

8 Common Forms of Process Waste

DOWNTIME is an acronym that is useful to help remember the 8 common forms of waste that might exist within a process.

D

DEFECTS

Waste caused by the process's inability to meet the customer's expectation. Occurs in the form of scrap or rework.

O

OVERPRODUCTION

Waste caused by not understanding customer demand. Creating more product than what is needed.

W

WAITING

Waste caused by waiting for the next process step. Delays in the process that may cause idle parts or idle people.

N

NON-UTILIZED TALENT

Waste caused by underutilizing talent, skills, and knowledge.

T

TRANSPORTATION

Waste caused by the unnecessary movement of a product or materials. Often caused by poor facility layout and planning.

I

INVENTORY

Waste caused by excessive products and materials not being processed. Can lead to increased storage cost and spoilage.

M

MOTION

Waste caused by the unnecessary movement of people (including the operator(s) and the customer).

E

EXTRA-PROCESSING

Waste caused by "gold-plating" or creating higher quality than is required.