Exploring organizational translation

A case study of changes toward Lean Production

Jostein Langstrand

Lean Production has received massive attention during recent years, and many organizations attempt to introduce it with an ambition to reach the radical improvement effects that are promised in the popular management literature. However, research has shown that introducing a management concept can be a very challenging task, and that the majority of such initiatives fail.

This thesis is based on a longitudinal case study that has focused on the introduction of the management concept Lean in a large Swedish manufacturing company. By analyzing the changes from a translation perspective, the thesis contributes to explore the meaning of organizational translation and the mechanisms through which Lean is materialized and developed into organizational practice.
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