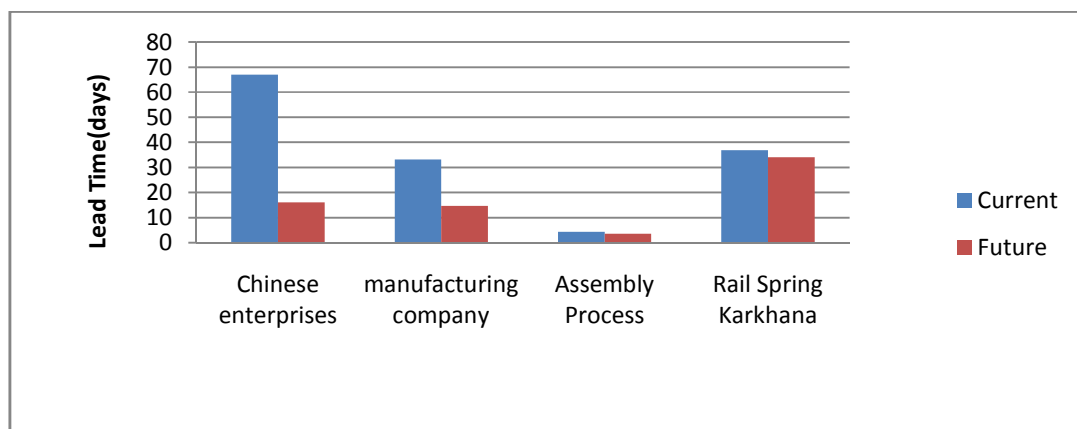


Figure 4 Reduction in Lead time

Figure 5 shows the reduction in lead time by Value stream mapping implementation in various industries.

V. CONCLUSION

This paper reports some significant results of the application of value stream mapping from review of literature. VSM provides the facility of projecting the estimated gains in different scenario by creating different future state maps, and then selecting the most feasible beneficial state. This enables the company to implement a feasible improvement plan with full confidence and knowledge of expected gains. The practicality of VSM is amply demonstrated by several

recorded case studies in literature, some of which have been reviewed and reported in this paper. This study shows considerable improvement in lead time, cycle time, takt time and inventory for different types of industries. It can be concluded that VSM is an effective tool for identifying the processing wastes and improving overall effectiveness and efficiency and is equally applicable to different types of manufacturing processes and industries.

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