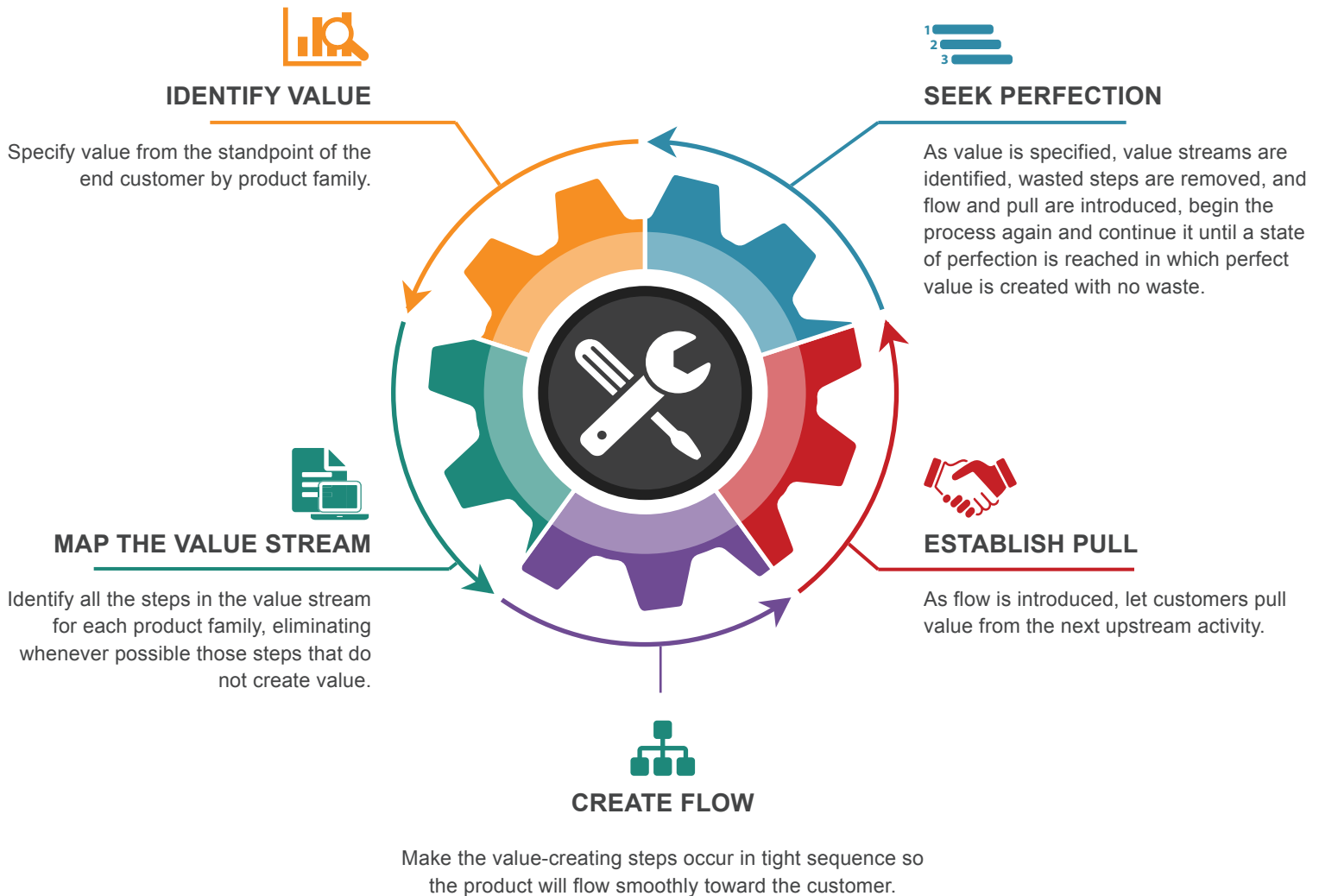




5 GUIDING PRINCIPLES of LEAN MANUFACTURING

Sometimes, it's easy to forget that history is often made within our lifetime. Lean manufacturing is a movement established by Toyota Production Systems and is centered on clarifying what brings value by reducing everything else. The company, which transformed from a modest enterprise to the world's largest automotive manufacturer, forced business leaders to wonder about the secret of Toyota's success.

In 1988, engineer John Krafcik gave the west a better understanding of the Lean way after working with Toyota. His watershed article opened a floodgate of new ideas for the world's managers. While Lean features many sub-processes, the following are five essential tools to help managers with an overall understanding of the idea, posited by one of the movement's leaders, James P. Womack, who founded www.lean.org:



The five principles above are a brief introduction to Lean. Contact Kansas Manufacturing Solutions to learn more about Lean and its benefits for Kansas Manufacturers.