Value Stream Mapping 1 day

A practical programme where we work together to visualise the current state of a process, create an improved future state, and generate an improvement plan.

Value Stream Mapping (VSM) is an interactive, one-day programme that helps participants understand the big picture of how work flows through a process from end to end, where time is lost, and what needs to change in order to improve performance.

Using one example as a case study throughout the day, participants learn about Value Stream Mapping in a hands-on, practical way, beginning with defining the process boundaries and value, then building a current-state map, designing a future state, and identifying improvement loops. We'll use measures such as cycle time, lead time, wait time, takt, queue, and % value-add to guide the decisions made throughout the exercise, mirroring the way Value Stream Mapping is used in practice.

What You'll Learn

By the end of this programme, you will be able to:

- Explain what Value Stream Mapping is, when to use it, and how it differs from process mapping
- Define the boundaries and value perspective for a specific process, from the customer's point of view
- Gather and interpret the data needed to build a current-state Value Stream Map, including cycle time, lead time, queue, demand, and % complete and accurate
- Calculate key flow measures such as takt time, wait time, total lead time, and % value-add using worked examples
- Build a current-state map collaboratively and use it to identify delay, waste, and constraints in the system
- Explore the use of automation, AI and digital visual management tools within your Value Stream Mapping practice
- Apply the Seven rules of a Lean value stream to design a future-state map step by step.
- Translate a future-state design into practical improvement loops, with dependencies, ownership, and direction for implementation.

Delivery Format

- Can be taken as a stand-alone module or as part of the Business Black Belt Programme
- Available as a virtual open classroom session
- Offered as in-company training, either on-site or virtual

Accreditation

- Contributes to BQF accredited Business Black Belt certification and LCS
- Worth 8 CPD points

Who Should Attend?

- Team members, team leaders, and service managers who need a shared view of how a process performs from end to end.
- Organisations with processes where flow, delay, hand-offs, and lead time represent persistent issues.
- Teams preparing to take part in a Value Stream Mapping exercise and wanting the confidence and shared language to contribute effectively.
- Continuous improvement leaders and internal facilitators who want to build practical capability in VSM.
- Organisations introducing Lean and looking for an applied, structured way to develop understanding.

Why Choose This Course?

- Hands-on learning throughout, using a single case study to apply Value Stream Mapping from current state analysis to future state design and improvement planning.
- Practical application of core VSM measures and metrics, helping participants understand both the calculations and the insights they provide.
- A realistic and transferable case study, making the techniques relevant across sectors and industries.
- Experience of designing a Lean future state, developing the skills and judgement needed to identify and prioritise improvement opportunities.

Course Content

Introduction to Value Stream Mapping and its relationship to Lean and process improvement	Walking and observing the process to gather direct evidence and usable data
The distinction between Value Stream Mapping and process mapping	Building a current-state Value Stream Map using process, information, and performance data
The nine-step VSM process, from boundaries and value through to future state and improvement loops	Calculating takt time, wait time, lead time, and % value-add using worked examples
The role of sponsor, value stream lead, and working group in successful VSM activity	Designing a future-state map through the seven rules of a Lean value stream
Identification of constraints such as regulation, privacy, fairness, governance, and auditability	Comparing alternative interpretations of the future state and using those differences as a learning conversation
Defining value in a service context and setting practical mapping boundaries	Translating the future state into improvement loops, sequencing, and A3-based follow-through

Why Choose Catalyst?

Catalyst delivers results, not just services. We blend consulting, coaching, training, and AI-powered tools into a seamless support system that meets teams where they are, developing capability at every level.

Thousands trust us to support their learning and Continuous Improvement journeys - we've specialised in Lean Six Sigma Training and Consultancy for over 30 years. We're known for sharing our knowledge in an accessible and interactive way. Look no further for relevant, relatable content, built by experts and accredited by the British Quality Foundation and the Lean Competency System (LCS). We are the BQF's primary Lean Six Sigma partner and recommended by the Chartered Quality Institute.