

Small Group Activity (SGA)

“The problems we solve always recur”

Solving problems in manufacturing plants is often limited to removing the symptoms. We tend to spend more time on solving the problems and forget to make a thorough analysis of the problem. The root causes are not eliminated. Therefore, the problems recur.

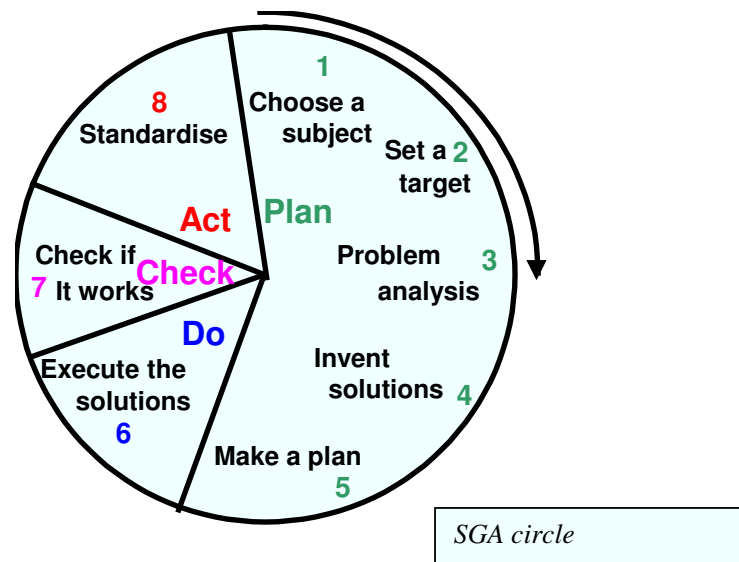
Team-based improvement

SGA is a method that allows teams to solve problems in a structured way by searching for the root causes and eliminating them. Standardisation of the solution prevents the recurrence of the problem. The feeling of ownership is intensified because those who are directly involved with a certain problem (e.g. operators, technicians, planners) solve the problem and implement the solution in a multidisciplinary team.

The team members learn to use techniques (e.g. cause and effect diagram, Pareto analysis, data interpretation) to find and eliminate root causes. The team is also taught communication skills, working in teams and decision making, in order to create a team spirit and to use each other's knowledge and experience.

Structural approach

The structure of an SGA project is derived from Dr. W. Edwards Deming's PDCA circle and consists of 8 steps which form the SGA circle. The SGA team works independently and reports the progress by means of communication boards.



Results of Small Group Activity

The introduction of SGA leads to the following results:

- Loss reduction
- Teambuilding
- Improved communication within and between disciplines
- Empowerment of persons involved
- Expertise in analysing and solving problems

The role of Blom Consultancy

- Training of the SGA team in:
 - A structured approach to an SGA project
 - The analysis instruments, applied to the problem
 - Communication skills, working in teams, and decision making in teams
- Coaching and facilitating the SGA team during the project

More Information?

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