



....Value stream mapping....Process chains....Increase of productivity....Investment....

Problem A First-Tier-Supplier produces car components with manual and automatic production units. The key process of the production is a injection molding process.

The terms of investment for a expansion of the production capacity have to be analyzed. Suggestions for improvement of machine and process for continuously available production units and reliable and efficient process operations.

The main criteria for the assessment were:

- product quality,
- process reliability and
- efficiency.

Project description and result First step of the project was the analysis of strengths and weaknesses of the production units and a design review with the supplier. The target of this analysis was to find possibilities for an optimization of the production process.

The main focus of the analysis was to increase the reliability of injection molding process. Therefore a detailed description of the process functions set-up operations and tests was made. This led to suggestions for tremendous improvements.

Second step of the project was the development of an investment strategy taking into account the already existing production units and new production units.

The result of the project led to an increase of productivity on the existing production units of about 30 %. The new machines were optimised and the ramp up for the production start led to a availability of 95 % after 3 month after installation.

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