



ACTIVITY 5: The Lean Pizza Factory

INTRODUCTION

Once a business has decided that it wants to be more efficient, how does it go about achieving that goal? In this activity, you'll get a chance to explore one way a company can improve its efficiency by analyzing its production line and using a tool called a value stream map. First, you'll take on roles in a simulated pizza production line and see firsthand how common production practices can lead to excess inventory and other waste. Then you'll map the production line, analyze it, and apply some techniques for improving its efficiency. Finally, you'll get to test the redesigned production line to see what effects your changes create.

Learning Goals

- › Identify and apply methods for analyzing the flow of materials through a process.
- › Apply principles of waste reduction and efficient planning to an existing system.

FOR YOUR GLOSSARY

Buffer stock

Downstream

Kanban

Standard inventory

Supermarket

Upstream

Value stream

Visual control