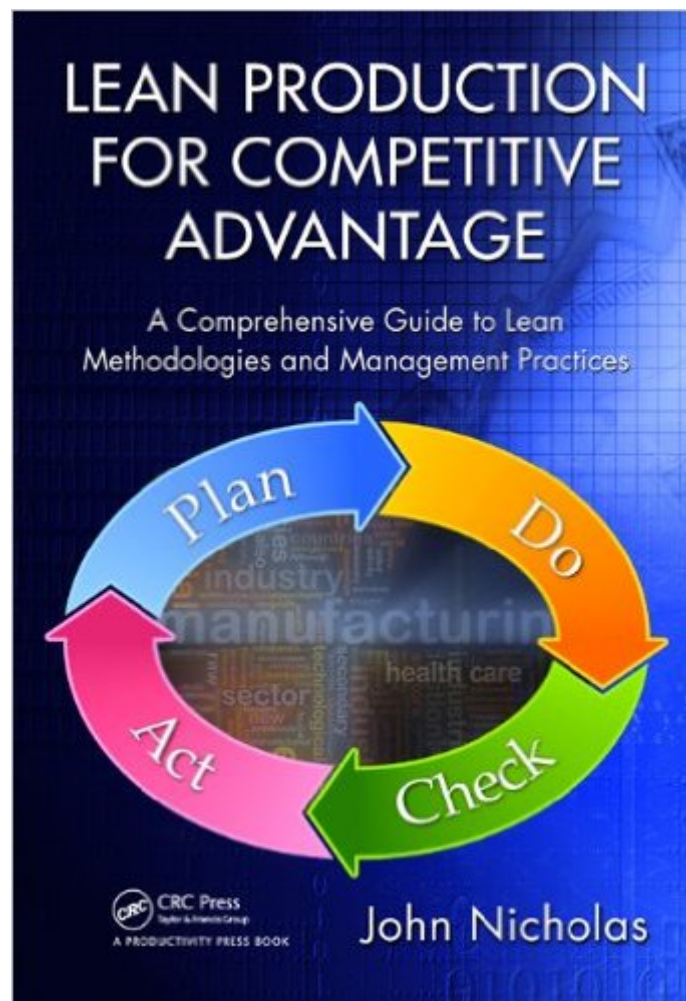


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# Lean Production For Competitive Advantage: A Comprehensive Guide To Lean Methodologies And Management Practices



## Synopsis

The Lean concepts and principles described in this book have revolutionized manufacturing practice and business conduct in a manner similar to what Henry Ford's system did for mass manufacturing. Lean production however, involves much more than the adoption of methods and procedures, it requires a change in management philosophy that emphasizes relationship building, trust, and responsibility being conferred to frontline workers and suppliers. Based on three decades of teaching experience, *Lean Production for a Competitive Advantage: A Comprehensive Guide to Lean Methodologies and Management Practices* introduces the Lean philosophy and illustrates the effective application of Lean tools with real-world case studies. From fundamental concepts to integrated planning and control in pull production and the supply chain, the text provides a complete introduction to Lean production. Coverage includes small batch production, setup reduction, pull production, preventive maintenance, standard operations, as well as synchronizing and scheduling lean operations. Detailing the key principles and practices of Lean production, the text also illustrates effective implementation techniques with case studies from a range of industries. Includes questions and completed problems in each chapter. Explains how to effectively partner with suppliers and employees to accomplish productivity goals. Designed for students who have a basic foundation in production and operations management, the text provides a thorough understanding of the fundamental principles of Lean. It also offers practical know-how for implementing a culture of continuous improvement on the shop floor or in the office, creating a heightened sense of responsibility and pride in all stakeholders involved, and enhancing productivity and efficiency to improve the bottom line. Instructor's material available – please contact: [orders@taylorandfrancis.com](mailto:orders@taylorandfrancis.com) or call 1-800-634-7064 to request these materials.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Lean manufacturing has emerged as a centerpiece of curricula in operations and production management. Finally, there is a subject-matter textbook worthy of building courses around: John Nicholas's *Lean Production for Competitive Advantage*. The bulk of the book, in Section II (seven chapters, 339 pp.), is a comprehensive and adroit discussion of lean fundamentals: Small-lot production; Setup-time reduction; Maintaining and improving equipment; Pull production systems; Focused factories and group technology; Work cells and cellular manufacturing; Standard operations; and Quality and the Source and Mistake-Proofing. Setting the stage for those "lean core" topics are four chapters. The first, *Race without a Finish Line*, reviews the competitive purposes of lean, its historical evolution, and how it has become "imperative" for manufacturers today. The three chapters of Section I continue with Fundamentals of Continuous Improvement; Value Added and Waste Elimination; and Customer-Focused Quality. The book winds up with Section III: chapters on Uniform Flow and Mixed-Model Scheduling; Synchronizing and Balancing the Process; and Lean Production in the Supply Chain. Besides plentiful examples, end-of-chapter questions, and (where applicable) problems, what catches the eye are special insights. For example, under Setup times (Ch. 6), a section called, *Abolish the Setup*, states that instead of a single, expensive machine for producing many kinds of parts, lean advises several less-expensive machines, each dedicated to a single part. With machines devoted to one part, or similar kinds of parts, "changeover between parts is eliminated or is reduced to trivial steps."

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