

You would use this approach to put systems of work in place that make best use of your skilled labour:

- Communicate business direction
- Align everyone's daily work to the strategy
- Prioritise activities required
- Measure and monitor progress towards targets.

Projected performance gains



Reduced

- Production costs
- Production lead times.



Improved

- Productivity.

What investment is needed to understand the concept?

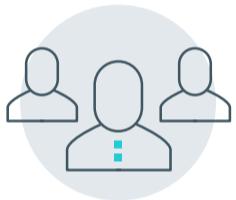
DIFFICULTY



Medium

Requires some reading around the subject and a structured approach.

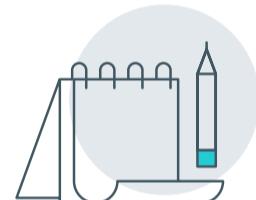
ACTIVITY



Individual and team

Individual initially then using a team for wider stakeholder input.

EQUIPMENT

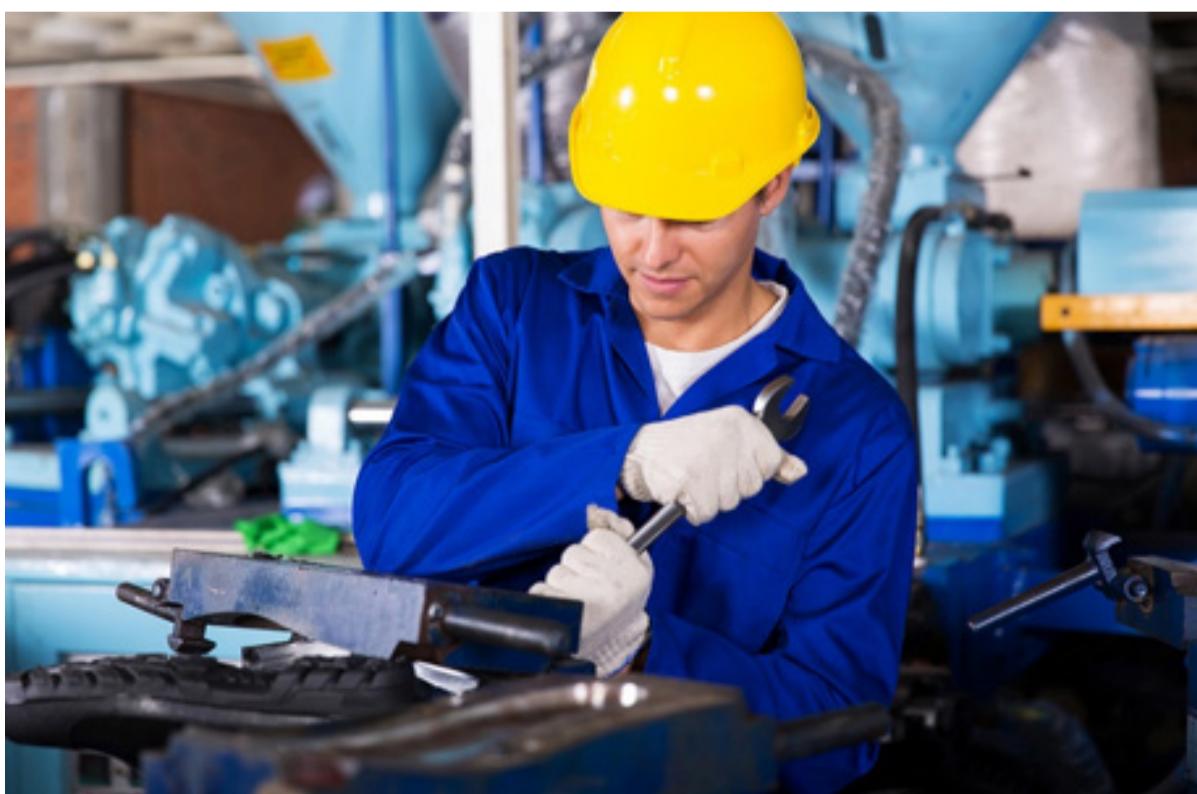


None

No equipment is needed.

Explanation of the concept

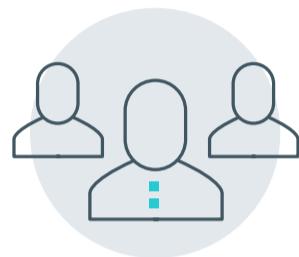
Skilled labour is generally hard to come by and higher cost. It makes sense to think carefully about how more highly skilled employees are utilised.



There are a number of ideas to make best use of skilled labour that are used by businesses. These include:

- Bring materials to the process rather than people leaving the process to find material
- Provide process information at the process rather than people leaving the process to find information
- Prioritise the planning of skilled labour utilisation
- Using automation to release skilled people for other activities
- Introduction of measures that highlight the utilisation of skilled labour
- Look beyond the production areas into the support departments for opportunities to apply the same logic.

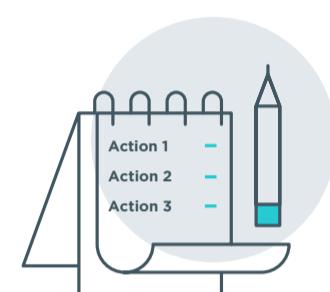
What action should I take?



1
Identify your employees
in terms of their skill
level and cost.



2
Review how they
are currently being
utilised.



3
Look for opportunities
(see list above) to
use their time more
productively.

Recommended reading



[GC Business Growth Hub Fact Sheet 07: Value Add and 8 Wastes](#)

For more advice, case studies and additional factsheets visit:
www.businessgrowthhub.com/manufacturing