



South Bend Mayor's Pathways Workforce Development Program Trains Residents and Leans up Companies

GOAL:

South Bend Residents receive training to upskill and enhance their career path, and use those new skills to complete continuous improvement projects that result in dollarized impact for local companies.

SOLUTION:

Team Member Lean Certificate Training and Lean Practitioner Implementation Certification.

TRAINING PROVIDED:

Team Member Training: Principles of Lean Training, 5S/Visual Workplace, Problem Solving using A3 and Root Cause Analysis.

Practitioner Training: Value Stream Mapping, Quick Changeover using SMED Methodology, Total Productive Maintenance, Kaizen Facilitation, Project Management, Project Impact (Financials), Lean Practitioners exam, Coaching/Project Review, and Project Presentation/Sharing.

PROJECTS:

Elkhart Plastics – Improve product flow of DEF tanks; rotational molding process flow improvement

General Stamping & Metalworks – Reduce stamping machine set-up time

Hoosier Molded Products – Improve changeover times in production cell

JMS Engineered Plastics – Improve workflow from molding to assembly operations; improve changeover times

SPI Industries – Improve injection molding machine changeover times

OUTCOMES:

Core Lean training and implementation coaching to ensure a completed company-based continuous improvement project. Attendees also receive portable skills and Purdue certificates.

METRICS COLLECTED:

Cost savings (labor, materials, overhead, etc.), increase/retention of employees, increase/retention of sales, investment in new products/process, plant/equipment, information systems, workforce practices, and avoidance of unnecessary investments.

TRAINING PROVIDER:

Purdue Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) provides high-value solutions to help Indiana businesses maximize their success. As advocates for Indiana's thousands of manufacturers, our staff identifies areas of improvement, streamlines processes, and ultimately increases competitiveness. Purdue MEP serves over 500 companies annually by implementing continuous improvement principles in the areas of productivity, growth, and technology.

PRESS CONTACTS:

Purdue - Ranae Stewart, 317.275.6824 or ranaestewart@purdue.edu

The companies below participated with a total of 46 employees trained.

Team Members:

- Bamar Plastics
- Elkhart Plastics
- General Stamping & Metalworks
- Hoosier Molded Products
- JMS Engineered Plastics
- PSI Molded Plastics
- SPI Industries

Practitioners:

- Elkhart Plastics
- General Stamping & Metalworks
- Hoosier Molded Products
- JMS Engineered Plastics
- SPI Industries

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