Is Your Organization Too Lean for Safety?

While lean operations are good for business, running too lean can increase risk.

Warning Signs That Your Organization Is Too Lean for Safety	Maximizing Safety When Running Lean
1 Near Miss Reporting drops off due to time constraints and/or lack of follow-up	Focus on a critical few safety-related activities to avoid overwhelming busy employees **1**
2 Safety Work Order turnaround time increases as maintenance employees are stretched thin	Ensure frontline supervisors have time for safety interactions to address hazards and observe workers **2**
3 Supervisors have little time in the field observing work and interacting with workers	Prompt leaders to increase their use of helpful feedback and positive reinforcement for critical safety-related behaviors **3**
4 Safety participation and engagement drops off as people focus more on workload	Create a positive accountability system to ensure preventative safety leader behaviors get prioritized **4**
5 Turnover and/or callouts increase as burnout sets in	Listen to employees' concerns **5**
6 Prolonged frustration, exhaustion, and stress leads to more turnover—creating a vicious cycle	Be diligent about responding to unsafe conditions, near misses, etc. **6**