ADVANTAGES OF LEARNING THROUGH SIMULATION

Advantage #1: ADAPTABILITY
Simulations allow the participants to test-drive their ideas in a safe environment. They can try new things, fail, learn, and then adapt to try again until they succeed.

Advantage #2: ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT
Unlike traditional training where participants frequently struggle to stay awake, an effective simulation draws them in, gets them interacting with the process as well as with each other. Giving them the opportunity to do rather than just hear or see creates a lasting impression.

Advantage #3: KNOWLEDGE RETENTION
Simulations provide learning that lasts. They tap into the higher knowledge retention rates of Audio/Visual, Demonstration, Discussion and Practice Doing. When it's a face-to-face simulation rather than a face-to-screen simulation, it also creates the opportunity for participants to teach each other which has a 90% retention rate.
Advantage #4: 
BIG PICTURE
Simulations based on a system dynamics model, like The Manufacturing Game, capture the nonlinear behavior of complex systems including the inherent feedback loops and time delays. The participants experience the entire system rather than just the parts, giving them a view of the "forest" rather than just the "trees". They see how their actions (or inactions) today create a ripple effect throughout the entire system over time.

Advantage #5: COOPERATION
Effective face-to-face (rather than face-to-screen) simulations like The Manufacturing Game® give participants the opportunity to collaborate. The cooperation and camaraderie that develops during the simulation lasts well beyond the end of the class with participants often reaching out to help each other back in the workplace. The shared experience also gives the participants a common language, allowing them to discuss complex issues using shorthand terminology from the simulation.

Advantage #6: FEEDBACK
Significant time delays in the real world between decision, action and consequence can be misleading. Drastically cut current maintenance costs by delaying or cancelling maintenance activities...negative consequences could take months, even years to appear. By then many have moved on to other positions or locations. By compressing space and time, simulations provide quick feedback to the participants regarding their decisions and actions. Make a mistake...rather quickly, YOU suffer the consequences. Get things right...before long, YOU reap the rewards. Practicing new approaches in a simulated environment like The Manufacturing Game® provides participants with an understanding of the knock-on effect of their actions and the need for organizational patience to wait for investments to pay off.