Problem-solving Techniques for Use in a Lean Environment
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In a robust Lean environment the ever-present goal is identifying and eliminating waste at its source. Once identified, the toolset used to permanently eliminate waste is as varied as the nature of the waste itself. Tools suitable for product quality/reliability issues may be unsuitable for process problems. This paper outlines the use of Design of Experiments (DOE) techniques suitable for practical application in design and production environments. An introduction to three techniques to hone in on the important product/process parameters is followed by a discussion on applying formal DOE tools to determine root cause.