Introduction to Lean Design & Construction

What Is Lean?

- A philosophy, mindset and a business management system grounded in common sense
- A focus on maximizing value for our customers by eliminating waste in multiple forms
- It is about engaging employees in problem solving and innovating new ways of doing our work
- It is a culture of respect, continuous improvement and collaboration
- It applies directly to how every organization operates both internally and externally

What Is Lean Design & Construction?

Adapting Lean thinking and methodologies to target the specific challenges in design and construction

Applies to the entire construction industry, not only the phase where construction takes place

Establishes a new alignment from all stakeholders involved to project deliverables

A shift in thinking that affects commercial (integrated project delivery), operational (Lean project delivery and management systems) and organizational aspects of design & construction

Improving project execution in a holistic manner that achieves a target value for the customer reflected in a balance of time (schedule/delivery), quality and cost

Breaks down silo behaviors to achieve a ‘one-team’ project culture

Why Is Lean Beneficial?

More effective and efficient engagements throughout total project to realize design and ensure requirements met

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More effective and efficient operations

Improved culture and employee engagement

Improved supply chain relations and value-added partnerships

Developing and leveraging practises that are reflective of ‘best in class’

Meaningful impact on life-cycle decisions and operating costs

Able to incorporate innovations into design

Lean processes drive cost containment and constructability assessments

More competitive success for your organization

Better final product and value achieved, more consistency, fewer surprises, informed and engaged in the process

How Can You Engage with Lean?

Train your employees on Lean thinking, engage in continuous improvement activities

Remove waste or non-value added activities from every process within your company, all roles and all locations. Seek improvements everywhere

Try out techniques for learning, improving value output, reducing waste and improving work environment; make continuous improvement a regular activity

Extend the conversation and influence others in your supply chain to try Lean for mutual benefit

Engage in collaborative work wherever possible, including in design, planning, scheduling and improvement activities

Learn more at lcicanada.ca.