

Case Study

Quality Improvement Initiative

"Effective production planning and scheduling is essential for successful implementation of lean manufacturing principles. OLC have shown that massive savings can be achieved through adopting the principles of kan-ban, Just-In-Time, Total Productive Maintenance and improving the supply chain logistics."

Steve Petrovic, Operations Director (Rest Assured Ltd)

Customer

Rest Assured Ltd

Profile

Since the late 1990's Rest Assured has strengthened its appeal to its discerning target market by focusing more and more on the manufacture of luxury pocket spring beds. Rest Assured have a long heritage of producing quality products for discerning customers.



Challenge

To improve the planning process within the Pocket Springs Production Department so as to deliver cost savings and production efficiency

Solution

Over a 3 month period OLC analysed the department's existing production methods and planning activities. This analysis was supplemented with the use of cutting edge software production modeling. Following this initial investigative analysis, several cost-saving opportunities and key recommendations were made to the company's senior managers as to how the planning process and production methods could be improved.

Key

Interventions

- The detailed analysis of current planning practices
- An audit of information flows throughout the business
- An analysis of current procedures for capturing production information
- Improvements to the way in which Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE) data is calculated and recommendations as to how it can be improved over the long-term
- Analysis and improvement of the department's future CapEx planning
- Recommendations to improve the department's layout and use of available space, plus the use of manpower and labour
- A detailed review of the Department's current purchasing policy
- The development of detailed project plans that considered how all identified improvement opportunities could be implemented over the following 6 months

Benefits

Rest Assured now possess a thorough understanding of their existing production planning methods, production processes and how both of these activities can be greatly improved in the future. Likewise, this valuable insight has highlighted potential annual cost-savings of over £500,000. Armed with this information Rest Assured have already begun to implement several of our recommendations in order to realise the production efficiency gains and cost-savings identified by OLC. These improvements will provide Rest Assured with the confidence and production capability to achieve their organisation's ambitious growth plans for the future.

The Company Profile

Following the purchase of Rest Assured by Silent Night Holdings in 1998, the company is now a part of the UK's largest bed makers. The acquisition brought with it Silent Night's expertise in modern manufacturing methods along with substantial financial investment. The use of modern technology and modern manufacturing techniques has been married to Rest Assured's traditional expertise in making quality products to create a powerful revitalised company.