NORTHLINE

NORTHLINE OPERATIONS ADVISORY

THE PLANT OPERATIONS REVIEW

5-Day Floor Diagnostic & Baseline Checklist

The Mid-Market Operations Review

A practical five-day review for measuring losses, freeing capacity and setting a baseline your team can use.



Northline Operations Advisory, edition 2026.1. For plant directors, COOs and PE operating partners.

01

Five-day floor audit checklist

Walk the value stream with each shift and agree the operating baseline before any change is made.

Day and task	Owner	Done
☐ Day 1: walk the value stream with day, swing and night shifts		
☐ Day 1: agree how stops, short stops and changeovers are counted		
☐ Day 2: build the loss tree at the constraint		
☐ Day 3: trace WIP and the schedule against real capacity		
☐ Day 4: price each loss; build the 12-week payback model with finance		
☐ Day 5: plant manager signs the baseline; present the 90-day roadmap		

02

OEE loss tree worksheet

Separate availability, performance and quality losses at the constraint. Use machine counts, not shift reports.

Factor	Measure	Your baseline	Largest loss
Availability	Run time / planned time		
Performance	Ideal cycle / actual cycle		
Quality	Good parts / total parts		

OEE = Availability × Performance × Quality

03

SMED external setup matrix

List every changeover element. Anything that can happen while the machine runs moves off the critical path.

Element	Internal	External	Seconds
	☐	☐	
	☐	☐	
	☐	☐	
	☐	☐	

04

Tiered shift handover script

Five minutes, standing at the constraint. Carry actions and ownership cleanly across shifts.

	Question	Answer
☐	What ran, against plan?	
☐	What stopped, and for how long?	
☐	Which actions are open, and who owns each?	
☐	What needs escalation to the area huddle?	

Want help running the review? Book a 30-minute partner conversation at northline.example/book, or call +1 (312) 555-0148.