



From Life Cycle Engineering® – the leader in Reliability Excellence



Simply stated, the "Maturity Continuum" is an illustration of the evolution that must take place within each and every competitive organization in order to sustain the benefits of Lean, or similar operational improvement initiatives designed to optimize plant production performance.

The term maturity refers to your organization's ability to 1) sustain effective business processes focused on managing proactive maintenance work and associated labor and material resources, 2) enhance process efficiency through the application of Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) methodologies, such as Operator Care and Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE), and 3) optimize process performance via reliability engineering practices, daily

management of process parameters, and Lean methodologies designed to support Just-In-Time inventory controls.

This issue of Rx Today will help you determine where you are on this continuum. Are you effective or efficient?

How Do I Get Operations to Take Ownership of Rx?

By Darrin Wikoff, CMRP, Associate Editor of the [Maintenance Engineering Handbook](#)

The paradigm that reliability is a maintenance thing is not easily challenged and a radical undertaking to say the least. So we must start by changing the lens through which operational leaders view reliability. Through the implementation of Reliability Excellence (Rx), Life Cycle Engineering has identified four simple steps that Alcoa and others have found to be critical when reshaping and cleaning the operational lens.

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Rx Today welcomes questions for experts to answer in future issues. Please send your questions to



Operator Care Part 1

Operator Asset Ownership...This is my Equipment!

By Erich Scheller, CMRP

Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) combines the traditionally American practice of preventive maintenance with Total Quality Control and Total Employee Involvement, to create a culture where operators develop ownership of their equipment, and become full partners with Maintenance, Engineering and Management to assure equipment operates properly every day. As part of modern TPM applications, the asset owner / operator performs much, and sometimes all, of the routine Autonomous Maintenance (AM) tasks. Autonomous Maintenance ideally ensures appropriate and effective efforts are expended since the machine is wholly the domain of one person or team. TPM is a critical adjunct to lean manufacturing. If machine uptime is not predictable and if process capabilities are not sustained, the processes become unstable and production flows will be interrupted.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)

[CLICK HERE](#) to request your copy of *Operator Care (Part 2)*

Root Cause Analysis

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October 20 - 23, 2008 - Cleveland, OH

Derek Pridgen, US Sugar & Mike Aroney, LCE

"Driving Towards Reliability Goals Through Cultural Change"

Check out Keith Mobley's blog on the AMP Web site:

[How Does Maintenance Improvement Impact OEE?](#)



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