

Production process flow optimisation at Euro-Plastifoam (Pty) Ltd

by

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Executive Summary

Euro-Plastifoam is one of the companies working on the T6 Project for the 2011 model Ford Ranger truck. The company was chosen to be the national supplier of over fifty different plastic injection moulded trim components for the Ford Ranger, including components for the instrument panel, turret console and door panel. The projected demand is about five hundred of each component daily, resulting in the normal daily production demand of the injection moulding facility being tripled.

To facilitate such a large increase in total production, it is of utmost importance to ensure all waste in the production system is eliminated, and the production process flow is improved to an optimum level.

Various methods, tools and techniques will be identified and applied in order to improve, and ultimately optimise, the production process flow at Euro-Plastifoam. Work measurement will be performed, followed by value stream analysis as well as the application of problem identification methods. This again, will be followed by layout analysis and improvement. Other proposed solutions include the introduction of a Kanban system, 5S Housekeeping and Single Minute Exchange of Dies (SMED).

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