



Lean Implementation Project Bolsters Operational Efficiencies, Employee Empowerment in Central Pa. Manufacturing Company

CLIENT PROFILE

McLanahan Corp.

200 Wall St.

Hollidaysburg, PA 16648-1600

www.mclanahan.com

family-owned (6th generation)

179 employees

McLanahan Corporation is a manufacturer of agriculture, pit, mining, and quarry equipment, including roll crushers, mixers, feeders, breakers, log and screw washers, rotary screens, tanks, and scrubbers. Products and services are produced from five primary operating divisions: Mineral Processing, Aggregate Processing, HSS Sampling, Agricultural Systems, and Contract Sales. Corporate offices are maintained in Hollidaysburg, PA, site of the company's largest manufacturing facility. The company also operates a facility in Gallatin, TN, and offices in Newcastle West, Australia.

SITUATION

IMC has worked with McLanahan Corporation for more than ten years, assisting the company with projects such as software selection and implementation, sales training, and an upgrade of their website. Rob McGee, McLanahan's Director of Manufacturing, attended one of the IMC public Lean 101 courses and liked what he heard. He invited IMC to discuss how McLanahan could begin its own Lean journey. The company was experiencing operational inefficiencies, and management wanted to improve processes and flow of operations. Leadership also wanted to boost the engagement and empowerment of the workforce in effecting change and process improvements at all levels of the organization.

SOLUTION

IMC worked with McLanahan on a Lean Production System Implementation project. The first step toward transforming the production system was to expose key employees to improvement objectives through five-day, hands-on training workshops that are commonly called "kaizen events."

IMC provided training and assisted in the planning, implementation, and follow-up activities for the series of kaizen event workshops. The objective of each workshop was to make breakthrough improvements of a selected work area or work method metrics such as cycle time, productivity, cost, and quality.



RESULTS

The project provided McLanahan employees an increased understanding of Lean tools and methods. Through the workshops, IMC assisted in the development of implementation methods and strategies for McLanahan to continue the Lean transformation efforts company wide. The project also created excitement and support for Lean Manufacturing among employees. The overall process should prevent resistance to change coming simply from not understanding Lean objectives, as well as create an enhanced understanding of value added vs. non-value added activities within every department.

- Achieved a 50 percent improvement in fastener inventory levels, which resulted in savings of \$150,000.
- The on-line fastener inventory process was studied, re-designed, de-bugged, documented, and implemented. This was done in conjunction with Fastenal supplier.
- Approximately 20 McLanahan team members received training in lean production principles and achieved a better understanding how to remove waste from their work.

Cost Savings/Avoided: \$150,000

TESTIMONIAL

Rob McGee
Director of Manufacturing

“Our long-term goal is to create a workplace where all employees are always performing their work with an eye for improvement. This goal can be accomplished not by spending large sums on automation, computers, or new technology, but rather by the daily efforts and common-sense ideas of people closest to the problems. With the assistance of IMC and expert guidance from C E Clough Company, we hope to achieve major breakthroughs in cost, quality, productivity and lead time.”