

Case Study

Strategic Business Development & Support Ltd helped Derbyshire company to improve its manufacturing processes through Lean implementation.

Derbyshire based railway supply chain company Compin UK, contacted Adrian Martin for help with improving efficiency, work ethics and introducing continuous improvement.



How we helped: After reviewing the production operation and agreeing key objectives, Adrian Martin, piloted a number

“The experience of using Adrian has been a very positive one and is proving excellent value for money, given that the project was able to provide a 50% subsidy through MAS. We asked our Adrian to tackle a number of particular problem areas to demonstrate what impact specific lean tools could have on the business so that we could take these on board and apply them going forward. “Our workforce is clearly more motivated as a result of project – they can see things actually changing for the better and they know that we’re serious about continuing to implement improvements. There’s now a very definite air of optimism in the factory that was not apparent on day one. I’ve been really impressed with how practical all the advice has been and how so much hands-on training into such a short space of time.”

Tony Withers, General Manager, Compin UK Ltd

of business improvement techniques involving and educating both management and shop floor workers. These ranged from:

- Re-organising certain shop floor areas to streamline processes and eliminate waste materials
- Opening up channels of communication and involving the shop floor much more in ideas and decision making
- Mapping the flow of materials and information used to bring a product to the customer and identifying areas for improvement
- Implementing techniques for achieving quality improvements
- Training employees on reducing machine set-up times
- Identifying key performance indicators (KPIs) to systematically measure changes in performance

Benefit to business: Key areas of improvement already identified include:

- Improved productivity
- Team leaders are managing the shop floor much more effectively due to improved awareness of improvement techniques and better communication
- More efficient layout of machinery achieved without the need for any structural changes to the premises – set up times on one machine where there was a major bottleneck, for example, are down 30%
- Processing time on another area of production is down by 35%
- Improved workforce morale