Problem Solving Work Sheet

5W2H Problem Solving Work Sheet			
QUESTION	FOCUS	STATEMENT	COUNTERSTATEMENT
WHAT?	General Subject	What is being done?	
		Can it be Eliminated?	Eliminate
WHY?	Purpose	Why is this step necessary?	unnecessary tasks
		Clarify the purpose.	and materials
WHERE?	Location	Where is it being done?	
		Does it have to be done there?	
WHEN?	Sequence	When is the best time to do it?	Change sequence of
		Does it have to be done then?	combination
WHO?	People	Who is doing it?	
		Should someone else do it?	
		Why am I doing it?	
HOW?	Method	How is it being done?	
		Is this the best method?	Simplify the task
		Is there some other way?	
HOW MUCH?	Cost	How much does it cost now?	Select a better, less
		What will be the cost after	costly method
		improvement?	

THOUGHT STARTERS: When you are stuck for waste prevention ideas, asking the five W's and two H's can reveal possibilities. From *The Idea Book: Improvement Through TEI (Total Employment Involvement)* edited by the Japan Human Relations Association.