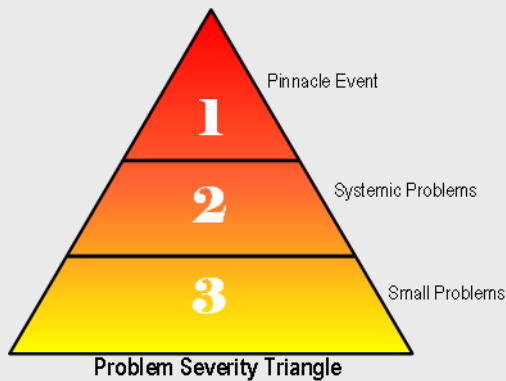


What's The Problem At Hand?

That's always a good question, right? Especially when someone has made a mistake or something on the job hasn't gone quite right. There are many problems large and small in our everyday work here at QP. In the past several months, many work teams at QP have begun to capture and solve their day-to-day problems with good early results. This article won't delve into specific problems recently solved. Instead, we'll take a closer look at the very nature of problems and their impact upon us at QP.

In many ways problems can be considered deficiencies. One of the most powerful principles popularized by the father of our Nuclear Navy, Admiral Hyman G. Rickover, was the principle of "not living with deficiencies". Rickover strongly believed that even the smallest of deficiencies or problems if left unaddressed could grow over time to become much larger "systemic" problems with the potential to cripple a team's ability to safely perform its work. Depicted below is the Problem Severity Triangle developed by H. W. Heinrich. In it, we see that the largest number of problems reside at the bottom, (largest part), of the triangle.



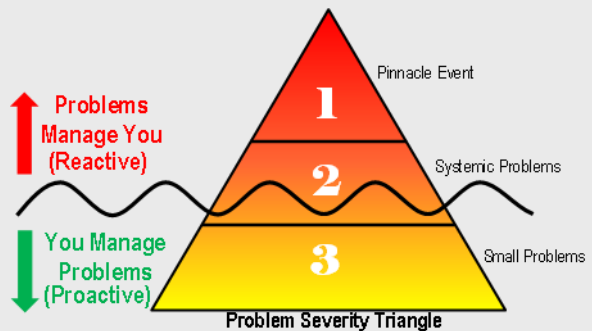
All of the small, day-to-day problems we typically encounter in our work live at the bottom of the Problem Severity Triangle. We can refer to these as 3rd order problems as seen in level 3 of the triangle. Most of these problems are relatively easy to solve, however it is inherent in human nature to "just keep going" and live with these problems or deficiencies because after all, we are getting the job done right? Wrong!

Living with deficiencies can become crippling to a team's effectiveness over time. Errors in work will occur and even worse, people will sustain very serious injuries. History has proven it over and over again to be a statistical certainty.

We've all heard the old saying that goes "nip a problem in the bud" or in other words, don't let a problem grow out of control. If we ignore problems and we begin to live with deficiencies, they ultimately compound upon each other and when they do, they now become systemic and are found everywhere throughout an organization.

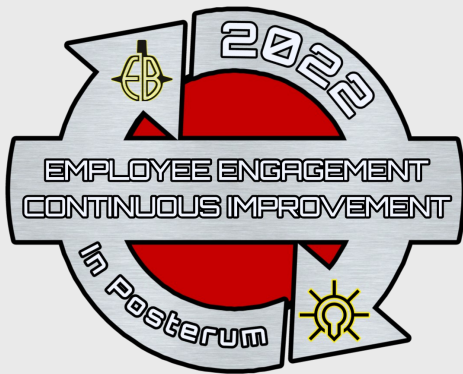
I want you to think for a moment about a small problem. Maybe it happened to you; a cut on your index finger received while working in the garden. There's not much blood and thinking nothing of it, you continue your work for the remainder of the day. It's no big deal, right? After all, you've had small cuts and scrapes before and nothing happened, right? Wrong again. This time you wake up in the morning and your finger is full of fluid, beet red, pulsing in pain. You gasp at the sight of it and hurry to the doctor's office to get antibiotics injected and the fluid drained.

Let's look at the Problem Severity Triangle a second time to understand how a small 3rd order cut to the finger was left unaddressed and grew to become a systemic 2nd order infection requiring medical attention.



What can we learn from this? Well, to be certain problems are best solved when small. Still better yet, problems are best when they are prevented in the first place. So I ask you again, what's your problem? Got more than one? Are you managing your problems or are your problems managing you? If you are living with deficiencies, my guess is that your problems are managing you.

Christian Lange
Director of Manufacturing Operations



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

8 Wastes - Inventory



Every business needs inventory to function, so why is inventory considered one of the eight types of wastes? Well, inventory waste refers to the waste produced by unprocessed inventory. This wastes space as well as the capital used to purchase the inventory without immediate financial returns and we all know that in any business “cash is king.” So, if a business has a large amount of unused inventory, then it ties up their capital and is unable to use it elsewhere in the business.

So what is considered as inventory? Inventory can be all raw materials on hand, materials in the production process, completed products, or products in transport to end customers. Anytime materials, parts, assemblies, or products are sitting and waiting, they would be considered as a form of waste inventory.

What causes inventory wastes?

- Overproduction
- Not understanding demand
- Long setup times
- Poor monitoring systems

While you’re going about your jobs, take a look around your area. Make note of all the unused inventory around you and look at it as an opportunity to improve your business because there are steps to take to reduce or eliminate inventory wastes.

- Just in Time production
- Implement a Kanban system
- Practice first in first out (FIFO)

Do YOU have any ideas on how to reduce inventory in your area?

