

Action Research into including Sustainability in [Lean] Product Development: Cases from the European Space Sector

Authors : João Paulo Estevam De Souza, Rob Dekkers

Abstract : Particularly for the space sector the inclusion of sustainability in product development poses considerable challenges for practitioners. Outcomes of action research at two companies in this sector demonstrate how this contemporary theme could be included in methods for product and process development; this was supported by wider focus groups involving more companies. The working together with practitioners brought to the fore that holistic product life-cycle thinking needs further development, especially when firms are suppliers to original equipment manufacturers. Furthermore, the findings indicate that the social aspect of the triple-bottom-line causes remains elusive for companies; to this purpose, some pathways based on the action research and focus groups are proposed.

Keywords : aerospace, action research, product development, product life-cycle, sustainability, triple bottom-line

Conference Title : ICPDPDM 2020 : International Conference on Product Development Process and Design Methodologies

Conference Location : Tokyo, Japan

Conference Dates : May 28-29, 2020