Reducing Lean by Implementing Distance Learning in the Training Programs of Oil and Gas Industries

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Abstract : This paper investigates the benefits of implementing distance learning in training courses for the oil and gas industries to reduce lean. Due to the remote locations of many oil and gas operations, scheduling and organizing in-person training classes for employees in these sectors is challenging. Furthermore, considering that employees often work in periodic shifts such as day, night, and resting periods, arranging in-class training courses requires significant time and transportation. To explore the effectiveness of distance learning compared to in-class learning, a set of questionnaires was administered to employees of a far on-shore refinery unit in Iran, where both in-class and distance classes were conducted. The survey results revealed that over 72% of the participants agreed that distance learning saved them a significant amount of time by rating it 4 to 5 points out of 5 on a Likert scale. Additionally, nearly 67% of the participants acknowledged that distance learning considerably reduced transportation requirements, while approximately 64% agreed that it helped in resolving scheduling issues. Introducing and encouraging the use of distance learning in the training environments of oil and gas industries can lead to notable time and transportation savings for employees, ultimately reducing lean in a positive manner.