

ECC announces adoption of Lean Construction Principles

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According to *MENA HERALD news report, Engineering Contracting Company LLC (ECC) has announced its adoption of Lean Construction Principles, aimed at building on its value proposition to its clients and partners within the industry. The initiative aims to improve working practices and positively impact upon mindsets of those who work in the construction field, as the programme identifies and eliminates waste, and in turn enhances value. Lean principles, commonly implemented within manufacturing companies, have now been adapted to construction practices with ECC setting the precedent for their use in the field. Kareem Farah, CEO, ECC explains: “Delivering pioneering industry services to our clients is standard business practice at ECC. With a track-record of pioneering and challenging projects, ECC is able to deliver dynamic solutions to its clients at all stages of construction. In line with this continued effort to innovate, ECC is implementing new systems and models to boost efficiency, achieved through a focus on research & development and its delivery of innovative engineering solutions.”

<https://www.venturesonsite.com/news/ecc-announces-adoption-of-lean-construction-principles>

Kareem added, “We have recently demonstrated our commitment to operational efficiency and high-level cost and quality control through the implementation of BIM – this particular implementation of technology, which creates greater operational efficiency, is also one of the necessary steps towards becoming a ‘Lean’ company. With Lean, we found that greater efficiency and more streamlined operations were delivered as non-value-added activities are minimised, quality of delivery is enhanced, and there are shorter lead times resulting in cost savings.”

To complete the first stage of the process towards the implementation of Lean, ECC employees underwent a three-day workshop to introduce the team to Lean Construction Principles. Approximately 30 employees carried out the training across the company’s departments, Operations and Technical, that include Quantity Surveying, Planning, Construction Management, and Project Management.

Workshop participants ranged from mid-level to senior-level job functions across disciplines including cost control, planning, construction and project management, BIM, purchasing, and project engineering. The company is now carrying out the second stage of the process, which is concept implementation and multiple liaison. Lean principles are being implemented on ECC’s Mirdif Hills project using the four-step model: ‘PDCA’ – Plan -> Do -> Check -> Act, and applied to every stage of that process including Logistics, Handling, Technical Coordination, and Installation.

Current and future Value Stream Mapping (VSP) were generated for many activities and support services among operation, technical coordination, procurement, and operation. ECC aims to standardize the activities/processes to maintain efficiency in all projects and better the quality, hence adding value to client investments. Next two steps are pilot project implementation, rollout planning and implementation and final global implementation across ECC.

Lean also utilises full planning and the ‘5S’ – sort, set in order, shine, standardise, and sustain, eliminating the eight wastes as defined by the Lean Manufacturing system. The eight wastes include excess inventory; awkward or unnecessary operator motions; unnecessary processing due to unclear customer requirements; over-production of the product; wasteful conveyance practices; corrections due to manufacturing errors; unacceptable waiting times between operations; and the waste of unused employee talent.

ECC has an ongoing commitment to continual improvements which enhance its service offering. The company recently adopted Building Information Modelling (BIM) technology – a collaborative engineering technology solution - for all current and future projects. BIM is an

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intelligent 3D model-based programme that provides a user with insights or tools for architecture, engineering and construction. The platform helps to plan, design, build, construct and manage building and infrastructure virtually, enabling greater operational efficiency and significant cost savings on projects.

*News source: <https://www.menaherald.com/en/...>