



NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2008

Welcome to the fourth Edition of the PDA Newsletter here to inform you of the latest news and forthcoming events



ROWE HANKINS GOES 'LEAN' AND SPEEDS UP PRODUCTION With the help of The Manufacturing Advisory Service (MAS) and PDA

Rowe Hankins Components Ltd was established in 1986 as a specialist distributor and manufacturer of electro-mechanical components. Since then the Company has also branched out into manufacturing, producing sensors, displays, protection equipment and switchgear.

The Company is going through a transition from being a distributor to a manufacturer, therefore the company needs to reorganise their processes, particularly in their manufacturing operations to become more efficient. Lean Manufacturing was identified as being a valuable approach to accomplish this.

Through the MAS Scheme and with the help of Martin Braun, Consultant with PDA, Rowe Hankins undertook a 10 day Lean Manufacturing Project during which a Value Stream Map was compiled. A cross-functional team, facilitated by the Consultant, developed an improved layout and implemented it. In addition to this the Consultant trained operators in the 5S programme of workplace organisation and the Company are putting this continuous improvement tool to good use.

The results were:

- Productivity improved by over 30%
- Travel distance has been reduced by over 70%
- Space requirements reduced by 40%

Toni Hankins, Managing Director says 'We are against the general trend of decline in manufacturing in the UK so we need to be very efficient. Lean philosophy introduced in all parts of the Company is one of our main strategies, coupled with an intimate knowledge of a niche world market, will make us successful. The MAS Programme as delivered by Martin Braun was well received at all levels in the Company and has instilled a real 'buzz' about the place.'

BUSINESS CONTINUITY MANAGEMENT BS 25999-2:2007

What does this mean for your business?

- Is your business prepared for the impact of any risk, threat, incident or disruption?
- What plans do you have in place should a potential threat become a reality?
- Could your business survive a major, or even a minor disruption?
- Would your staff be able to cope in such a situation?

Benefit from a measurable process management system that saves time, cost and resource

FREE CONTINUITY MANAGEMENT MORNING WORKSHOP

20th JUNE 2008

Find out more by contacting

sandra.lodge@pdainternational.com

or telephone 01484 685879

FREE MANUFACTURING REVIEW

Funded by the Manufacturing Advisory Service (MAS)

A visit from a manufacturing specialist who will help you to identify changes to your operations to increase efficiency levels and performance

or

FREE FOCUSED MANUFACTURING REVIEW

A visit from a manufacturing specialist to look at specific areas of your business and help you to identify changes to your operations

Find out more by contacting

catherine.burgess@pdainternational.com

or telephone 01484 685879



**PRODUMAX – HOW CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT HAS DRIVEN
THE CHANGES THROUGHOUT THE BUSINESS WITH
THE HELP OF PDA AND MAS FUNDING**

Produmax, based in Otley, is a precision sub-contract engineering company and has been trading for over 40 years. The Company specialises in complex machined parts and supply predominantly to the aerospace industry. The company thrives on production engineering challenges and if it had a motto it would be something like 'give us the most complex components; we will machine it if others can't'.

The organisation already had a dynamic management and shop floor team who were technically and process driven, and had invested heavily in machine tools for a small organisation. However, Jeremy Ridyard, the Managing Director, knew there were opportunities for further improvement at Produmax and he was sure that the key was to involve employees, utilising the huge levels of experience and skill of the workforce in order to implement changes throughout the organisation. MAS and Ian Peacock of PDA gave invaluable assistance here.

Key Achievements:-

- 7 man continuous improvement team set up in the milling cells
- Implementation of 5S resulting in
 - Time taken to find tools and fixtures reduced
 - Appearance of shop floor much improved
 - £2k reduction in tool spend per month from £11k
- Improved set up methods
 - Many set-up times reduced by up to 85%
 - Better information for tool set-ups
 - Working towards better pre-machining business processes

Produmax won new machining and assembly contracts worth £3m. Jeremy believes this would not have happened without the support from PDA and MAS.

**FREE INTRODUCTION TO LEAN OFFICE
WORKSHOP**

15th May 2008/19th June 2008 - Huddersfield
10.00 am to 3.00 pm

**Learn how looking at your information and money
stream can dramatically improve your throughput
time**

Topics covered:-

- Definition and basic requirements of Lean Office
- The difference between value and waste
- What value stream and flow means
- What empowering your workforce means
- How to question status quo
- How to map the current information flow
- How to develop a future state map and how to achieve it

Find out more by contacting

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or telephone 01484 685879

**STOP PRESS.....STOP PRESS.....
FREE EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY**

Free Change Management Workshop
– 16th June 2008

**Free Disaster Recovery/Continuity Management
Workshop – 20th June 2008**

**Free Introduction to Modern Manufacturing
Techniques Workshops**
- 16th May/11th June 2008

Free Introduction to Lean Office Workshop
- 15th May 2008/19th June 2008

**All Workshops held at PDA Training Facility,
Holmfirth, Huddersfield. Contact Sandra Lodge
on 01484 685879 or email
sandra.lodge@pdainternational.com**

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