

Hillyard Industries Completes Value Stream Mapping Project

Hillyard Industries, a leading national manufacturer and distributor of cleaning and maintenance supplies and equipment, recently completed an extensive Value Stream Mapping project at its St. Joseph facility, according to Company President Jim Carolus.

In addition to a wide range of products and equipment, the company offers customers many value added services including regular follow-up, inventory control

and equipment repair, product selection/consulting, training, cost analysis programs and a network of distribution centers for quick delivery.

Carolus said "the project aligns with the company's value proposition of understanding our customers' changing needs, delivering effective solutions, and continuously supporting our customers with the right services and products."

The company, founded nearly 100 years ago by Newton S. Hillyard, is particularly known for its expertise and innovative coating, cleaning and maintenance products for wooden gymnasium floors.

Over the years, the company's contribution to the sport of basketball has earned it honors at the national Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, MA, with a permanent display featuring the company.

The Hillyard project was a combination of training for management and key employees and a real life application of Value Stream Mapping, a "Lean Enterprise" continuous improvement tool.

Using Value Stream Mapping is enabling the company to create a graphical representation of the value added and non value added actions in its current operation and

a future state map to use as a guide to improving the company's processes.

Value Stream Mapping shows the flow of both material and information from raw materials through delivery of the final product to the customer.

Missouri Enterprise Project Managers Steve Andriano, Mark Kelchner and Kendall Cobb assisted Hillyard Industries during the project.

St. Louis Company Uses Value Stream Mapping



Missouri Enterprise Project Manager Dave Goebel (standing) and staff members at Document Image System Corporation create a current state Value Stream Map. The company services healthcare, government, educational and manufacturing customers with innovative document control and record keeping solutions.

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ISO Registration To Help Poplar Bluff Company Grow

"ISO registration is a major step in maintaining our business position and product quality in support of our customers," says American Tool and Plastics Company Co-Owner Stacy Atkinson. "It will also enable us to enter new markets where registration is a prerequisite for consideration," he said.

American Tool and Plastics Company, a Poplar Bluff manufacturer of machined and fabricated parts and injection molded plastic products recently passed its ISO 9001:2000 registration audit, according to Atkinson.

The company does general tooling, plastic injection molding, mold building and mold repair for customers in the automotive, aerospace and consumer

products industries.

ISO 9001:2000 registration shows that the company has achieved standards of quality that are recognized and respected throughout the world.

To earn ISO registration, the company had to meet comprehensive quality management system requirements and pass a rigorous audit by an independent, third part registrar.

Atkinson said the company is committed to meeting and exceeding all customer requirements and expectations and to continually improving quality management.

"We serve a broad range of customers in many sectors and our products are of critical importance to them,"

Atkinson said, "so our quality standards have to be very high."

Atkinson praised company employees for their efforts, saying, "We are proud of this achievement and the way our staff performed during the preparation and the audit."

During the registration process, Missouri Enterprise Project Manager Dewayne Whitener provided American Tool and Plastics Company with training, documentation preparation and implementation assistance, auditing and on-site support.

"He also helped us understand the registration process, so we were able to avoid false starts, unnecessary work and delays," Atkinson said.

Hammons Products Seeks New Cleaning Methods And Equipment

Ralph Hammons, owner of a small rural grocery store, founded Hammons Products in Stockton in 1946. Since then, two more generations of the Hammons family have led Hammons Products to its current position as the nation's largest processor of American Black Walnuts for both food and industrial uses.

Last year, the company processed more than 30 million pounds of American Black Walnuts harvested in some 13 states.



These nuts come to Hammons Products from the harvesters often with husk material packed in the grooves of the shells and they go through several processing steps including cleaning.

Hammons Products has asked Missouri Enterprise to work with company engineers to evaluate nut cleaning methods and equipment, along with cleaning modifications for nut hulling machines.

By finding innovative ways to remove the husk material, the company can improve nut quality and yield, while reducing processing time and spoilage.

Together Missouri Enterprise and the Hammons staff will evaluate cleaning systems for cleaning capability and capacity, economic impact, quality and environmental issues. They will also explore other ideas for improving the hulling and cleaning systems.

According to Company President Brian Hammons "This project is part of our company's ongoing effort to lead and grow the Black Walnut industry and improve the efficiency of our plant operations. Even though we've been in the Black Walnut business for 60 years,

we still must look for ways to improve if we want to be a great company in the years to come."

The evaluation is planned for completion late in 2006, after the fall nut harvest.

Steve Andriano, Missouri Enterprise Project Manager

Steve has more than 15 years "hands-on" manufacturing experience. Prior to joining Missouri Enterprise, Steve worked at Nordyne, Frigidaire, Donaldson and The Kegel Company.



At Missouri Enterprise, Steve has helped companies implement "Lean Enterprise" process improvements and has guided clients to quality management system registration.

Steve holds a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering from the University of Missouri - Columbia and numerous certifications from ASQ and APICS. He is an ASQ certified Six Sigma Black Belt.