

Five S (5S) stands for sort, set in order, shine, standardize, and sustain. This method results in a workspace that is clean, uncluttered, safe, and well-organized, which can help reduce waste and optimize productivity. The approach is designed to help build a quality work environment—physically and mentally. 5S achieves “a place for everything and everything in its place.”

**Customer** G & J Greenalls Ltd

**Profile** G & J Distillers wins the International Spirits Challenge “Gin producer of the year” 4 out of the past 5 years. Greenall’s Gin continues to drive double digit growth year-on-year and performs ahead of the total category globally.



**Challenge** All the staff at Greenalls had been given 5Ss as an objective on their appraisals but not many people knew what it was. The challenge was to introduce it to everyone in such a way that everyone would adopt the 5Ss principles and practices.

**Solution** To ensure that everyone at Greenall’s bought into a new initiative to successfully introduce 5S practice OLC felt it was important that everyone was involved. So as well as training for the production staff seminars were organised to educate the senior management team. As the plant runs a shift system of lines a pilot line was picked which had product diversity and was geographically good to get the new methods underway.

- Key Interventions**
- OLC staff were hands on demonstrating best practices in 5Ss
  - Learning by Doing was facilitated and supported across multiple shifts
  - Adoption of 5S housekeeping through extensive inhouse training
  - Introduction of basic daily housekeeping activities by operators
  - Support for the initiative from the senior management team
  - Tools holsters at every part of the bottling plant
  - The 5S is seen as critical to maintaining employee morale and safety.

**Benefits** Now that everyone has had the required training the bottling lines are now much better organised. This has led to improvements in systemised autonomous maintenance, improved changeover times form different products to different products and much cleaner organised place to work.

The 5S method applies in any work area and is critical to maintaining employee morale and safety. It also is the basis of customers' first impressions.

### Company History

Greenall’s founder Thomas Dakin began distilling his original gin, at the age of 25, and founded what would become the oldest gin distillery in England. The Dakin family leased, in the 1860’s, their distillery to Gilbert and John Greenall and was purchased by them ten years later. Today it is one of the world’s largest Gin distilleries and spirits bottling plants.