



Kaizen

Kaizen is a **method of gradual improvement** based on cultural traditions of Japan (the word itself comes from the Japanese). The improvement focuses on the gradual optimizing of the processes and work practices, quality improvement and scrap reducing, material and time savings leading to cost reduction, work safety and reducing workplace accidents.

The essence of this method is the involvement of many employees of a given organizational unit, from the rank and file to managers. Anyone can participate, everyone can come up with ideas for improvement, which are discussed collectively.

Kaizen in addition to improvement, stimulates the communication and improves the climate and culture and motivates the job performance.

Related terms and methods:

- › Deming Cycle (PDCA)
- › Development cycle of process managed organization
- › DMAIC - improvement cycle
- › Lean
- › Quality circles
- › Six Sigma
- › TQM - Total Quality ManagementWasting

Related management fields:

- › Innovation Management
- › Organizational Management
- › Process Management
- › Quality Management