

Supply Chain Self Assessment

Lean thinking and methodology

- Can you identify the key constraints in the business?
- Have you walked the key processes and mapped the steps involved to understand if there are opportunities to remove non value added activities?
- People engagement – are your people involved in making improvements?
- Do you look at the overall customer experience?
- Do you know how much defective product you produce? If Yes do you take actions to make improvements

Supply Chain Opportunities

Have you implemented a structured cost reduction programme across purchased goods and services?

- Do you understand key costs in business and which can be influenced?
E.g bundle of communication services, service contracts, consumables, stationery, food etc
- Have you reviewed how much you spend per supplier and rationalised your supply base?
- Have you consolidated purchases to leverage additional cost reductions?
- Have you looked at forecasting more effectively?
- Have you looked at opportunities to retender your purchases?
- Is your organisation effective at negotiating contracts – rebates etc, consignment stock (VMI), payment terms?
- Do you have an adequate IT system and do you use it effectively?

Do you effectively implement Supply Chain Management processes and performance measurements?

- Do you centralise your procurement process?
- Do you have contracts in place for key suppliers?
- Do you have Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) and Service Level Agreements in place for your key suppliers?
- Do you effectively manage your stock to prevent stock outs?
- Do you know if you are carrying too much stock?
- Is there an opportunity to leverage collaborative buying power?
- Have you looked at opportunities to collaborate with other businesses to reduce your distribution costs?
- Have you looked at opportunities where you could work with your customer to take cost out of the product/service?

There may be opportunities to improve your supply chain if you have answered No to any of these questions. Please contact your client executive or call 0800 141 4422 to speak to a member of the Invest NI team if you would like further follow up.