Conclusion

The purpose of this paper was to show that process improvement methods that are prevalent in other industries can be applied to the cost estimating industry. Lean Six Sigma techniques were used to find the root causes of inefficient cost estimates, and solutions to these causes were explored. Templates are one solution that is in practice. We are still able to identify areas of improvement in current template implementation. A proposed method in quantifying improvement was discussed. Process improvement is most likely to be achieved by using a set of best practices as a learning tool for inexperienced cost estimators and as a quick reference for more experienced estimators.