

DEMING / STEWHART CYCLE

The continuous improvement cycle model, which is a core part of lean manufacturing. It is an iterative process helping to avoid recurring mistakes, extending knowledge by repeating its stages.

P

Create a plan for the iteration. Identify and understand your problem or opportunity and create a plan for satisfying the goals set. Usually, small steps are used for eliminating failures.

D

The plan from the previous stage is executed. While executing the plan problems may occur and should be recorded. Execution data should be gathered for further analysis.

C

Analyze what was done in the previous stages and compare the outcomes against the goals. If there were problems the root cause of the problems needs to be identified.

A

Based on the outcomes of the Check phase an action to standardize or improve the process is taken if needed. Since the PDCA is a loop you go back to the first stage and use the outcomes of the first loop as a base for the next iteration.

