BY AMERICAN MEAT SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

Root Cause Analysis, Corrective & Preventative Action

Root Cause Analysis

Investigates why something went wrong and results in corrective and/or preventative action plans.

Corrective Action (reactive)

Immediate action to correct an existing issue. action plans.

Preventative Action (proactive)

Purpose is to prevent recurrence of the incident

Root Cause Analysis (RCA):

- Looks for the ***type*** of causes: Physical, Human, Organizational
- Investigates ***patterns*** of causes
- Figures out ***flaws***
- Identifies ***contributing actions/factors*** to the problem

Keys to Conducting a Successful RCA:

1. Team approach:
   - Operations, Maintenance, FSQ, Sanitation
   - One person cannot conduct a successful RCA
2. Having the right people in the room for the RCA is CRITICAL for a more impactful RCA outcome

Root Cause Analysis Tool

Identify the one(s) that works best for your operations

- Fishbone Diagram
- 5 Why Analysis
- Pareto Chart
- Scatter Diagram
- Fault tree analysis
- Failure mode effect analysis (FMEA)

Sources:

https://www.pewtrusts.org/-/media/assets/2020/03/guide_for_conducting_food_safety_root_cause_analysis_report.pdf

https://ashwinmore.com/how-root-cause-analysis-can-help-you-solve-complex-problems/

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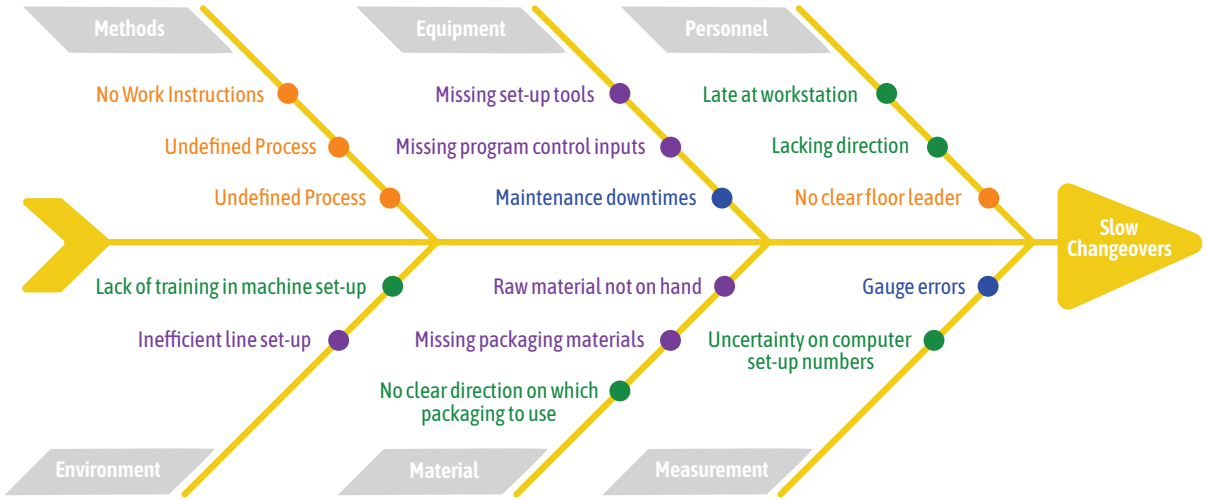
Example: Conducting a Root Cause Analysis

Action:	Example:
1. Define the problem	1. Slow Changeovers - Changing to different product on a line or machine causing inefficiencies
2. Gather data and information about the problem. Identify or brainstorm all the potential causal factors	2. Review maintenance records, interview personnel, make changeover observations, review policies, work instructions, position descriptions, etc.
3. Identify the root causes (patterns) of the problem	3. See Fishbone Diagram Below
4. Prioritize the root causes	4. 1st Lack of defined process, direction and accountability; 2nd lack of training; lack of line organization; 1st equipment maintenance issues
5. Determine effective solutions	5. Maintenance of the equipment, get the line organized, define & write process, work direction, and accountability expectations; train to the expectations

Fishbone Diagram



6. Recommend and implement solutions or solution step-wise plan:
   - Establish a maintenance plan and preventative maintenance schedule based on maintenance review of equipment;
   - Work with key supervisor(s) and line personnel to define the proper changeover process and most efficient line organization (including communication methods, documents, tool and packaging material storage, etc.);
   - Train all relevant personnel on the process, organization, expectations and communication methods.

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