

PRINCE OF SONGKLA UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Midterm Examination: Semester 1

Academic Year: 2009

Date: July 27, 2009

Time: 9:00-12:00

Subject: 225-467 Quality Improvement

Room: R201

ทฤษฎีในการสอบ โทษขั้นต่ำปรับตกในรายวิชานั้นและ
พักการเรียน 1 ภาคการศึกษา

Instructions:

1. There are 60 points (30%).
2. Books and notes are allowed.
3. A calculator and a dictionary are allowed.
4. Borrowing things from other students is prohibited.

Question No.	Full Score	Score
1	10	
2	5	
3	15	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
Total	60	

Dr. Runchana Sinthavalai

Instructor



Suppose you are the manager of LUTUS Supermarket (*similar to Tesco Lotus*), answer all questions.

1. **(10 points)** Answer both questions;
 - (a) Use the dimensions of quality to describe five desirable characteristics of *'car parking'* in your supermarket
 - (b) Use the dimensions of quality to describe five desirable characteristics of *'toilet'* in your supermarket



2. **(5 points)** Develop the flow chart to describe the activities that the front-cashier performs *(starting from greeting customer until finishing one)*



3. **(15 points)** Answer all three questions;

- (a) As your position in LUTUS, you would like to introduce the concept of '*Quality is free*' to your colleagues. How can you explain and give examples to your colleagues?
- (b) What could be the *top-three costs of internal failure* in your supermarket? Explain why?
- (c) If you can suggest, what would be the *top-three costs of prevention* that the supermarket should invest? Explain why?



4. **(10 points)** According to the *first ranked internal failure cost*, develop 'fish-bone diagram' to analyze the root causes

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5. **(10 points)** The supermarket uses three machines to slice meat. The specification range from the output of machine 1 is 16.5 to 19.5 mm, is 22.5 to 26.5 mm for machine 2, and is 28.5 to 33.5 mm for machine 3. The outputs of the machines are distributed around 16.9, 23.7, and 31.8 mm (*means for the data distribution*), respectively, with variances of 2.89, 4.41 and 1.96 mm². You have the limited budget to upgrade those machines. Using C_{pk} to prioritize those machines to be upgraded.

6. **(10 points)** Answer both questions;
- (a) As your position in LUTUS, you set the strategy for 'cost reduction' and deploy to colleagues setting up the improvement projects. What do you think could be the disadvantages from "*top-down project identification*"? Discuss two issues of disadvantages.
 - (b) According to the disadvantages in (a), you will change the approach to '*bottom-up project identification*', develop the criteria for project selection and their weights. Explain why?

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