## **Case Study**

# Process Optimization Through Six Sigma Methodology

#### **Initial Situation:**

- The client was experiencing a high incidence of cosmetic defects on one of their products.
- These defects originated during the plastic injection molding process performed on a vertical injection machine





#### **Activities performed:**

- The client participated in Six Sigma training with EFFECTIVE FLUX and, in parallel, worked on the project between training modules
- The consultant monitored and provided support throughout the project implementation over a six-month period

#### **Project Implementation:**

- The improvement project was carried out following the Six Sigma DMAIC methodology.
- Define > Measure > Analyze > Improve > Control
- To ensure fast and accurate data processing, the MINITAB software was used

## Case Study Define

#### **Define:**

- Design the project charter.
- Define the project objective: Decrease the reject rate from 21% to 13%
- Estimate the savings: 18000 Euro / year

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#### Measure:

- In this phase, the process was described and the areas where the root causes would be investigated were identified.
- Potential causes were identified using the IPO diagram and the Prioritization Matrix
- The 7 most significant factors were selected out of the 44 initially identified
- The accuracy of defect inspection was verified using MSA, and actions were taken to improve it

# Case Study Measure

#### **Measure:**

- We defined the data collection plan.
- Each variable was described in detail, including how, where, by whom, and with what it would be collected.

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#### **Measure:**

- To prevent measurement errors, the accuracy of defect inspection was verified using MSA.
- It was found that improvements to the measurement system were necessary, and corrective actions were taken
- The measurement system accuracy was reevaluated and found to be capable

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• We collect data.

## Case Study Analize

#### **Graphical analysis:**

- Based on the collected data, graphical analyses were performed.
- Graphical tools such as Pareto charts, Box Plots, and Histograms provided stronger insights into the potential causes.





#### **Analytical analysis:**

- Analytical analysis was performed using Hypothesis Testing techniques.
- Tools used: Normality Test, ANOVA, Mood's Median Test.
- Only two factors were proven to be actual causes (with a statistically significant impact on the defect rate): the machine and the supplier.

Mood median test for procent defecte Chi-Square = 5,73  $\hat{D}F = 1$ P = 0,017MAT. Individual 95,0% CIs GENERAL N<= N >Median Q3-Q1 ---+----65 0,206 0,177 ET ET BASF 59 (----\*-----) [-+---] в \_\_\_\_+\_ 0,120 0,160 0,200 0,240 Overall median = 0,189 A 95,0% CI for median(ET) - median(ET BASF): (0,057;0,114)

### **Case Study**

#### Improvement

#### **Implemented measures:**

- For the machine: the injection rod length was adjusted.
- For the suppliers: the supplier was changed.
- Other measures: periodic checks of the humidifier and periodic verification of the inspection accuracy







# Verification of the impact of the measures:

- Using the control chart, it was observed that after implementation, the average defect rate decreased from 21% to 8%.
- Hypothesis testing tools were used to demonstrate whether the improvement was statistically significant.
- It was thus proven that, after the final implemented measures, the improvement is statistically significant
- Recalculated annual savings: €32,500

Mood Median Test: procent defecte versus Stadiu proiect

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## **Case Study** Control. Project closure

#### Measures to Sustain Improvements:

- Updating instructions/procedures for determining the nozzle size and selecting the material supplier.
- Modifying the procedure for inspector evaluation.

#### **Deployment:**

- The deployment of the measures to other processes was evaluated.
- It was decided to implement the same measures in a similar process at another plant within the group.

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#### **Project closure:**

- Documented with a Sign-Off Sheet.
- This document includes the objective defect rate, initial state (21%), target (13%), and achieved value (8%).
- It was approved by the hierarchical manager, the financial representative, and the General Manager