

Training Leads to Die-Tech LEAN Enterprise

Real Results:

- Effectiveness increased 10%
- 66% reduction in engineering
- \$450,000 sales increase

Company Profile: Die-Tech, Inc. based in York Haven, PA manufactures precision metal stampings for the electronics, medical, automotive, military, aerospace and telecommunications industries. Design assistance, rapid prototyping, practical die construction, and long term production of high quality, cost-effective precision metal stampings are some of the specialized services provided to a diverse industrial marketplace.

Situation: The company identified the need to cut lead times, lower inventories, improve quality, and increase flexibility by reducing or eliminating changeovers in their plant. In 2006 a group of employees went through Set-up Reduction training. The training provided the techniques of quick changeovers and setup reductions which helped make substantial progress in becoming a Lean Enterprise. While the small group made an impact on the organization it was apparent that if everyone understood the principles of LEAN manufacturing the benefits would be greater.

Desired Results and Deliverables: Die-Tech, Inc., through the Lean 101-A Manufacturing Simulation workshop trained and brought general awareness of LEAN Principles their employees as the company continues its journey toward eliminating waste, improving efficiencies, throughput and profits.

The following lessons are a mixture of lectures and hands-on simulations:

1. Standardized Work
2. Workplace Organization
3. Batch Size Reduction
4. Point of Use Storage

End Results: Die-Tech, Inc. embraced the LEAN philosophy and continues to build on what they learned. LEAN training ideas were quickly implemented and the impacts are now visible. Most notably the efficiencies are tremendous. Manufacturing effectiveness increased 10% to a value of 80% as a direct result of the training. In their industry set up times and accuracy are paramount to their success. In the past year they have seen a 20% increase in the 1st pass yield. 60% of the time the die is properly set up and the product meets specification the first time. Additionally, there was a 66% reduction in engineering time to design class "A" progressive stamping dies. There are also improvements in their scrap rate. The industry average is .6%. Die-Tech is less than half of the industry average at .26%. As material costs continue to rise this number continues to improve their profitability. Finally, modularization of the automotive terminal lead frames resulted in \$450,000 sales increase in the automotive segment in FY 2007.

"It's tough work challenging 30+ years of success to evolve good people and systems into what will enable Die-Tech to thrive for another 30+ years. MANTEC's lean training portfolio has proven to be an essential and effective method for measurable operational improvement. We could not do it alone. MANTEC is truly Die-Tech's partner in productivity." ~ Richard W. Dennis, President, Die-Tech, Inc.

To set up your LEAN
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