

Waste of Excessive Transportation Notes

The Seven Types of Waste

Waste Type	Description
Defects	Errors, mistakes, or problems with a product or service
Waiting	People waiting for something to happen
Excessive Walking	Walking or other human movements that are not needed to serve the customer
Excessive Processing	Performing more work than is needed to serve the customer
Excessive Production	Making or ordering more material goods than are needed to serve the customer
Excessive Inventory	Storing or holding more material goods than are needed to serve the customer
Excessive Transportation	Shipping or moving material goods farther than is needed to serve the customer

1) What is the waste of excessive transportation?

The waste of excessive transportation means shipping or moving material goods farther than is needed to serve the customer

MATERIAL GOODS are products, supplies or any other physical / tangible object

Goods might be shipped outside of your facility via car, truck, train, sea or air

Goods might be moved inside of your facility via push-cart, fork-lift, or carried by hand

Examples of excessive transportation waste:

Drivers gets lost in making delivery and has to travel miles to get back on track

Container order from Asia must travel 10,000 miles over the ocean to your facility

2) Who cares about excessive transportation waste ... why is that important?

We care because excessive transportation ...

Is costly and can damage goods

Causes delays

Can limit flexibility to make “fill-in orders”

Can be dangerous especially for movement within facilities

3) How to find excessive transportation waste?

You can find excessive transportation waste by OBSERVING and actively looking for the SIGNALS:

a) GOODS SPENDING TIME IN-TRANSIT: Goods that spend excessive time in shipping containers

b) LOTS OF LOADING AND UNLOADING: Loading and unloading trucks and carts or materials sitting in truck or carts

How to know if the transportation is “excessive?” Rely on intuition and common sense

4) How to eliminate excessive transportation waste?

Ask WHY the excessive transportation is occurring

Vehicle routing and scheduling method may be inefficient

Supplier or customer may be far from your facility

Workstations within your facility may be far from each other

Then, address the answer to the why question

Improving routing method – perhaps use GPS-based tools like Google Maps

Seek supplier with facility closer to use, Obtain facility closer to your customers

Reorganize facility to bring relevant workstations closer to each other

Signals of Waste

Waste Type	Signals to Look For
Defects: Errors, mistakes, or problems with a product or service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rework, needing to do something over again • A customer who did not get what was promised
Waiting: People waiting for something to happen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People waiting in some form of line • Things seem to be stalled
Excessive Walking: Walking or other human movements that are not needed to serve the customer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People walking around a lot, especially back and forth • People suffering from movement-related ailments such as sore backs, joints, or hands
Excessive Processing: Performing more work than is needed to serve the customer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of activity or people involved in the work • Work products that are not used and are discarded
Excessive Production: Making or ordering more material goods than are needed to serve the customer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pace of ordering exceeds pace of consumption • Materials received which are not needed
Excessive Inventory: Storing or holding more material goods than are needed to serve the customer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signs of old inventory such as dust on storage boxes • Stock items which are being discarded
Excessive Transportation: Shipping or moving material goods farther than is needed to serve the customer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of goods being held on carts and in vehicles • Long in-transit times