

To continually examine our processes to provide greater value to our customers without waste.

The Lean Line

Thinking *Inside* the Box

A Grunau Service Plumber found a very useful box at one of our vendors and brought it to the Lean Team's attention. We were able to purchase and utilize the box in several of our Grunau vehicles that went through 5S lean events this year.

The Stanley "FatMax" organizer box is a heavy-duty high-impact plastic that should hold up well under the heat & cold found in the back of trucks, and it seems sturdy enough not to fall apart or break under regular use. It has sturdy latches to secure the lid and the top of the case is ridged so compartments stay in place during vehicle movement. They are lighter weight than the "Rat-Pack" type compartments used in many Grunau trucks; this helps reduce overall vehicle weight, and thereby provide better gas mileage/cost.

One especially useful benefit of this particular type of box is that the inner sections come out of the carrying case. This makes them interchangeable in size and adjustable to sort differently. It also allows the worker to take in just a container or two of a particular item needed for a job or provides the option of hauling the whole carrying case. During our 5S events, our Sheet Metal Shop made shelves to hold the boxes in place in the vehicles. Below are some pictures of this box. If this box would make your job easier and more productive, contact the Grunau Tool Room about the possibility of purchasing for your truck.

