

PROJECT BRIEFING

IMPROVEMENT TO HANDLING OF PAINTED PARTS



Tobyhanna Army Depot is the largest full-service electronics maintenance facility in the Department of Defense. The depot's mission is total sustainment, including design, manufacture, repair and overhaul of hundreds of electronic systems.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

To improve the handling and movement of parts through the paint department.





PROJECT SUMMARY

Through time studies and observations of the paint department, the ESPI team found that the system Tobyhanna was using for painting and drying resulted in under-utilization of the paint booths and multiple handling of parts. The team proposed improvements on different required painting methods and developed standard time values.

Additionally, the team examined processing times to determine how these times, coupled with their current system, affected the flow of materials through the department. Ultimately, the ESPI team recommended new equipment for selected parts and painting applications.

ESPI also evaluated Tobyhanna's data relative to how parts that differ in size, shape and type are handled. The team developed a new conveyor painting system for medium sized parts, as well as handling improvements for small, large, and medium sized parts that streamlined those variations processed off line of the proposed system. Recommendations were also proposed to improve the storage and handling of parts.

RESULTS

-  Designed and recommended a new conveyor system for priming and top coating medium sized parts that would save over \$100,000 annually.
-  Provided Tobyhanna with an updated paint shop layout.
-  Developed a categorization system for part types and sizes.
-  Identified and implemented short-term improvement opportunities.

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