The Five Whys: Root Cause Identification

For each explanation, ask the question "Why?" and answer, "Because _____." Repeat this five times, asking why of whatever the "because" answer is. Stop asking "Why?" when you reach consensus on the root cause of the issue.

Explanation

1. Why?

Because:

2. Why?

5. Why?

4. Why?

Because:

Because:

Because:

3. Why?

Because:

Adapted from Nancy Love's Problem Identification Form & TQM 5 Whys