

Manufacturing Awareness Limited Case Study – Lead Time Analysis

Client Housewares Manufacturer (NW)

Problem Components pass from the packing area to the warehouse. From leaving packing to finally being placed on a shelf in the warehouse could take in excess of three hours

Strategy Using a multi-disciplinary team a process map was drawn showing the existing process. Average times were added. Distances travelled by fork-lift trucks and personnel were recorded.

Following a brainstorming session, a number of improvements were identified. These were then discussed in detail and those that were most beneficial were implemented.

Timing The full exercise including analysis and discussion took place within one day. The changes were implemented over the following two weeks/

Results The overall time to place a pallet in the warehouse was reduced from 238 minutes to 36.5 minutes.

Waste was reduced from 225 minutes to 32 minutes

Added values was reduced from 13 to 4.5 minutes

The number of people involved in the process was reduced from 5 to 2. (One person subsequently left the organisation and was not replaced).

The number of steps in the process were reduced from 16 to 11

The walking distance per day was reduced from 8450 m to zero whilst the fork lift truck distance remained the same.

Financials Stock accuracy was improved and manual systems were eliminated. A direct headcount reduction of one person was achieved.

