

PROJECT BRIEFING

DEVELOPMENT OF MECHANIC ACTIVITY LOG



Transcontinental Direct USA is a direct marketing and printing company with facilities located throughout the U.S. They deliver services to a variety of industries using a single-point-of-contact, multiple-facility model to leverage innovative technology and production solutions to their clients' best advantage.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

To establish a reporting tool to track mechanic daily activities and assist in improvement efforts.

PROJECT SUMMARY




This initiative grew out of the lean manufacturing project that was undertaken at Transcontinental. One of the obstacles confronting Transcontinental was the underutilization of their mechanic staff. In order to begin to more effectively use their mechanics, Transcontinental needed to track the history and profile of mechanic, machine, and operator activities and better understand where time was being spent.

Since no data existed, ESPI conducted studies and evaluations of mechanic activities and developed a checklist of mechanic activities that could be entered into an electronic format. From this, ESPI developed an Access-based database and reporting tool to capture all equipment and associated activities in each operational department of the Hamburg facility.

For each operation type, the ESPI and Transcontinental team established reason codes and the primary area of non-runtime calls. They then established the hierarchy of these codes and activities to define setup activities, offline repairs, preventive maintenance and online repairs that would take place during a shift.

This tool complements Transcontinental's ERP system, for which there was no module available that has the functionality of the mechanic activity log. The ESPI team built in flexibility to adapt the tool to operational changes and order requirements without disrupting the integrity of data collected. As a result, Transcontinental can now report on individual activities by a variety of different filtering methods based on the information they need to make improvement decisions.

RESULTS

-  Created central database for information on mechanical activities.
-  Created a tracking and reporting tool to enable Transcontinental to track mechanical performance, take corrective actions, and make intelligent decisions.
-  Adapted tool to serve multiple Transcontinental facilities.

