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Grow Your Factory, Grow Your Profits: Lean for Small and Medium-Sized Manufacturing Enterprises

Timothy McLean

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Timothy McLean : Grow Your Factory, Grow Your Profits: Lean for Small and Medium-Sized Manufacturing Enterprises before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Grow Your Factory, Grow Your Profits: Lean for Small and Medium-Sized Manufacturing Enterprises:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The book is well-written in easy to understand language By ej dommis Managers of SME manufacturers are typically over-stretched with multiple demands in an ever-increasing competitive world. Oftentimes such managers do not have the time to "up-skill", and even if they do, there are very

few (if any...!) management training programs that are designed to equip managers with modern manufacturing management techniques. *Grow your Factory, Grow your Profits* by Tim McLean is a book that fills a gap for such SME manufacturers to quickly get to grips with the concepts of Lean Manufacturing - a buzzword that is often not well understood. The book is well-written in easy to understand language, and short enough for managers with little time to cover the essential elements of lean manufacturing with illustrative examples to reinforce learning. For those interested in more detail, Tim has provided excellent references to the classics on those topics. Tim's book starts with the Where and How to start lean manufacturing implementation, and is pragmatic in that it also cautions against approaches that are better suited to large organisations with the resources equipped to deal with such interventions, e.g. six sigma. Not only are all the classic elements of lean discussed in an easy to understand manner (e.g. Process Flow design and Value Stream Mapping, Plant Layout, Production Planning and Materials Planning, and 5S Housekeeping), but also the soft elements that allow manufacturers to be more successful, e.g. People (Structure and Leadership, Recruitment vs Team Development, and Change Management). Lastly, performance management measurements/metrics (e.g. DIFOT and OEE) to ensure that the right things are measured and managed is also discussed. As a seasoned senior manager in manufacturing, I found Tim's book a refreshing stand-out in a myriad of academic management literature to give the manufacturer a quick overview of the important things to improve his/her business performance. I highly recommend this book for anyone that wants to compete in manufacturing in the 21st Century. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Thank you Timothy McLean By KM Brilliantly thought and composed, highly relevant, this book is a life saver. The writer has used easy to understand, jargon free, simple language. The book is worth its weight in gold for its content and message. Focus has been kept on the needs and sensibilities of small and medium sized manufacturing companies. It is surprising that nobody else seems to have done this so far. The subject has been treated really well. Highly useful and cost saving advices have been offered which should matter a great deal to the SMEs considering their limited (oftentimes severely) resources and vision. I bought it a year ago amongst lots of scepticism and quickly forgot about it. Picked it up to read only last month and it has opened my eyes and shown the way. Bottomline: A plethora of books are available on Lean or TPS, but an SME should start here. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Penguin Composites recommends this book By John van der Woude The book is fantastic because it clearly outlines the direction we need to take, We have recently put through 10 staff in level 3 and 4 courses but this book explains the strategy I need to take. As a business employing 30 odd staff and finding it very difficult to break even, manufacturing a very wide range of products lean is essential to us to reduce rework, to become efficient and survive.

When I was first given the job of managing a small plastics factory back in 1989, I quickly realized that most of the books and teaching on Lean Manufacturing were designed for big companies and were not relevant to my factory. — Tim McLean The last 25 years has seen Tim lead and assist over 100 small to medium-sized enterprise (SME) manufacturing operations. This experience has now been condensed in to *Grow Your Factory, Grow your Profits: Lean for Small and Medium-Sized Manufacturing Enterprises*, a start-to-finish guide on how to run a successful small and medium-sized manufacturing operation. The book presents case studies, practical examples, illustrations, charts, and pictures from real SME manufacturers to provide straightforward solutions to the issues facing every growing manufacturing business. In the book, Tim McLean explains: How to recruit the right people and design the right organization How to empower those people to take accountability and free yourself up from day to day "fire fighting" How to develop a Lean Plant Layout that will maximize productivity and optimize the use of space How to manage materials in order to slash inventory and shortages How to schedule production in order to cut lead times, cut inventory, and delight customers How to get started on a Lean transformation when you lack the resources of a big company The book details how SMEs differ from large organizations and why the approach to improvement must also be different. Covering the complete life cycle of small and medium-sized manufacturers, the book addresses a different SME manufacturing issue in each chapter. This enables readers to tackle issues at their own pace and in their own order of priority. *Grow Your Factory, Grow Your Profits* is essential reading for owners, managers, and operational leaders in the 90 percent of manufacturing enterprises that are small or medium sized.

About the Author Tim McLean is the founder and managing director of TXM, one of the Asia Pacific's leading Lean consulting companies. Tim was first introduced to Lean and Operational Excellence in the late 1980s as a young production manager of a small plastics extrusion plant, part of German global chemical manufacturer, Hoechst AG. Tim went on to lead a range of medium-sized manufacturing plants across the plastics molding, packaging, printing, and chemical industries for major companies, including Hoechst AG, Amcor, and PPG. Tim was fortunate to be coached by a succession of mentors steeped in the principles of Lean. As an operations manager and general manager, Tim then faced the real challenge of applying these theories to drive performance in his plants. After a successful 16-year career leading manufacturing operations, Tim turned down a transfer to Europe in order to set up TXM, a consulting business in Australia aimed at helping other manufacturing leaders like himself achieve their goals. TXM has since grown to be one of the leaders in Lean in Asia and the Pacific, operating from offices in Australia and China

and carrying out projects with small, medium, and large manufacturers throughout the region. In line with Tim's experience and values, TXM has developed a reputation for delivering practical outcomes for manufacturers, especially SMEs. It is this experience that Tim has drawn on in writing *Grow Your Factory, Grow Your Profits*. Tim and TXM have an extensive network throughout the Asia Pacific region, and Tim is a frequent speaker at industry events, including the Association for Manufacturing Excellence Conferences, Lean Enterprise China, the International Society of Pharmaceutical Engineers, Australian Manufacturing Week, and many more. TXM has a weekly blog (www.txm.com.au/blog) to which Tim is a major contributor, and Tim's quarterly e-newsletter goes out to more than 2,000 manufacturing leaders around the region (www.txm.com.au/resources/newsletters). Tim also provides articles to a wide range of manufacturing industry publications, including *Australian Manufacturing Technology*, *Manufacturers Monthly*, *Australia-China Connections*, *China Sourcing Magazine*, etc. Examples of these articles can be found at www.txm.com.au/resources/articles. Tim and TXM have a strong social media presence, primarily on LinkedIn, with over 1,000 connections, three groups (*Australian Manufacturing Futures*, *Total Excellence Manufacturing*, and *Lean Support China*), and regular and popular contributions to Lean interest groups across the globe. TXM also actively promotes its content via Twitter, Facebook, and a YouTube Channel (TXMLEanVideo).