

Applying Industrial Engineering to FIRST – Optimizing Your Team and Season Ben Martin



### Agenda

- 1) Operations Management
- 2) Standardization
- 3) Design for Manufacturing
- 4) Design of Experiments
- 5) Six Sigma

This will be a very high level introduction to each of these items.



#### About Me

- Purdue Industrial Engineering
- Carnegie Mellon MBA
- 15-year FRC participant
- Retired Senior Mentor









#### What Is Industrial Engineering?



# Operations Management



#### What is your goal?

Most teams want to:

#### 1) Win competitions/awards

#### And 2) Win in the right way

The definition of the right way varies from team to team.

For TechFire 225, to satisfy #2, every student needs to be engaged & enriched through the process.

Who owns what?

> Is there trust?





#### Most Important Resources for Teams

Program-Specific Knowledge
Time
Money/Inventory



#### Hierarchy of Robot Needs (FRC/FTC) -- Are you focusing on what is important?



### Standardization



### Types of FRC Standardization



Part Selection



Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

*Be smart with this – over-standardizing can inhibit your competitive performance* 







#### Sample 225 Standard Operating Procedure: Making Accurate Chop Saw Cuts

- 1. Student gets drawing of part to see what measurement should be
- 2. Student gets material and marks the location to cut the material with a scribe
- 3. Student has a second student check the mark to make sure it is correct
- 4. Student gives part to Mentor to make cut on chop saw
- 5. Mentor makes cut
- 6. Student checks that the cut is correct

Mark – Check – Cut – Check. *Does not need to be complicated*.



# Design for Manufacturing



### Always ask the questions...

How long is this going to take to make?

How do we get it done correctly the first time?

Can we get it made faster/easier?

What is the bottleneck in your process right now?

Snip from JVN's Week 4 blog (148 lead engineer):

#### Manufacturing... Delays?

We're bumping into a problem we haven't faced in a long time. Our entire process is built around the fact that we get parts made FAST. Manufacturing so fast the parts are ready before the designers even sleep off their CAD binge. This year, we're continuing the new design methods we experimented with on the 2018 robot and refined in the X019 prototype. Lots of 3D printed parts. Lots of thin sheet-metal structures reinforced in key places with 3D printing.

LOTS of 3D printing... on EVERY subsystem. Oops.



### Making Things Faster by Reducing Cuts

- Versaframe system saves time for teams every year
  - Pros
    - You can make the whole thing with a chop saw, rivet gun and step bit or hole saw
    - Super flexible- many configurations
    - Multiple West Coast Drive gearboxes configs
  - Cons
    - Money/COTS costs
    - Some space restrictions
    - Sometimes weight





### Part Making If You Have No CNC

- 1) Print your CAD drawing at 1:1 scale
- 2) Cut it out with a pair of scissors
- Tape it with packing tape to your material to cut/drill
- 4) Make it!

Completed with templating (No CNC, all manual)



Invest in fixturing tools (multiple sizes of clamps) to maintain alignment of parts in your robot

# Design of Experiments



### Troubleshooting

Something is wrong—how do I fix it?

- Run a test to get more information
  - As you have more information, run further tests to identify the problem
- Determine the problem
- Fix the problem

This is a skill—do it more to get good at it.





#### 2AM Ri3D Elevator Debugging Party



# Six Sigma





#### Technique for Process Improvement

Define	Step 0	Select a Project
Measure	Step 1 Step 2	Establish Performance Parameters Validate Measurement System for 'Y'
Analyze	Step 3 Step 4 Step 5	Establish Process Baseline Define Performance Goals Identify Variation Sources
Improve	Step 6 Step 7 Step 8	Explore Potential Causes Establish Variable Relationship Design Operating Limits
Control	Step 9 Step 10 Step 11	Validate Measurement System for 'X' Verify Process Improvement Implement Process Controls

#### Six Sigma Implementation – 5S Your Parts!







## Questions?

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