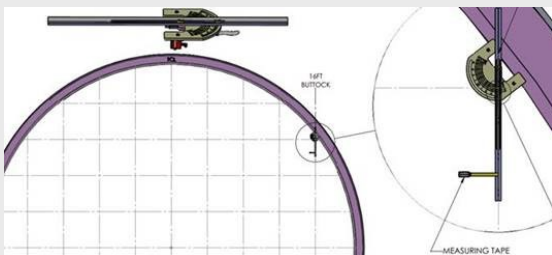
Have a process improvement idea, or simply just want a board to bounce ideas off? Discuss your idea with your Supervisor. If additional resources are required for implementation, your Supervisor can contact Crystal Sherman at csherman@gdeb.com.

Process Improvement Spotlight: The EB Square

Imagine you're a Fitter at EB, and now, the amount of string you've been required to pull is reduced by 80-90%? That would be something, right? Well a tool that will get us there is on its way! This revolutionary tool was the idea of Thomas Ward, a Pipe Fitter in D914. Thomas came up with an idea – later named “EB Square”. A tool that would essentially eliminate the need to pull string for gridline measurements during vertical outfitting. Thomas’s idea was conjured similar to most great inventions, out of necessity. Thomas became frustrated with the current process of “The way it always has been done”, by pulling string from frames to get measurements. Obstacles like staging, fixtures, and ladders are just a few examples of the shifting dynamics Fitters face while trying to pull string for accurate measurements.

How did we get to this point when an Employee’s idea becomes prototyped, tested, trialed then sent out to an external vendor with final drawings to become produced at a much larger scale? Finally, to be issued to all who will need one.

In the words of Mr. Ray Gabriel “When an idea like the EB Square gets presented to Industrial Engineering and they work with Operations to get to the point we are now, that is Continuous Improvement at its best”



Thomas Ward’s idea along with a wooden prototype he had made at home were presented to Michael Maccarone, Sr. Mfg. Rep. D931 (Industrial Engineering) in early April 2022. Together, Thomas and Mike began forming a routine cadence of follow-up with a detailed project plan of action that would turn Thomas’s idea into a usable model. Over the past six months many different departments have been called on to assist in the development of the EB Square, namely: D914; D901; D902; D951; D931; D467; D951. Together with a “Team first approach” all involved have contributed immensely to the overall project outcome. We are extremely proud and equally excited to introduce the design we now have outsourced to be fabricated. Using conservative estimates, we anticipate the EB Square will yield a savings of more than 10,000 man-hours per hull, while also improving the overall measuring quality and reducing rework cost. And, possibly the most important measurable improvement affects, “Employee Morale” by reducing employees’ frustrations when pulling string and minimizing employees’ safety exposure.

The backbone of Continuous Improvement requires standardizations and a willingness to change when needed. If we can continue to apply these principles in all that we do, Status Quo will no longer become the standard and our ideas will become a reality, similar to what transpired with the EB Square. Please use this example as proof that we believe in the ideas of all, and will invest the time and energy required to make them become a reality. Please submit your ideas to the CIAD or let your Supervisor know when an idea needs to be presented. Or in the case of the EB Square, seek out folks from the Engineering team.

Donate Blood

Aspen has heart eyes for blood donors!



Tuesday, May 16, 2023

WATERFRONT WAREHOUSE W7

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

5:00 PM - 10:30 PM

60 SIDE

(BLOODMOBILE W/ INSIDE REGISTRATION)

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

5:00 PM - 10:30 PM

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

WATERFRONT WAREHOUSE W7

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

5:00 PM - 10:30 PM

60 SIDE

(BLOODMOBILE W/ INSIDE REGISTRATION)

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

5:00 PM - 10:30 PM

DONATION TYPES:

WATERFRONT WAREHOUSE W7

Double Red and Whole Blood Donations Welcome!

60 SIDE

Whole Blood Donations Only

**WALK-INS WELCOME
APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED**

ribc.org/drives to book - **Sponsor Code 0044**

Weekly chance to win a \$250 Best Buy® e-gift card!

Details at ribc.org/sweepstakes.

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Eat, hydrate, bring identification with you.



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- Soda floats
- Soft Serve & Hard Serve
- Fun frozen lemonade
- Nostalgic Novelties

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EST. 1977
by Greenwich Safety



WE BUILD FREEDOM

- We Build Freedom Hoodies Back in Stock!! Get Them Before They Are Gone!
- We Have a Vast Selection of **TIMBERLAND BOOTS**...Come Check Them Out Today!!!!
- South Dakota and Thresher Apparel In Store NOW!!!!
- Only Find It Here!!! 12ft Engineer Tape Measure by Stanley Always in Stock!!!


Hours of Operation
7:30 am to 4:00 pm

SAFETY
PRIORITY
1
Electric Boat

QP Weekly Safety Briefing
5/14/23 – 5/20/23

200% ACCOUNTABILITY

Summer is Coming!



PREVENTING HEAT STRESS IS KEY

- Stay Hydrated
- Cool Your Core
- Respond to Early Symptoms

GENERAL DYNAMICS
Electric Boat

Policy Statement # 13: Electric Boat Corporation has established Occupational Health and Safety as the Company's Number One Priority.

Week 21



** Fairwater Store Pop-Up Shop **



Every Wednesday, Starting May 3rd, 2023
Building 60 Café from 9am-1pm

- The FWS store is coming to QP B60
- Every Wednesday – lunch time
- Use your badge – get your sub gear

