

Western Sydney
Manufacturing Week



The Six Sigma Journey

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Introduction

- What is Six Sigma?
- Three Principles
- Who uses it?
- What are the Benefits
- The Six Sigma Model
- Pitfalls



What is Six Sigma?

- Definition
 - A system that uses data analysis to improve an organisation's operating performance.
 - A system that targets the reduction of variation to improve the outcomes of a process.



Three Principles

- Philosophy
 - Customer focus, reduce variation
- Methodology
 - Project management
- Metrics / Measurements
 - Objective data



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Who uses it?

- Manufacturing
- Logistics
- Transport
- Finance
- Health
- Public Service
- Local Governments
- Telecommunications
- I.T services



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What are the Benefits

- Hard savings
 - Increase sales
 - Reduce headcount
 - Reduce cost
 - Improve profit
- Soft savings
 - Time
 - Quality improvement
 - Reliability
 - Customer perception

Savings typically
in the range
1.2% - 4.5%
of revenue.



How does it work?

- Project management methodology
- What tools does it use?

Process Flow Diagrams

Root cause analysis

Failure Mode and Effect
Analysis

Cause and Effect Diagrams

Pareto charts

Statistical Process Control

Customer surveys

Inferential statistics

Graphical techniques



The Six Sigma Model

- **D**efine
- **M**easure
- **A**nalyse
- **I**mplement
- **C**ontrol





DMAIC - Define

- Understand the problem
- Identify the customers?
- What do you want to achieve for the customer?
- Voice of Customer (VOC)





Example – Define

Customer – General Manager

VOC – Reduce the wastage of raw materials (plastic parts) to 3% of total.

Our Commitment to the Customer

To develop and implement operational improvements to achieve a wastage rate of plastic parts to 3% of the total consumption per month within a three month period.



DMAIC - Measure

- “If you can’t measure it you can’t manage it”
- What to measure?
- How to measure?





Example - Measure

- At commencement of project it is known that the total wastage of plastic components is 11% per month
- The quantities attributable to different sources is not yet known
- Data collection is required



DMAIC - Analyse

- What does my data mean?
- How much mathematics do I really need?
- What tools can I use?



DMAIC - Improve

- Improve the target process by designing creative solutions to fix or prevent problems.
- Create innovative solutions using technology and discipline
- Develop and deploy implementation plan





DMAIC - Control

- Control the improvements to keep the process on the new course.
- Prevent reverting to the "old way"
- Require the development, documentation and implementation of an ongoing monitoring plan
- Institutionalise the improvements through the modification of systems and structures (staffing, training, incentives)

• From GE's DMAIC Approach, <http://www.ge.com/capital/vendor/dmaic.htm>



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RDMAICR

- **Recognise** the need for improvement
- **Realise** the benefits!!



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Pitfalls

- Leadership commitment
- Not identifying the “customer”
- Not understanding VOC
- Too many projects
- Over-analysis
- Statistics v results
- Poor team selection
- Lack of a mentor
- Additional activities
- Insufficient project monitoring and review
- Organisation’s influencers not on board

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Two Key Points

- Customer Focus
- Reduce Variation



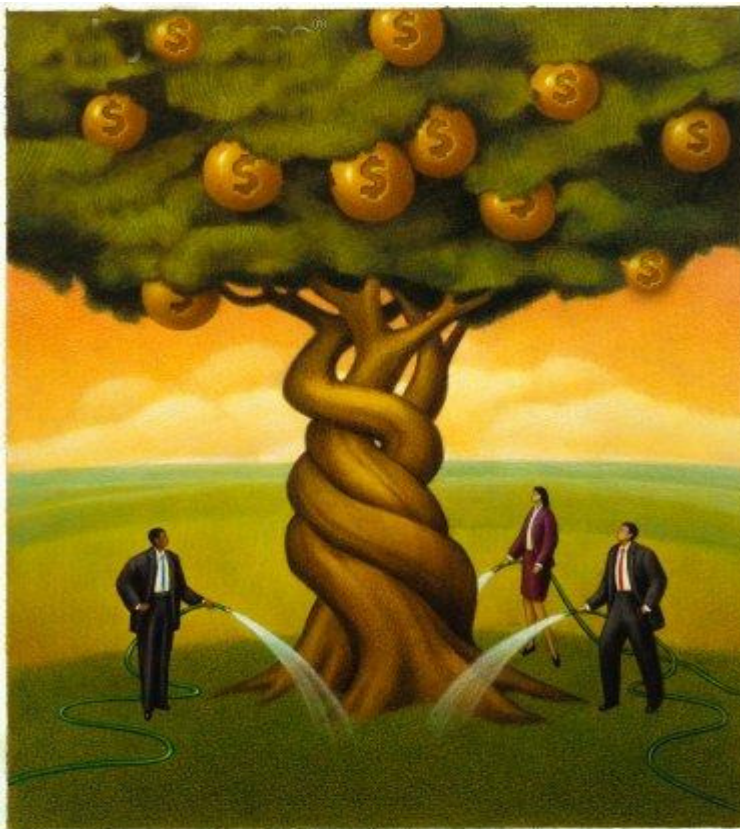
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Conclusions

- Six Sigma is a system that can be used effectively to grab the low hanging fruit as well as that which is harder to reach.



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Thank You



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