# Observing Your Product/Service Flow: What You Need to Know & Why



## Overview



What is Flow?



Lean Principles



Types of Waste



How to See Your Product/Service (Mapping the Value Stream)



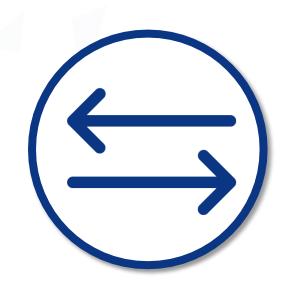
Flow Exercise



## What is Flow?

• Flow is the **smooth**, **uninterrupted** movement of materials/services along the value stream

 Flow allows understanding of capacity and process wastes





#### What is Flow?

- No Flow = Bottlenecked system = Waste along Value Stream
  - <u>Little to No</u> predictability of output
- Goal of Flow is to <u>improve</u> flow of materials/services
  - This requires identification and removal of Waste

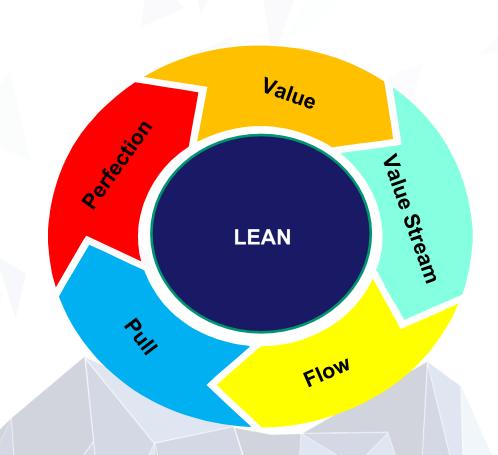
#### What is Flow?

 Single Piece Flow is the smooth and uninterrupted movement of materials/services one piece at a time along the value stream

- Produce only to customer demand
  - Pros/Cons
- Batch Processing: movement of product in "batches" along the value stream
  - Pros/Cons

# **Lean Principles**

- Define Value
- Map the Value Stream
- Flow
- Pull
- Perfection

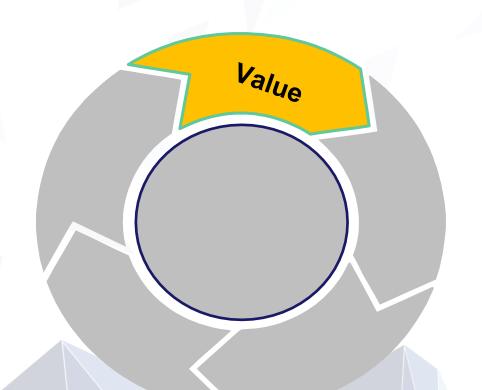




## Value

#### **Value**

- Define value from the customer's perspective
- Express value in terms of a specific service or product



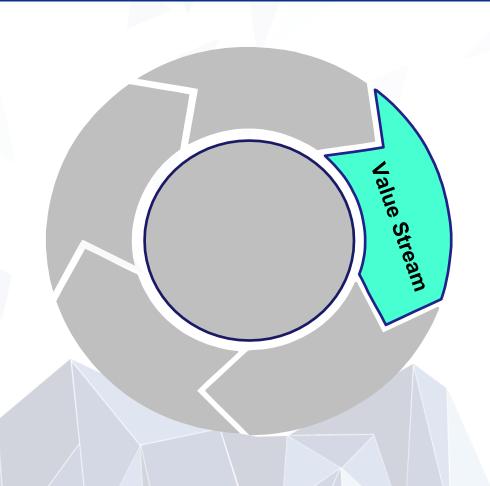


## Value Stream

#### **Value Stream**

 Map all the steps in the end to end process that provides a service or brings a product to the customer

 Identify which steps are value-added or non-valueadded (waste)

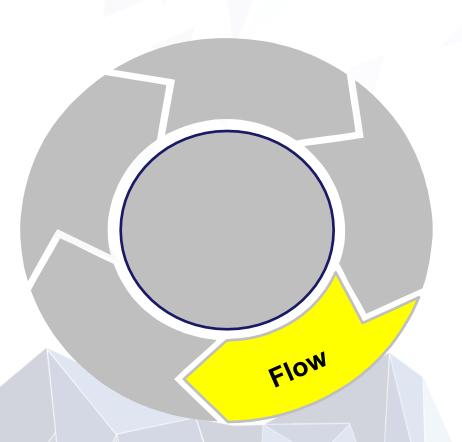




## Flow

#### Flow

- The smooth, uninterrupted, movement of services/products along the value stream
- Good Flow= steady and predictable movement
- Bad Flow= work starts and stops

