POLARIS Manufacturing Forward MEP

RESULTS

RESULTS: LEAN MANUFACTURING

LEAN FINISHER CREATES GOLD PLATED CULTURAL CHANGE



COMPANY PROFILE

Tanury Industries was founded in 1946 as a high volume plating company located in Lincoln, RI. Tanury has grown to become the leading finisher for the jewelry industry by emphasizing specification plating, quality, waste management and environmental responsibility. Serving the automotive, aircraft, writing instrument, and eyewear industries, Tanury develops high-quality, jewelry-grade finishes for their customers.

SITUATION

Tanury management realized they needed a cultural change and experimented with new methodologies such as one-on-one counseling with unsatisfying results. Tanury was already an ISO-certified company and had very little employee turnover.

However, their mature staff was reluctant to adopt new work methods and resistant to management instruction. Production disruptions resulted.

SOLUTION

The company sought a vehicle for making real change and introduced John Gilheeney from Polaris MEP to catalyze the implementation of continuous improvement methods:

- Lean,
- Value Stream Mapping, and
- Flow Analysis.

The methodology uses teamwork development to improve cooperation an employee relationships. The model was driven from the top down and has created lasting cultural change.

Polaris MEP's Lean implementation resulted in streamlined product flow and minimized travel on the shop floor. Tanury was better able to meet schedules as orders moved through each and every department in the facility. Value Stream Mapping exercises resulted in moving chemical processes to more advantageous locations.

Ten problem solving teams met weekly to innovate specific areas such as gold conservation, waste reduction, and process chemistry improvements. The Polaris MEP and employee teams brainstormed a system to monitor gold baths in real time. Production schedules are now broadcast throughout the plant to monitor progress and improve communication. Internal and external return rate was reduced to 0.125%.

With tangible impacts and long lasting culture improvements, lean implementation is one area Tanury, a leading jewelry-grade finisher, never considers finished.

IMPACTS

Increased sales by **35%**

Hired **25** new employees and trained workforce

Increased throughput by **25-30%**

Returns decreased to **0.125%**

Reduced material losses

Full Success Story at

https://bit.ly/3kfZ1KQ



We signed up with Polaris MEP to bring about cultural change but the benefits we got were far different. The successes we achieved are a testament to the power of the tool (Lean) and the people who engaged in the process.

Richard Abbate
Vice President

Looking for greater productivity and profitability?

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