



Magnys Helps Rapidly-Growing Company Optimize Manufacturing Efficiency

A manufacturer of high pressure pumps and energy recovery devices recently contacted Magnys Innovative Solutions to help them strengthen its manufacturing and assembly operations.

Magnys is a full-service manufacturing engineering firm providing customers with an unmatched combination of engineering expertise, project management experience and software innovation to help companies improve manufacturing efficiency and increase profitability. Magnys professionals have been recognized as results-focused industry leaders since 1980, and add value with complete design, engineering, project management, assembly and delivery services.

Our customer was experiencing strong demand for its products, and rather than put its market-leadership position at risk because of backorder problems, management decided to bring in outside expertise. While its products are highly specialized, the manufacturing and assembly challenges this company faced are common to all high-growth companies.

Magnys professionals are experts at helping companies in these circumstances develop manufacturing and assembly processes that allow them to optimize the efficiency of their existing operations. We have learned that too often, rapid growth forces companies to make important decisions regarding manufacturing and assembly processes “on the fly” to resolve an immediate problem. These short time frames prevent them from being able to sit back and considering the long-term impact the decision will have on operational efficiency. This results in a lack of documented manufacturing and assembly processes that allow companies to scale up for increased production, whether the increase is sustained or a temporary spike.

This situation is particularly common with companies that focus their time and resources on research and product development at the expense of actually getting their product out the door, and this is what our engineering team saw at this company’s facility.

Our initial priority was to identify the bottlenecks within manufacturing and assembly that could threaten our customer's ability to ship product in a timely manner. We then turned our attention to outlining recommendations to eliminate the bottlenecks and develop new processes as a path forward.

We began by documenting all operator activities at every manufacturing and assembly workstation. We quickly realized that while operators were serious about the quality of their work, they perceived what they did as distinct job functions, with little consideration of how their workstation integrated with a broader manufacturing and assembly process.

The result of this was the development of a series of bottlenecks throughout the facility as work flowed in and out of a series of disjointed individual workstations. As is the case in many facilities, operations management spent an inordinate amount of time troubleshooting individual problems and did not have the opportunity to step back and resolve system-wide challenges.

Once Magnys engineers understood where our customer's bottlenecks were located and identified a number of other operational inefficiencies, we developed specific and simple action items on how to resolve these issues. Our recommendations covered a wide range of actions, from standardizing operator actions within individual work stations and documenting processes, to developing sub-assembly suggestions, alternative facility layouts and purchasing off-the-shelf and custom tooling.

Our customer is now using our report to implement corrective actions that will optimize its manufacturing and assembly operations.

To learn more about how Magnys can help your company, please contact Mark Masters at mmasters@magnys.com.