



THE TIMES 100

Edition 14

Portakabin: Lean Production at Portakabin Lesson plan

Content area

- Lean Production
- Just-in-time
- Quality management
- Kaizen

Method

This resource can be used for general classwork, homework or learning skills for investigation.

It is a good simple exercise in bringing the various terminologies together in understanding what it means, and how it can be used in context. This allows the pupils to bring out more in discussion and understand that the topics covered in Business Studies are not insular. The outcome will be by differentiation.

First Activity:

Using the case study and any other resources, define the following words:

Sales turnover; LTD; employer; employee; trademark; patent; copyright; product; market orientated; product orientated; modular; job production; batch production; flow production; cellular production; logistics; quality assurance; total quality management; lean production; resources; aims; objectives; quality management system; kaizen; kanban; innovation; ISO9001; regulations; social costs; social benefits; private costs; private benefits; just-in-time; added value; working capital; cash flow; storage; stock control; workforce planning; capacity utilisation; landfill; off site manufacturing; sub contracting; in house; supply chain; environment; corporate social responsibility; lead time; buffer stock; contingency planning; recycling; stakeholders; critical path analysis.

Second Activity

Once you have completed the definitions link the following words together to form a paragraph. The words do not necessarily have to be in any order but must be in context of Portakabin.



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Questions

1. Who are Portakabin's customers?
2. What is a trademark?
3. If the Shepherd Group is a family owned business, what type of business is it likely to be?
4. Why is Portakabin keen to incorporate Lean Production into the organisation?
5. How does the Lean Production process work?
6. How is the Lean Production process a win / win situation?
7. Which 3 types of production does Portakabin use?
8. Why is it important that Portakabin uses a Quality Management System?
9. Portakabin emphasises the fact that it meets the ISO9001 and ISO14001 standards. Why?
10. Just-in-time is used by Portakabin. What are the advantages of this?
11. How might Kaizen benefit Portakabin?

Activities

- Produce a PowerPoint presentation or wall display about Portakabin.
- Research the Shepherd Group . who, what, where, when, how?
- Using the Times100 case studies and any other resources available, find examples of lean production, just-in-time, job production, batch production and flow production.

Other resources

- MP3 download of the full case study
- Summary of the case study . 500 words
- Brief of the case study. for lower ability pupils
- Interactive online quizzes
- Revision theory:
 - <http://www.thetimes100.co.uk/theory/theory--lean-production--252.php>
 - <http://www.thetimes100.co.uk/theory/theory--factors-production--135.php>
 - <http://www.thetimes100.co.uk/theory/theory--operations--366.php>
 - <http://www.thetimes100.co.uk/theory/theory--production-quality--339.php>
 - <http://www.thetimes100.co.uk/theory/theory--production-process--254.php>
 - <http://www.thetimes100.co.uk/theory/theory--production-specialisation-division-labour--216.php>
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