



NEWS RELEASE
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ST. JOSEPH PLASTICS LAUNCHES MANUFACTURING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

St. Joseph, Missouri, May 5, 2005 – St. Joseph Plastics has launched a 5S manufacturing improvement project at the company’s plant as part of its ongoing continuous improvement effort. The company selected Missouri Enterprise Business Assistance Center to provide training and assist in implementation.

St. Joseph Plastics is a 15-year old company that buys and sells industrial plastic scrap.

5S is a method of perpetuating an organized, clean and efficient workplace that reduces waste and non-value added activity while improving quality, efficiency and safety. 5S is a critical building block in an organization’s continuous improvement efforts. The five S’s are sort, set in order, shine, standardize and sustain.

“Implementation of the 5S system is expected to result in a more efficient and safe workplace for all employees,” according to company officials.

Missouri Enterprise is a not-for-profit corporation that provides business and technical assistance to help Missouri companies succeed. It manages the Manufacturing Extension Partnership in Missouri, an Advanced Manufacturing Specialist Training Program (funded by a U.S. Department of Labor grant) a value added agriculture program and one of the state’s Innovation Centers.