

Techtex

Case study

“Working with MAS has made us leaner, fitter and more cost conscious”

Techtex originally requested assistance from MAS-NW to improve their overall business performance, and as a consequence, the Company have undertaken a rapid transformation by the implementation of lean techniques, whilst also addressing supply chain issues, from which the Company has achieved substantial additional benefits as a result of the work.

“MAS really engaged the employees in a variety of initiatives to improve our Company performance.”

Brian Whitney

Operations Director



Health Care Products Middleton
- 50 employees

Key Achievements

Employees engaged, culture developed
Agility/Flexibility improved
Turnover up by 25% in 2 years
Productivity improved by over 20%
Stockturn improved by 20%
Reduced overhead percentage

Cost to Business

50% funded

Background

Techtex are a growing profitable Company, employing approximately 50 people in the manufacture of hygienic wipes and other technical textile applications.

The Business is 14 yrs old, and has 3 Directors who are committed Owners/Management. Turnover is now running at an annualised £13M

Description of the Project

MAS saw a way to help Techtex by developing lean practices in the business. The Project was managed by TMI Associate Mike Brook, with appropriate specialist skills brought in from members of his team where necessary.

Mike Brook and Brian Houghton worked with the company to change the Culture and introduce lean methodologies and improved supply chain controls. Following the original work, the project emphasis shifted on to the following areas;-

- implementation of Production System
- Development of supervisors

This has helped the company to meet the needs of its Customers and increase turnover by over 25% over the past 2 years.

Initial work

A Manufacturing Review originally carried out in June 2008 by Mike Brook identified the following actions required to develop the Business;-

- Emphasis on lean/continuous Improvement
- Map processes and identify opportunities for improvement
- Reduce/Eliminate non Value added activity
- Document standard operations and improve them
- Increase throughput/sqm, and throughput/£Labour cost
- Balance resources – shift patterns/Structure

Techtex originally requested assistance with the above implementation plan, and, aided by MAS-NW, the Company underwent a rapid transformation by the implementation of lean techniques, addressing the above issues, from which the Company have achieved considerable additional benefits

Supervisor Development

Training in lean techniques, identification of potential areas of improvement, support for the formation of the Supervisors into a Continuous Improvement team, generation of QC info and implementation of improvement projects identified in the system.

General lean improvements

Working with the operatives via their Supervisors – training and implementation of lean projects .

Ongoing Supply Chain Support

The project included some one to one mentoring of the Purchasing Manager, identification of further improvements in buying price, advice on implementation, etc., plus development of the “materials control” role in the business. Then developing the knowledge of the supply chain area already imparted to the employees in the purchasing area to the next stage, by developing the Purchasing Manager as lead in a; Purchasing/Stock Control/Supply Chain project, developing experience of; the “total cost of purchase” concept, kanbans, and MRP, including stock/wip costs, rather than just the purchase price.

Establish Max/min/ROQ, controls/kanbans/planning

When the purchasing initiatives were showing benefits, the next development in the area of materials provision was to systemise and establish appropriate controls/levels, and improve stockturn and liquidity.

For further
information or
advice visit

www.mas-nw.co.uk

or call 0800 093 9077