TotalControlPro™

Energise

Case Study

Mowdens Control

An AS9100 & ATEX approved electronics manufacturer with over 50 years' experience specialising in harsh environment electronics assembly in North Yorkshire, focused on higher criticality (IPC610 Levels 2 to 3) and low to medium PCBA quantities.

"TotalControlPro™ enables us to review, optimise and reward performance and compare actual costs against predicted costs for each job..."

Daniel Laverick,
- Production Manager

Keys to success

- Ensure accurate costing to remain competitive in an increasingly lean-priced market
- Being responsive in relation to customers lead times, by supporting their demands for shorter turnarounds and increased flexibility
- Industrial Analytics to optimise and reward productivity
- Accurately compare actual with predicted costs
- Able to expand to new highly regulated markets due to audit and traceability.

The Business Need

To respond to an increasing lean-priced market and to meet our customers' demands for shorter turnarounds and increased flexibility. Additionally, growth plans were dependent on being able to improve production times and job costing, particularly on repeat jobs, with a need for real time feedback and trends spotting.

- Accurately track products on the shop floor.
- Review and reward operator performance.
- Compare actual vs predicted costs.
- To assess impact on production times of production jigs & job configurations changes.

The Solution Provided

The essential needs of Mowden Controls were encompassed by the TotalControlPro™ production system, giving them the opportunity to record and track products and work stages by all staff – even those not computer literate. Digitising the worksheet process provided an efficient, flexible notice and feedback system which retrieves documentation from a centralised system.

- Recording processing times by digitising messy, paper based systems and the prior time intensive manual tracking processes.
- Industrial Analytics review and report on operator output and performance.
- Job reporting accurately compares actual with predicted costs.

The Impact and Results

TotalControlPro™ as assisted Mowden Controls in ensuring accurate costings and to remain competitive. They have full visibility of products at each stage of assembly, from batching through to shipping, with the ability to review operator performance and compare actual costs against predicted costs for each job. TotalControlPro™ provides needed real time feedback and valuable data on the consequences of, for example, altering production jig, cost effects of pre-forming parts for larger jobs or moving a production process. The team's performance on a job can easily be recognised, reviewed and rewarded and the possibility of an outdated document remaining in circulation after an update has been eliminated.

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As a bespoke subcontractor, we have hundreds of products and keeping an accurate record of process times was becoming an increasingly messy and demanding manual task. We reached out to TotalControlPro™ as a way to accurately track production on the workshop floor – enabling us to review both operator performance and compare actual costs against predicted for each job.

We worked with TotalControlPro™ to record stages, work status and enable electronic diagrams to be shown to operators. This removed the requirement for operators to manually retrieve documentation and instantly eliminated the possibility of an outdated document remaining in circulation. Operators now welcome TotalControlPro™ - even those not computer literate - as the amount of work required to begin a new job is reduced, and their performance on a job can easily be recognised, reviewed and rewarded instead of relying on 'being noticed' for feedback.

With all job stages being recorded and stored, this has allowed us to ensure accurate costings and remain competitive in an increasingly lean-priced market. Something all customers can appreciate! It has also positively impacted our ability to be as responsive as possible where customer lead times are concerned and means we can support and meet our customers' demands for shorter turnarounds and increased flexibility.

TotalControlPro™ is supporting further growth plans by improving production times and job costing, particularly on repeat jobs, with real time Industrial Analytics feedback for trend spotting. This allows for easier testing and response analysis of assembly methods; production jig formats, options for pre-forming parts and process configurations. TotalControlPro™ has the ability to answer all of these with real-time feedback of valuable data.

What is evident is a real sense of partnership, so what is next?

"Focusing on the future, we are looking at supporting and providing visibility through the supply chain as a whole - client delivery and supply chain transparency has the opportunity to impact on business efficiencies, and cloud technology is a perfect platform to offer this industry wide. In the case of Mowden Control and its operation system, engaging with TotalControlPro™ has achieved a general improvement in terms of tracking products, comparing and reducing costs and creating intelligent analysis on all-round performances."

As more business seek to implement Industry 4.0 technology in their manufacturing what was your biggest barrier to adoption?

Elements of our production are necessarily people based, TotalControlPro™ has achieved a major increase in operators' engagement and this is developing to employing touchscreen systems as well as handheld scanners, maximising efficient operations in Mowden Control's daily activity.

Get IN CONTROL with us

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TotalControlPro™

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