

Newsletter

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The World

The world is increasingly designed to depress us.

Happiness isn't very good for the economy. If we were happy with what we had, why would we need more? How do you sell an antiaging moisturiser? You make someone worry about ageing. How do you get people to vote for a political party? You make them worry about immigration. How do you get them to buy insurance? By making them worry about everything. How do you get them to watch TV? By making them worry about missing out. How do you get them to buy a new smartphone? By making them feel like they are being left behind.

To be calm becomes a kind of revolutionary act. To be happy with your own non-upgrade existence. To be comfortable with our messy, human selves would not be good for business.

Budget Plan Save

After a blow from a hike in VAT (15%) and the introduction of some new taxes, South African consumers will be harder hit still by a huge increase in the petrol price for April.

Fuel Petrol 95 = R14.48; 93 = R14.23

Diesel (wholesale) = R12.75

Eskom Electricity Direct Customers 5.23%











Three Lean Principles You Can Apply Today

Transitioning into a lean operation. You want to be more efficient, you want to improve quality and consistency of output, and to cut down on waste.

Here's the 2nd tip, you can start today, and you'll be on your way to a leaner operation with a very healthy mindset.

Y Focus on organization and efficiency

For most small-to-medium sized enterprises there is plenty of room to improve in these two critical areas.

<u>The Customer</u>. How can you better serve your customers' needs? Think of ways to give them better value for their money. How can you provide your product or service to them better, faster, or cheaper? Without sacrificing Quality <u>Understand how work gets done</u>. Do you know the steps in the process? Documenting these can help you discover inefficiencies

<u>Organize work/production areas</u>. Does your work area promote efficiency? Are items placed in convenient and logical places? Is there inventory or equipment that is unused or obsolete? Find ways to eliminate waste—things that waste space, time, money, or effort

To be continued in the next issue Contributed by Christine Heymans