

CASE STUDY

TURNER ACCESS



Turner Access Limited is a member of Turner and Co, one of Scotland's largest family owned businesses which has been in operation since 1912. Turner Access Limited was established in 1984 as a hire and contracts operation. The company has evolved into a leading manufacturer and supplier of access equipment for safe working at height. The product range includes aluminium access towers, systems scaffolding and collective protection equipment.

"The LMT programme demonstrated that even low cost/ no cost lean projects can make significant impact to our productivity, quality and people. It's all about the mind set and challenging 'how it's always been!' We are about to start our second project and have twice as many volunteers which we see as a very encouraging sign"



Area in full production

Lean Project

The Lean project was to analyse activity throughout the manufacturing process. The product flows from goods-in through various sawing, welding and assembly areas supported by stores and inspection. One product type will travel a distance of 650 metres throughout the process. There are over 30 product lines. The team's objective was to identify issues within this area and implement improvements.

The key Lean tools utilised were as follows:

- Process mapping – the team created a process map for one product collecting actual data and details of waste.
- Spaghetti charts – movement of product was charted.
- Pareto analysis – a number of graphs were created showing the impact of defects on production flows.
- 5S – the team carried out 5S activity utilising audits to document improvement.
- Control charts – the team used control charts to gather information from operators on defect analysis

Outcome(s)

The 5S implementation has enabled the on-going collection of data to be developed for the team to improve the overall quality of the product.

This will see a significant reduction in the number of products rejected and reworked throughout the various processing areas.

The results of this will be as follows:

- Faster processing time
- Increased throughput
- Lower volume of scrap material
- More efficient processing
- Significant cost savings with a target of **£50,000** in the next 12 months

"The objective over the next year is to reduce the cost of non-added value of activity by **50%** through low cost / no cost initiatives. Achieving this on one product line initially will set the scene to roll out to other product lines having a substantial impact on reducing costs."

This programme is now available co-funded with a Government contribution of 90% via the apprenticeship scheme. For further details call **01253 808380** info@rkmsuk.co.uk



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