

enVista services

Kaizen Blitz



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In today's environment, retailers must carefully balance cost with customer service. Adequately controlling costs can mean the difference between going out of business and being able to compete. Yet, retailers must also meet or exceed customer expectations by ensuring desired products are in stock through the right channel or location, at a price they are willing to pay.

One method for controlling costs is to perform a Kaizen Blitz, which focuses on continuous improvement. Kaizen Blitz events are short duration projects that specifically target improvement. Typically, a Kaizen Blitz is a weeklong exercise led by a trained facilitator. The implementation team is predominantly comprised of members from the area in which the Kaizen Blitz is being conducted, plus a few additional people from supporting areas, and even management.

By standardizing or improving current processes, a Kaizen is aimed at eliminating waste. The Kaizen Blitz fosters a cohesive environment by not only including upper management, but also including employees who work in the area in which the event is focused. A successfully implemented Kaizen Blitz can deliver major improvements. Typical events generate improvements of 20-100 percent in areas such as efficiency, quality and delivery performance.

enVista can help lead a Kaizen Blitz in your key store operations and sales areas.

Our Kaizen Blitz Process:



Our approach to a Kaizen Blitz includes, what we call, the "Three Actuals:"

- Actual People
- Actual Place
- Actual Process

One key factor of a Kaizen Blitz is that the changes come from internal resources. This typically makes the improvements easier to implement. From our experience, we believe the client should maximize current assets. When improvements are made internally, the changes are less likely to require a capital investment. The event can help encourage associates to take ownership and reinforce a cohesive environment, thereby increasing motivation.

The planning and execution of a Kaizen Blitz will take about a month. The testing, adjusting and rollout will take one to three additional months depending on the scale and risk of the solutions

Benefits:

- Quick wins with immediate results
- Eliminating or reducing waste
- Associate satisfaction
- Improved process and productivity