

Increasing Productivity through Lean Manufacturing Principles and Tools: A Successful Rail Welding Plant Case

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Abstract : In order to satisfy the customer's needs, many sectors of industry and services have been spending major effort to make its processes more efficient. Facing a situation, when its production cannot cover the demand, the traditional way to achieve the production required involves, mostly, adding shifts, workforce, or even more machines. This paper narrates how lean manufacturing supported a dramatic increase of productivity at a rail welding plant in Brazil in order to meet the demand for the next years.

Keywords : productivity, lean manufacturing, rail welding, value stream mapping

Conference Title : ICEDI 2016 : International Conference on Engineering, Design and Innovation

Conference Location : Paris, France

Conference Dates : August 22-23, 2016