

Plant Modernization: Navigating Challenges & Overcoming Obstacles

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Abstract

Change is critical for any foundry to compete, thrive and keep up with the times. The only way to experience success in the midst of change is by employers and employees coming together in order to communicate and achieve one common Goal.

The presentation will describe:

1. Leadership and support – Vision of the business and customer confidence.
2. Planning - If the foundry is, starting from an empty lot the preparation and planning are critical. It is very important that the architect/contractor and management review the plans in depth in order to guarantee a successful project. Modernizing an existing foundry needs that same critical preparation and planning. This will allow for production and customer schedules to be maintained.
3. Types of improvement in process
4. Employee Involvement – Is the key for proper implementation and success of the project.
5. Foundry culture- Multiple improvements over several years helps to create a culture of success. This helps make the task easier for the employee and allows them to produce more with less stress and effort.
6. Building support by employees and management- The benefits are numerous when it comes to positive changes. Support from the employees and management together will help achieve success and growth opportunities for the entire company. Make change work for you.

Plant Modernization: Navigating Challenges and Overcoming Obstacles

By: Vince Gimeno

General Manager,



Introduction

Change is critical in order for a foundry to compete, thrive and keep up with the times. The only way to experience success in the midst of change is by employers and employees coming together in order to communicate and achieve one common goal.

Topics of Discussion

- Leadership and support
- Planning
 - A. Starting from scratch
 - B. Modernizing existing foundry
- Types of Improvement In Process
- Employee involvement
- Foundry culture
- Building support by employees and management

Leadership and Support

Vision of the business and customer confidence are key in overcoming the challenges and obstacles that might arise. Commitment from the top down, supporting the transformation.

Planning

If the foundry is starting from an empty lot the preparation and planning are critical. It is very important that the architect/contractor and management review the plans in depth in order to guarantee a successful project.

Planning

Modernizing an existing foundry needs that same critical preparation and planning. This will allow for production and customer schedules to be maintained.

Types of Improvement In process

- Wax Injection Equipment
 - a) Automation
 - b) Assembly Standardization
- Shell Room
 - a) Material Handling
 - b) Robotics
- Dewax/Foundry
 - a) Mold Handling
 - b) Metal Handling

Types of Improvement In process

- Shell Removal
 - a) Equipment Available
 - b) Design and Build Equipment
- Post Cast Operations
 - a) Heat Treat
 - b) Straightening
 - c) FPI
 - d) Radiography
 - e) Metrology Inspection
 - f) Part Marking
- Ship Best Commercial Way

Employee Involvement

Employee involvement is key for the proper implementation and overall success of the project.

Foundry Culture

Multiple improvements over several years helps to create a culture of success. This helps make the task easier for the employee and allows them to produce more with less stress and effort.

Building Support by Employees and Management

The benefits are numerous when it comes to positive changes. Support from the employees and management together will help achieve success and growth opportunities for the entire company. Make change work for you.