

The Laminated Map: Tracking Your Improvement Progress

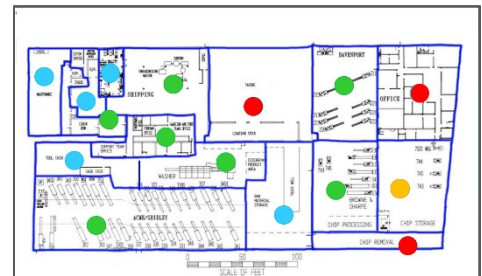


Three of the many companies which Dr. Galsworth has trained, coached, and supported as they underwent a visual conversion are Harris Corp. in Quincy, Illinois, Denison Hydraulics in Marysville, Ohio, and Seton Name Plate in Branford, Connecticut.

Watch and listen as employees from these three companies share their comments, stories, and insights about the *Laminated Map* and how it was used in their company.

BRIEF COMMENTS BY GWENDOLYN GALSWORTH

One of the early problems in any improvement conversion happens when management bites off more than it can chew. Typically, this means a decision was made to rollout the initiative too fast and too wide. The organization cannot handle that amount of change. As importantly, it usually has not yet learned how to change or what to change. The tool we use to address and regulate this is the Laminated Map. The Map is used on a strategic, companywide level, and then for individual areas. Here's the companywide use.



Briefly, a management team (preferably including supervisors) is asked to border all departments on a laminated map of the facility. Then a blue dot is applied to each of those areas. The next step is to decide where to begin the conversion. Many factors are involved in making wise decisions, including success factors, demand factors, readiness factors, and the like. These are discussed. When the group is ready, the areas are selected; and the blue dot in each of those areas is replaced with a red one. (Red means "Let's get started, we have a long way to go.")

Once the training process is underway, the criteria for the midpoint are named and published. When reached in a given area, the red dot is replaced by a yellow dot. Same goes for the change to green: The criteria are named and published as part of the training. When those are satisfied, the area goes to green.

FOR MORE ON THE USE AND USEFULNESS OF THIS IMPORTANT BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOOL:

- Read Dr. Galsworth's Shingo award winning books, *Visual Workplace/Visual Thinking* and *Work That Makes Sense*, available from our website: www.visualworkplace.com
- Search "Laminated Map" in the Articles and Radio pages on our website:
- Visit our website and learn about our visual workplace products and services, including seminars and training that we deliver online and onsite.
- Find on our Articles Page over 100 one-page articles by Dr. Galsworth.
- Find on our Radio Page over 60 of more than 200 podcasts that Dr. Galsworth has made.
- Call us at: +1-503-233-1784
- Email us at: contact@visualworkplace.com
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