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Describe your overall duties/responsibilities as a Continuous Improvement Manager:

I am responsible for leading the Lean transformation and continuous improvement culture for the Life Sciences business unit within the STERIS Corp. I utilize Lean methodologies based on the Toyota Production System to reduce lead time by improving current manufacturing and office processes by eliminating the 7 waste. This includes, but not limited to, leading root-cause analysis and problem-solving initiatives, executing week-long kaizen (continuous improvement) events, and establishing routine management.

Explain the skills/abilities that are required for being successful in your role:

A few soft skills I have learned are approaching each day looking to learn something new and implement one improvement, no matter how big or small. The ability to solve problems across a wide range of people and departments is necessary to be successful in my role. Effective communication with all levels of management throughout various departments is key to everyone understanding the issues and agreement

on corrective actions. The hard skills such as MS Office, AutoCAD, and other software have been crucial in my professional development.

What advice would you give to students who are considering majoring in Industrial & Systems Engineering?

There are a wide range of industries and opportunities that industrial engineers can step into and provide an immediate impact. The skills learned are transferable to many fields including operations, sales, marketing, and Customer operations. Industrial engineering allows you to see how a sub-system or process fits into the larger system and you have the power to affect that change. It's a fun and intriguing journey learning where all your skills can apply!

