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FEATURE



Six Sigma: White belt trail blazers

Did you know that our on-line Six Sigma White Belt training has been available since 2013 and that 2,208 employees have achieved their White Belt certification?

July 13



Eliran Penkar, Industrial Engineer at Brandon

Following our blueprint: MLF surpasses 2,200 White Belt certified employees!

The Six Sigma team has all the tools you need to help you become certified. Our MLF Six Sigma model includes White Belt and Green Belt programs to help you learn key tools to eliminate waste and provides the coaching support to implement them.

Did you know that our on-line Six Sigma White Belt training has been available since 2013 and that 2,208

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employees have achieved their White Belt certification?

- In 2018, 180 employees became certified
- In 2019, 199 employees became certified
- In 2020, 124 employees have become certified.

The White Belt program is designed to provide a general understanding of the Six Sigma tools used to drive business results through disciplined action. These tools can be used in any area of the business to improve quality, productivity and customer satisfaction.









Results at Heritage one year after the White Belt training session

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Last year during a Wieners shutdown week at Heritage, the Wieners Leadership team completed their White Belt certification. After certification everyone was assigned a project, supported by a Black Belt Coach. This is part of our Green Belt Program, which allows employees to begin to apply their White Belt learning to their day-to-day processes and to improve performance.

Heritage: 75% of the Wieners leadership team are White Belt certified.—Team Leaders Jask Singh, Jodi Borutski and Uvindu Abeynayake, have completed 4 projects in total, saving the plant a total of **\$245K** on the Waste elimination for 2020. Currently, there are **five** projects in progress led by Hunter McLean, Jask Singh, Stephanie Vogel, and Sue Andree.

<u>Testimonial from Wieners Raw Team Leader, Jodi Borutski</u> about her learning experience in the White Belt and Green Belt program.

Personally, this has been an amazing fun new opportunity that I didn't know was around or available to me previous to 2019. It's brought a new passion to improve an area that I've always worked in and had accepted the way things just 'were'. Having used all these tools and coaching to improve a process is amazing. I have learned that all improvements should be analyzed and done with Six Sigma to help justify the change and benefit for the improvement and validate the change with a fact-based approach. This will also help to show the impact in the control part of DMAIC. The savings seen after the hard work put into a change is satisfying.

Port Perry: Historically only 8% of the team had received White Belt training, however as of March 16, **100%** of the Port Perry salaried operations team have completed their White Belt Certification. The online training session was led by Black Belts, Heather Jantzi and Adithya Harish.

Testimonial from Godfrey Chikanda, Sanitation Manager, Port Perry

"I went through the white belt training on March 2020. White belt training helped me to generate ideas in process improvements and expand my competency level. This course is instrumental in working with black belt in implementing shadow boards for Rademaker assembly equipment parts. My next step will be to get Green Belt Certified and my goal is to get Black Belt Certified."

Speedvale: Before May 18, this year only 35% of the team had received White Belt training, however as of June this year, 91% of the Speedvale salaried operations team have completed their White Belt Certification. The online 'Teams' training session was led by Black Belts Francisco Resano and Fares Alzoubi supported by the Six Sigma Team.

Testimonial from Kimberly Veen, Health & Safety Specialist:

"At Speedvale, the whole team was given the challenge/opportunity to complete our White Belt training. Visual Management was used where our progress was tracked and placed on a board for all to see. Doing this put a little competition and accountability into it. I kept seeing my name in red, which gave me the drive to take the time to complete the training.

Regarding the training itself, it was nice to see all the possibilities of tools to use. Seeing them really helped me piece together which tools I can use for some of the projects I have going on. Also, during COVID-19, there were a lot of tools that we have already used, with the coaching of Francisco, but seeing the concepts brought it all together.

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I really enjoy having the tools and coaching of our Six Sigma team to help make my job a lot easier to get done."

Brandon: The White Belt certification program was highlighted in the quarterly Six Sigma newsletter and was key in getting the plant operations team to sign up for the program. This was instrumental in the achievement of **100%** of employees in the Brandon Finance team receiving their White Belt certification. Since the start of the program in 2013, 74 employees at Brandon achieved White Belt certification; including 5 employees in 2018 and 6 in 2019. In comparison, this year, thus far 8 employees have achieved White Belt Certification. This is a huge achievement for the Brandon team.

Testimonial from Eliran Penkar, Industrial Engineer at Brandon

How did you hear about the program?

Referral by Luke Delaney & Jeremy Pang (Black Belt Certified)

What was your experience taking the course?

Taking the course was easier than I thought but I do recommend taking screenshots and tons of notes.

What do you feel are the benefits you've gained from the certification?

I have already used skills from the course like spaghetti drawings, RCA, VOC & Stakeholder management, on 2 major COVID-19 projects.

If you are interested in taking the **online White Belt training**, it's seven 30minute eLearning modules. The modules are available on the Six Sigma Community site on MyMLF, here at White Belt training (/sites/mymlf/Learning/Lists/LearningArticles/DispArticlePage.aspx?List=24b73f81-c418-4f7e-8983-bcd58988f621&ID=31&RootFolder=%2A&Web=759a8599-3225-4a9d-8a3e-52722204fd82).

After completing the online modules, you can:

- · Apply these tools and concepts in your day-to-day work
- Receive ongoing coaching support from the Six Sigma team. The coaching will assist you in:
 - Implementing process improvements and removing any issues or barriers
 - Moving ahead into the Green Belt Program

To ask for coaching on applying these tools and to get you started, click this link here: Request Green Belt Coach (http://community.mapleleaf.com/SixSigma/SitePages/Green%20Belt%20Coaching.aspx).

OES # Six Sigma



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