PROJECT 7
EVOLVE TO SURVIVE

Global Food Manufacturer Manufacturing Excellence Academy

£74,000+ average benefit per delegate
More than 20:1 reported ROI
First projects typically completed in ~10 weeks

Background

A large global food manufacturer partnered with Project7 to build a consistent Manufacturing Excellence approach across its international network. The ambition: develop people who could improve performance and help colleagues do the same.

Project7 designed a bespoke Academy, piloted at an initial manufacturing site, combining immersive learning, live improvement projects and structured coaching. Delegates applied new skills to manufacturing challenges, measured benefits and presented progress to senior leaders.

Delivery expanded through multiple cohorts across the UK, Ireland and Asia Pacific, involving participants and projects from the UK, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand.

Learning that delivers in the workplace

Earlier cohorts generated average financial benefits exceeding £74,000 per delegate from their first project, typically completed within approximately ten weeks of attending the Academy.

Delegates developed the capability to lead further projects and coach others.



Challenges

One manufacturing network.
A more consistent way to improve.

Our client needed practical internal capability that would deliver measurable operational and financial benefits across sites.

A common approach across sites

Lean principles, daily management routines and problem-solving methods varied between locations and departments. Different levels of maturity limited consistency and impact.

Clearer visibility of performance

Gaps in performance visibility and KPI ownership made it harder to identify constraints, understand losses and focus improvement effort.

Leadership that sustains improvement

Our client needed more consistent leadership routines and asset-care practices to support everyday performance and sustain progress.

Capability built through application

The Academy needed to connect learning with live business challenges, supported by coaching, benefit tracking and senior leadership engagement.



Solutions

Project7 built the Academy around our client's manufacturing environment. A training-needs assessment and tailored instructional design shaped an immersive ten-day programme, delivered by two experienced facilitators.

The curriculum combined Manufacturing Excellence principles, workplace organisation, visual performance management, policy deployment, standard operations, asset care, structured problem solving, Value Stream Mapping and the role of the leader.

Learn through real manufacturing work

Practical simulations, Go Look See activity and the examination of real processes reinforced classroom learning. Delegates explored how the methods applied in their own operating environment.

Apply the learning to a live project

Each delegate returned to the workplace with an improvement project. Structured coaching days, A3 reporting and milestone reviews supported application. Operational and financial measures made progress visible, culminating in presentations to senior leaders.

Build the capability to keep improving

Selected participants developed the skills to support later cohorts and coach colleagues. Process confirmation, benefit tracking and phase reviews helped sustain the approach. Participant feedback informed improvements between cohorts.

From the initial pilot to international deployment, the Academy established a common Manufacturing Excellence language and a more consistent approach to daily management, problem solving and improvement.

The Academy connected capability development with measurable business benefits. Earlier cohorts generated average financial benefits exceeding £74,000 per delegate, with reported return on investment above 20:1.

These results came from each delegate's first workplace improvement project, typically completed within approximately ten weeks of attending the Academy. They represent the initial application of learning, rather than a lifetime total.

Workplace projects, coaching, A3 reviews and leadership presentations supported continued application. Selected delegates went on to support later cohorts and coach colleagues, helping our client strengthen its internal improvement capability.

Impact on Performance



£74,000+
average financial benefit per delegate from their first project



~10 weeks
typical completion time for the first workplace project



More than 20:1 reported return on investment in earlier Academy cohorts



Internal capability
Delegates equipped to lead more projects and coach others