

Effective Problem-Solving : Challenges

1. Problem Described Incorrectly

A clear, thorough description of the problem is necessary. A problem must be adequately described and the definition must be narrow enough in scope for the team to solve the problem effectively.

2. Problem Solving Effort Expedited

Problem solving steps are skipped in order to obtain a quick solution. Conventional wisdom often drives this, without making the efforts to looking at the situations !

3. Poor Team Participation

Not all team members participate effectively, so the team fails to consider all possible causes of the problem.

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4. No Logical Thought Process

The team lacks a disciplined system for analysing problems.

5. Lack of Technical Skills

Team members are not adequately educated and trained.

6. Management Impatience

Management's lack of understanding of the problem solving process makes all levels of management demand to know exactly when a problem will be solved. This pressure often results in inadequate analysis.

7. Potential Cause Misidentified as a Root Cause

Sometimes a potential cause is quickly identified as a root cause and the problem investigation is concluded. However, the problem often recurs because the root cause was not eliminated.

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8. Permanent Corrective Actions Not Implemented

A root cause may be identified, but no action is taken to implement a permanent corrective action. Permanent actions often require management to approve the costs and implement the actions.

9. Not Having the Correct Team Members

Re-evaluate the membership of the team at each step to ensure the correct resources are available.

10. Fear of Failure

There are chances to fail, when a problem is attacked ! The fear of failure prevents many employees from making the attempts to solve the problems being faced !