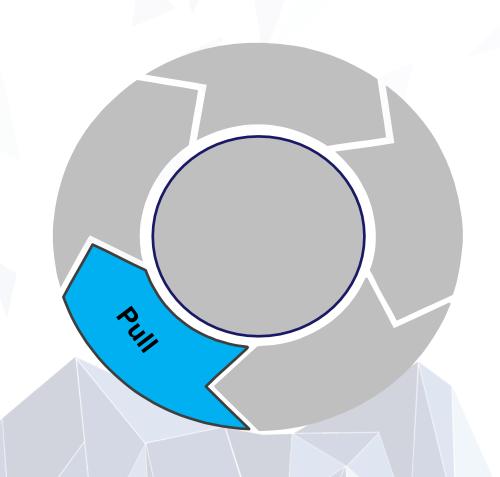




## Pull

#### **Pull**

- Nothing is done by the upstream process until the downstream customer signals the need
- Actual demand pulls the service/product through the value stream

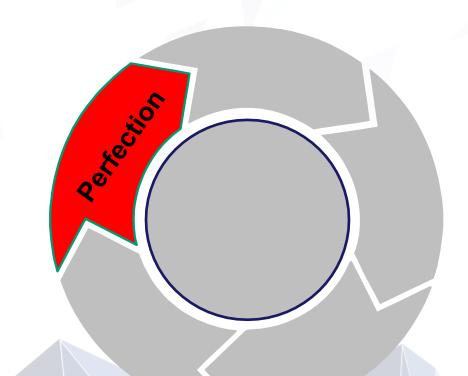




## Perfection

#### **Perfection**

- The **complete** elimination of waste
- All activities create value for the customer by continuous improvement





# Types of Waste



#### **DEFECTS**

Anything that results in product or service not fit for use



#### **WAITING**

Any time between processes steps where work stops



#### **INVENTORY**

Excess of product or service to demand requirement



#### **TRANSPORTATION**

Unnecessary movement of product/material



#### **MOTION**

Unnecessary movement of people or equipment



#### **OVER PRODUCTION**

Producing above requirement

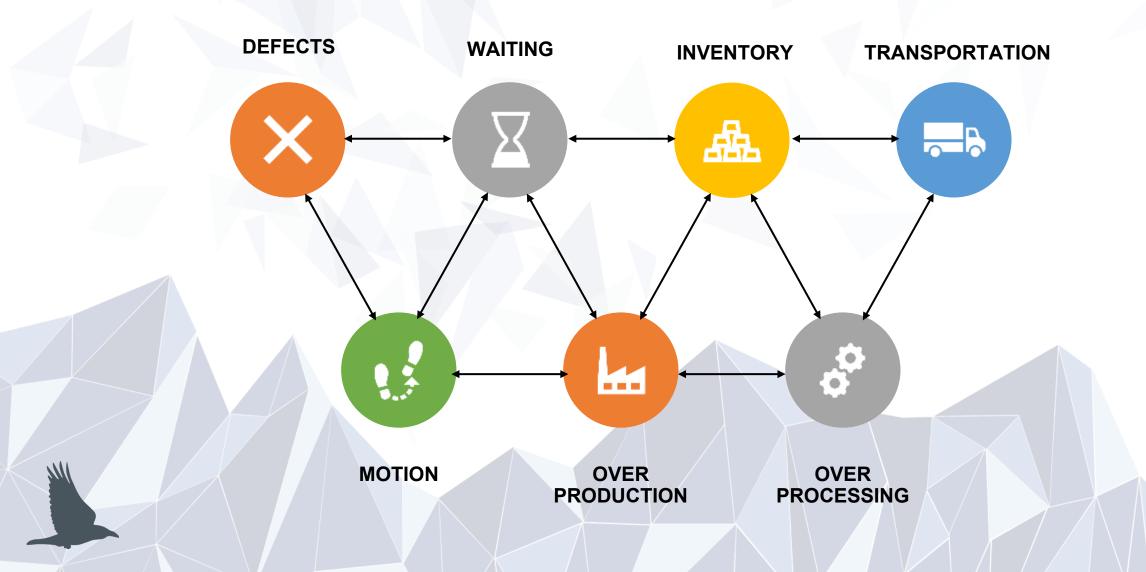


#### **OVER PROCESSING**

Doing more work to product or service above requirements



# Types of Waste



# Seeing your Product/Service: Mapping the Value Stream

- Value Stream Mapping (VSM)
  - Universal language to see value flow
  - See relationships between material and information
  - Used to analyze, design, and manage flow of material and information
  - Makes waste visible
- Caution: The VSM is a snapshot in time



