



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT CERTIFICATION CHAMPION

## ATTRIBUTES OF A LEAN (CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT) CHAMPION:

**Responsible for  
Leading and/  
or Facilitating  
Process  
Improvement  
Initiatives**

- 1 ENERGY:** Leading a Lean initiative can be taxing work and energy is a must. Those who are selected must have the ability to energize teams, especially when the going gets tough. Likely candidates are known for exhibiting a passion for change and demonstrating a “Just Do It” attitude in the course of their daily work.
- 2 INTERPERSONAL SKILLS:** An effective Lean leader must be able to build relationships easily with teams. Candidates are often seen as informal leaders or “resident experts” within the organization. They are known for having the ability to “get things done” through influence rather than administrative mandate. They should also be able to communicate at all levels of the organization as well as being good listeners.
- 3 “EYE FOR WASTE”:** The ability to identify all types of waste in processes is paramount to good Kaizen facilitation. Select those with a reputation for constantly examining (challenging) their own processes and eliminating waste. The Lean Champion will collaborate with the leadership team to develop the organization’s Lean strategy and lead the selection, prioritization, development and execution of process improvement initiatives linked to organizational objectives.
- 4 LEARNING AND MENTORING:** Those selected to carry on the Lean work in your facility must have a strong desire to learn and mentor others. This will allow your organization to continue to innovate and become a learning organization.
- 5 INNOVATION/CREATIVITY:** Truly great Lean facilitators have the ability to pull their view away from “doing what we do better” or justify why something is done a certain way and drive towards “what could/should be”.