

Lean Transformation Leads to \$1.6M in Increased Sales for Peerless Injection Molding LLC (dba ProPlas Technologies)

Located in Garden Grove, CA, Peerless Injection Molding LLC (dba ProPlas Technologies) is an innovative custom injection molding organization which employs 84 workers. The company offers full-service mold making capabilities from product design and prototyping, to production tooling, plus assembled and packaged products. ProPlas Technologies serves the healthcare, aerospace and defense, electronics, industrial, and commercial industries.



ProPlas Technologies relocated in July 2014 in order to be closer to their customer base, and to also move from a leased space to one that they would own. Unfortunately, because of the move, the company suffered from a significant loss of skilled workers which lead to inefficiencies, production errors, and rising scrap rates. The rising costs of production challenges were putting sales and jobs at risk, which also affected employee morale.

ProPlas was eager to resolve their problems and contacted CMTC to help them improve their Lean capabilities. A kick-off meeting was held to help diagnose the main challenges and a foundation for continuous improvement was set.

Meetings were held on a weekly basis over the course of a couple of months to train employees on the fundamentals of Lean methodologies.

During the training and coaching sessions, experts worked with ProPlas Technologies to establish more standardized processes on the production floor and focus on implementing process improvements. 5S training laid the groundwork for the improvement initiatives while coaching employees on how to prioritize safety practices and maintain those practices. Flow charting exercises were cited as being particularly helpful, as they formally outlined and visually conveyed procedures for new employees.

A great deal of training was focused on fostering communication between employees. Root cause analysis training helped leadership identify the main cause of problems and empowered leaders to work together and resolve conflicts. Formal communication meetings were also established to help bring team leaders together and rectify outstanding problems. Training concluded at the end of June 2015.



As a result of the improvements, ProPlas Technologies was able to successfully train their employees to embrace and implement Lean principles and reduce scrap rates and inefficiencies. The reduction of mistakes and scrap led to an estimated \$200,000 in cost savings, \$1.2 million in retained sales, and saved 20 at-risk positions. Leadership also recognized an improvement in the company culture. Because the organization standardized processes and operated more efficiently, the company was able to become more productive and manage more demand. ProPlas Technologies has been able to earn \$1.6 million in new sales as a result of growth, and 22 more employees needed to be hired to accommodate the increase in demand.

“Our organization was able to recognize \$1.6 million in increased sales, \$200,000 in cost savings, and 42 jobs created or retained through CMTC’s Lean Skills Consulting and Training.”

- Scott Taylor,
President of ProPlas Technologies



FEATURED CUSTOMER

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