



Lean engineering projects result in significant savings for Spellman

Customer:
Spellman

County:
USA, Mexico

Industry:
High voltage electronics
Other Electronic Parts and Equipment
NAICS: 423690

TMAC Services:
Lean & Six Sigma

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Spellman is the world's largest manufacturer of high voltage power supply and X-ray generators used in medical diagnostics and airport security. The company was established in 1947 and has plants in Hauppauge, NY and Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mex. The company first approached TMAC for training in 2008 when 11 of its best and brightest minds from its twin plants attended a two-week course in Green Belt Six Sigma training and certification in Brownsville, Texas.

The Situation

Realized improvements at Spellman High Voltage Electronic Corp. de Mexico that catapulted it to a world class facility has not stopped the company from taking additional steps to make it an even more efficient operation, including reducing the company's production costs and cycle times, and redesigning of its layout. Toward that end, Spellman de Mexico called on TMAC again in 2011 to train a cross section of the company's 700-plus skilled workers including engineers, production, quality, maintenance and Lean associates on the principles of Lean Manufacturing.

The Solution

TMAC employed Lean tools such as Value Stream Mapping, 5S System, Kaizen and Spaghetti Diagram to evaluate current process and develop strategies to reduce waste and increase production; to improve the space production area by applying knowledge in Lean manufacturing and standardized work; to improve total cycle time and touch time; to implement route modification and cost reduction. Spellman engineers worked on developing and applying the principles and implementing the projects at its two facilities in Mexico totaling more than 150,000 sq. ft.

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The Results

Implementation of the projects brought about significant savings including annual savings of \$342,669.08 through Lean flow principles and \$75,417.22 due to improvement opportunities in operations implemented. Other savings were \$5,605.31 per year in Lean Master savings following the re-designing of the layout to cables area; \$1,456.56 annually through Operation Kit Pull; and \$5,068.82 per year through the reduction of touch time. Besides savings, projects implementation also resulted in improvements in process flow, material handling and workplace safety.

“Projects were successful and fulfilling the aim of reduction of costs through continuous improvement.”

- Marlen Barrera
Spellman de Mexico Lean Manager

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