

OOE Success Story

Continuous Improvement and Energy Efficiency at Electronics Manufacturer

Customer:	Syncro Corporation
Problem / Challenge:	Syncro has a brake controller production area, along with warehouse inventory, office space, and shipping and receiving areas. The production area was experiencing a growth in inventory and excessive material handling. There was also a desire to reduce the energy consumption throughout the facility.
Proposed Solution:	Syncro utilized the assistance of UAH to work with a team of Syncro personnel to identify and implement improvements that result in throughput and energy savings increases.
Outcomes:	
<i>Kaizen Event</i>	A cross-functional team of Syncro personnel was trained in the principles of lean enterprise and practical energy. The team then observed the current brake controller operation and identified opportunities for improvement. Ideas were tested and changes were made that improved flow and reduced the labor required per part. Furthermore, the production operations were rearranged and standardized to use less floor space, less work-in-process inventory and generate more throughput.
<i>Energy Efficiency</i>	UAH identified other energy saving opportunities. Lighting upgrades to more energy-efficient fixtures along with repairs were quantified, as well as locating and quantifying energy lost through air leaks throughout the facility.
<i>Impact</i>	The UAH team successfully facilitated the improvement event, resulting in labor savings of 22%, floor space reduction of 44% and part travel distance reduction of 69% in the brake controller area. Furthermore, potential recurring energy savings of \$15,000/year by upgrading lighting and repairing air leaks were identified.



"The results were amazing! We've conducted several events in this area and we're still seeing improvements."

- Ken Vest, Plant Manager

UAH's Office for Operational Excellence

For more information

Please visit our web-site at www.uah.edu/ooe or call 256-824.4284