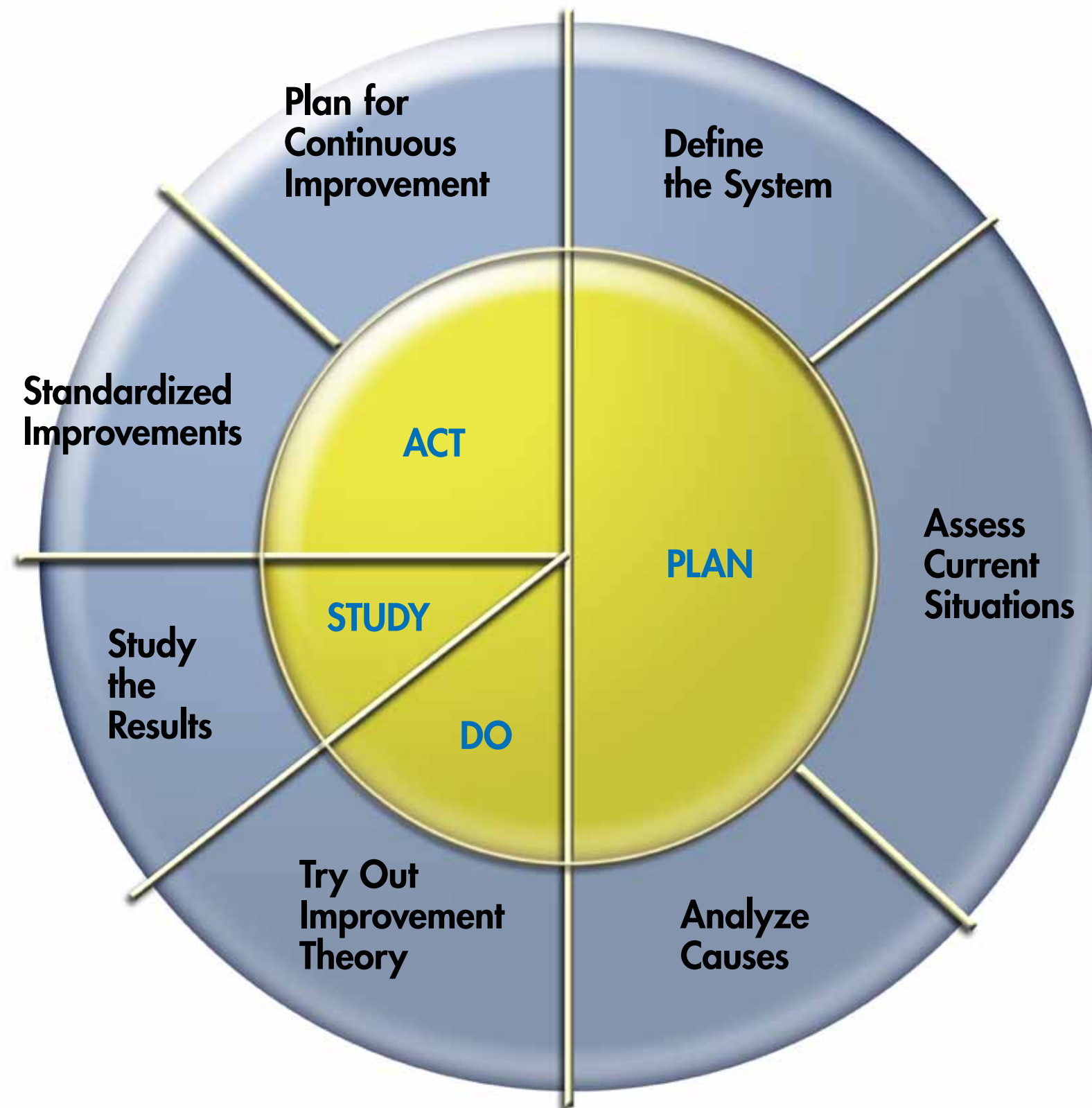


Plan-Do-Study-Act Cycle



When to Use Plan-Do-Study-Act

- As a model for continuous improvement.
- When starting a new improvement project.
- When developing a new or improved design of a process, product, or service.
- When defining a repetitive work process.
- When planning data collection and analysis to verify and prioritize problems or root causes.
- When implementing any change.

Plan-Do-Study-Act Procedure

- Plan. Recognize an opportunity and plan a change.
- Do. Test the change. Carry out a small-scale study.
- Study. Review the test, analyze the results, and identify what you've learned.
- Act. Take action based on what you learned in the study step: If the change did not work, go through the cycle again with a different plan. If you were successful, incorporate what you learned from the test into wider changes. Use what you learned to plan new improvements, beginning the cycle again.