## Takt Time

 Takt time is the rate of production required to meet <u>customer demand</u>

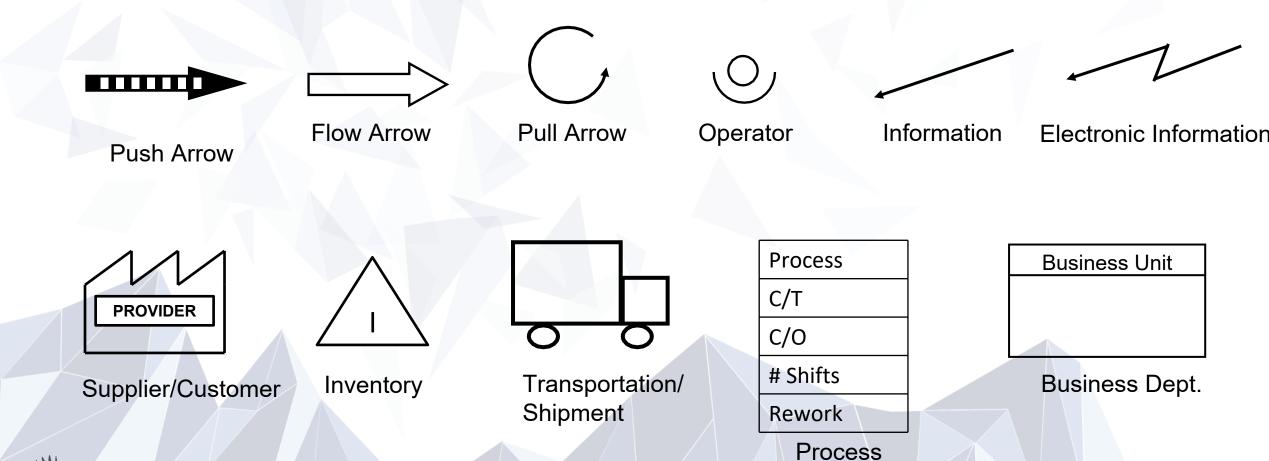
Production in a Service environment?

 Takt Time calculation= Available Time/Demand

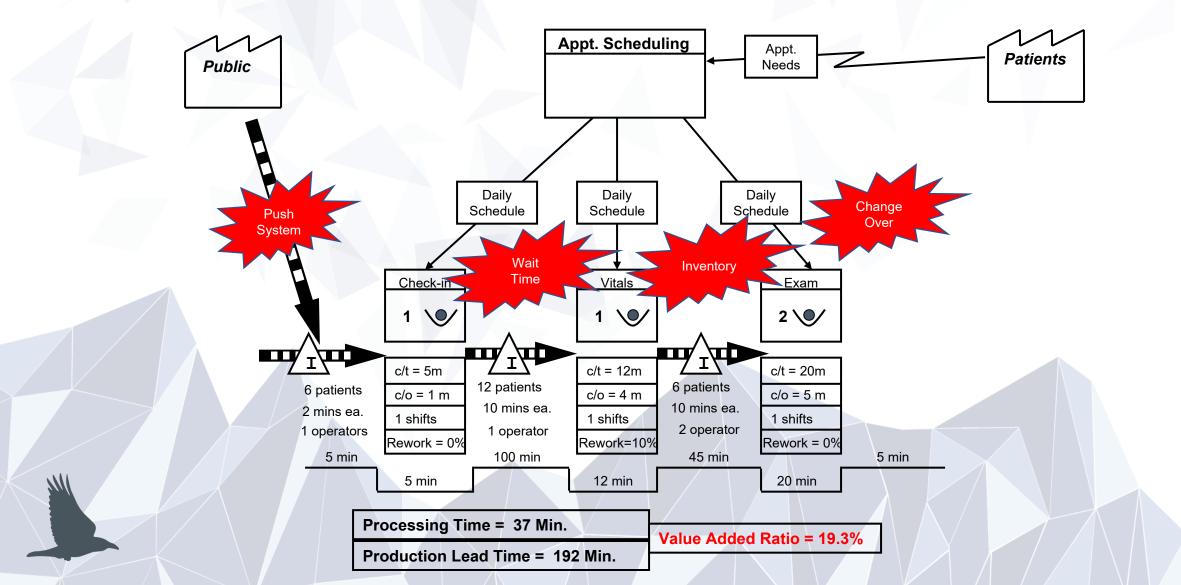




# Mapping Symbology



# Value Stream Map Example



#### Exercise

- Demonstration: how Work in Process (inventory) restricts flow
- Class participation
- Instructions provided prior to beginning
- Q&A session to follow



