

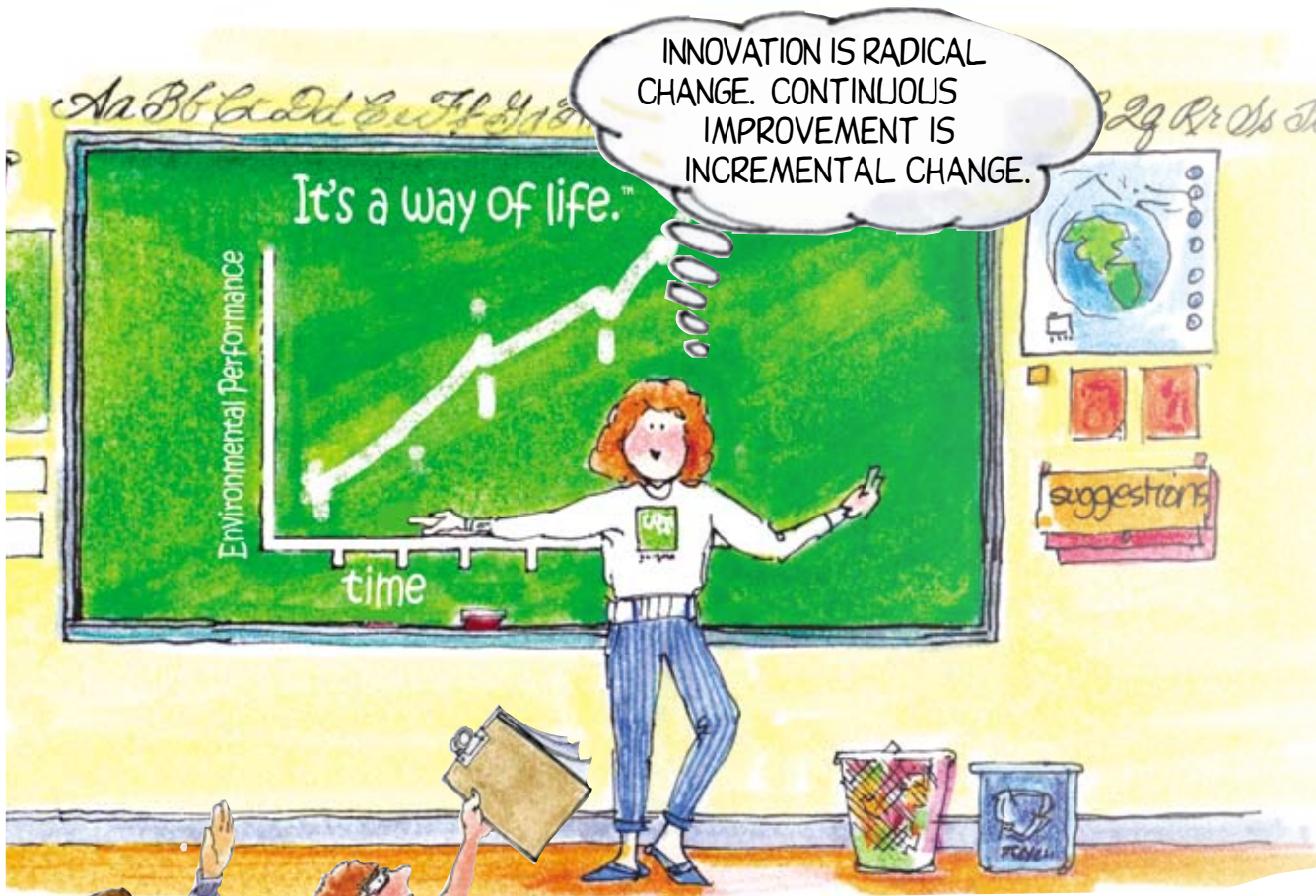
Wanda wonders about continuous improvement.



Environmental Messenger

Higher Environmental Performance

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT



Continuous improvement is a Japanese management philosophy based on making continuous incremental improvements to an operation or system.

In Japanese the philosophy is known as "kaizen".

"kai" meaning "change" and "zen" meaning "to become good".

改善

Continuous improvement is incremental change in contrast to innovation which is a radical change.

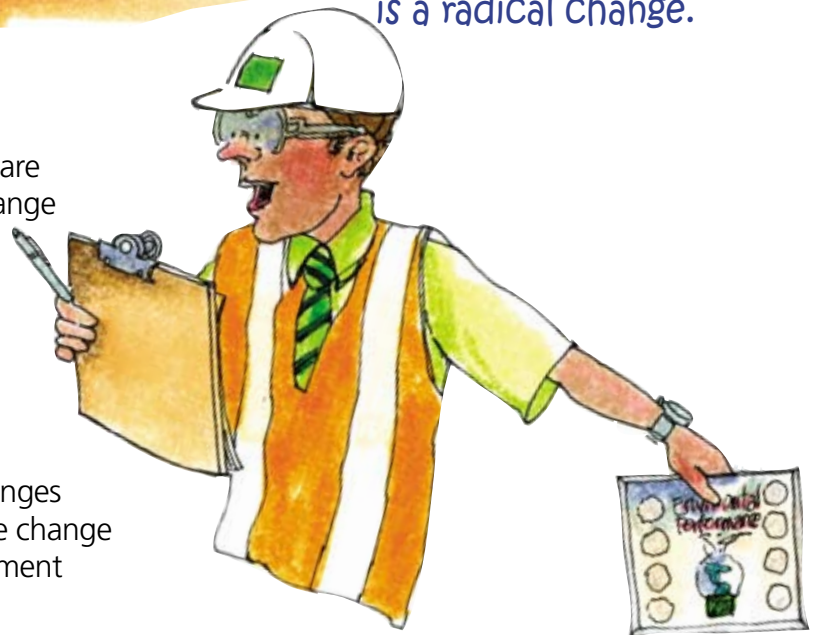


Questions

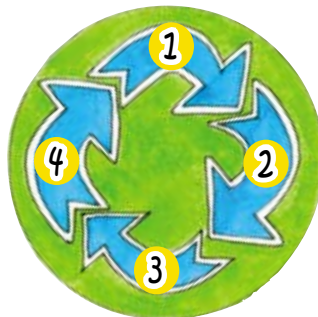
- How does your operation apply continuous improvement?
- How have stakeholders helped to improve your operations?
- What tools do you use to make incremental improvements to your environmental performance?
- What tools do you use to measure your environmental performance?
- How do you communicate the desired changes in your performance?

Continuous improvement requires:

- an understanding of where you are
- a willingness to improve and change
- a process of learning and collaboration to create a plan to improve
- a way of communicating the desired changes
- a way of listening to how our stakeholders perceive us
- effort to make and measure changes
- participation of employees in the change
- a circle of performance improvement



The incremental change of continuous improvement is a way of achieving Higher Environmental Performance.



The EARTH1st circle of continuous improvement is:

- 1 ■ set goals
- 2 ■ make a plan
- 3 ■ implement the plan with care
- 4 ■ check and correct



As long as I can conceive something better than myself I cannot be easy unless I am striving to bring it into existence or clearing the way for it.
George Bernard Shaw



commit ■ create ■ participate

Reference: http://www.valuebasedmanagement.net/methods_kaizen.html