

Continuous Improvement

How do you make a company more efficient? That's the task facing you and your team. Can you find the most efficient, productive solution?

The Challenge

A company has hired a team of consultants (your team) to help to improve the performance of the production process at their factory.

But there's a problem. In order the production line working you need to touch 30 icons (plastic cards) on a large floormounted touch screen monitor. Not only that, the icons must be touched in a sequence.

To complicate things further, the sequence can change when a different product is being manufactured.



Not surprisingly, the process is taking too long and impacting on productivity. You need to find a quicker more efficient solution.

Total flexibility - tailor the game to the group

This creative game process management game is easily adapted to focus on different key skills, such as leadership and teamwork. The Trainer's Guide and Team Briefing Sheets offers several possible formats, including:

Leadership and Performance Management

- 1. The facilitator appoints a small team as managers and a bigger team as their staff
- 2. The managers go into a separate room or area where they cannot see the team carry out the task
- 3. The managers are given the briefing notes to prepare and brief the team on how to carry out the task
- 4. The team are allowed a number of attempts to accomplish the task. In between rounds, they report back to management and give them an update on their progress. The managers are under pressure to provide the team with the effective leadership in less than ideal conditions.

On the the first attempt, the team will usually get one person to touch all the cards, while the rest of the team stand along the outside of the screen pointing to the next card in sequence. To get the lowest time, the team will need to work together and share responsibility for touching the cards. This is more difficult because of the coordination of effort. However, the time will be much better.

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- 1. The team are given the briefing notes and make their first attempt at achieving the task
- 2. The facilitator records the time it took and the number of penalties incurred. The facilitator asks the team to debrief what they did and how they can improve it
- 3. The team tries their new method, which is debriefed, and another method is tried until they are satisfied with their score or their time is up.

Benefits of this performance management game

- Brings out key issues such as performance management, continuous improvement, problem solving, giving feedback, leadership, teamwork, communication, inter-personal skills and time management
- Adaptable to any language the facilitator can brief the group from easily transferable briefing notes
- Integrates into any training situation
- Simple to set up and administer with clear instructions and Trainer's Guide with debrief suggestions.

The Training Game Includes:

- 1. 30 Plastic cards numbered 1 to 30 on one side and A to Z on the other (for the different ways of running the game)
- 2. Length of cord to mark the area of the monitor screen
- 3. Laminated Team Sheets for different ways of running the game
- 4. Trainer's Guide.

Key training goals

The Continuous Improvement training game helps learners develop their abilities in the following key areas:

- Process improvement
- Performance Management
- Continuous improvement in business
- Leadership and Management
- Giving feedback
- Problem solving
- Communication
- Inter-Personal skills
- Teamwork.

Comments from users of this game

"We use it time and time again for different training courses. So adaptable for continuous improvement, teamwork and leadership."

"So much learning comes from this game; it always goes down well. We also use it with people who do not speak English, so all we do is brief them verbally; they do not have to read anything."

- **Numbers:** 6 to 20 participants.
- Who: Staff at any level.
- PC required: None.
- **Licence Free:** When you buy this training material, there are no restrictions on the number of times you can use it.
- **Cost to buy:** You can buy this business game (which includes a trainer's guide) and use it yourself for £250 + delivery and VAT (if applicable).

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