

# Value Engineering Trends in Construction

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Value Engineering (VE) was developed during World War II as a method to alternative methods and materials for processes and products that were limited and challenged by rationing. Since its creation, the use of the VE process has extended to the construction industry as a way to maximize the value of a project. The seven, generally followed, steps of VE are as follows:

1. Assemble the VE team
2. Gain information about the project
3. Brainstorm alternative ways to satisfy the owner's needs
4. Evaluate each alternative
5. Develop alternatives by supporting them with factual evidence
6. Present the options to the owner
7. Implement the chosen VE items.

This research is being conducted to aid future VE brainstorming efforts by studying past VE studies. It will seek to discover trends across the studies by analyzing which VE items were approved or rejected; which divisions of work the VE items belonged to; whether the VE items maintained, decreased or increased the life cycle cost; and other trends. By learning of these trends, in the future, VE studies can be done with a better understanding of what areas will be most readily accepted and can focus their efforts on those areas.