

## **IMPROVING THE CASTING PRODUCTION CYCLE USING KAIZEN CONCEPT**

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**Abstract:** Nowadays, products life cycles are less than half of those in the 80s, because of the frequent appearance of new updated products on the market. The production competitiveness consists in reducing the production time, but keeping the quality and the low costs. One method for reducing the manufacturing time is to use Kaizen methodology. Kaizen is a Japanese philosophy which focuses on permanent improving of each aspect of the manufacturing process. Improving each step of the manufacturing process, the waste is eliminated and the costs are reduced. In this work, are presented the results of the Kaizen methodology implementation in the manufacturing process of a cast part.

**Key words:** Value Stream Map, Kaizen, casting cycle

