Windows XP line system replaced by an MES: an estimated +30% performance

An abrasives manufacturer · Abrasives

An abrasives manufacturer replaced an unsupported Windows XP OEM application on high-speed lines with an Ignition MES that unifies ERP orders, machine data and item specs, with an estimated +30% performance and +10% quality gain.

+30%
estimated machine performance

+10%
estimated quality improvement

1 FTE
saved per factory

THE PROBLEM

Critical high-frequency lines, producing 4 pieces every 5 seconds, ran on an obsolete, unsupported Windows XP-based OEM application. That was a serious operational and security risk, and a like-for-like replacement would not be enough. The plant needed a modern MES built from the ground up. It had to bring ERP production orders, real-time machine telemetry and detailed product specifications, down to the exact logo printed on each item, into one operator interface, and add live performance analytics and SPC for quality.

HOW WE DID IT

Plantformance built a unified, end-to-end MES on Ignition Vision. From one screen, operators select production orders pushed automatically from the ERP, check item-level details down to the product logo, and start high-frequency monitoring that tracks every count in real time. During the run they log waste on screen with categorized defect codes and photo capture. Built-in SPC screens watch critical quality KPIs such as product weight. When a run closes, the application reconciles and sends production counters, defect codes and operator hours back to the ERP automatically.

BEFORE

Data was split across disconnected systems, operators had no unified interface, downtime was logged on paper in 15-minute intervals, and there was no integrated performance analytics or SPC.

AFTER

The Windows XP application is retired, the ERP is updated in real time with productivity, waste and consumption data, and OEE and downtime events are tracked centrally with live floor visibility.

RESULTS

- Estimated +30% machine performance from automated downtime tracking and Pareto analysis
- Estimated +10% quality improvement from real-time monitoring and integrated SPC
- 1 full-time equivalent (FTE) saved per factory by automating data transmission to the ERP
- Unsupported Windows XP system fully retired from production tracking

Plantformance products and services: Professional Services

PLANT FORMANCE

NEXT STEP

Planning a project like this?

Talk to an Ignition engineer about your sites, timeline and architecture. We will tell you honestly what it takes.

Contact Plantformance

Read this case online and see more Ignition projects: plantformance.com/case-studies/windows-xp-line-system-to-mes · all case studies

Plantformance is an Inductive Automation Alliance Partner that helps enterprises deploy, secure, and scale Ignition across sites through plug-and-play modules, turnkey zero-maintenance HMI hardware, and 24/7 managed infrastructure.

plantformance.com
info@plantformance.com
Ennetbaden, Switzerland