

Infineum Increases Production by 2,000 Tons per Year With Global Information Management System

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aspentech Case Study

"Aspen InfoPlus.21" is helping Infineum win the manufacturing excellence challenge."

– Maura Tassistro, Infineum

Increased total global MEI by

CHALLENGE

Improve manufacturing efficiency, capture production loss data and improve performance analysis capabilities.

SOLUTION

Aspen InfoPlus.21 to collect, organize and report data, calculate KPIs, and generate electronic batch sheets

BENEFITS

- Increased manufacturing efficiency index (MEI) by 0.25%
- Increased production by 2,000 tons
 per year
- Increased total global MEI by 10%

Infineum is a world leader in the formulation, manufacturing and marketing of petroleum additives. The company is a joint venture between ExxonMobil and Shell, bringing together their respective additive divisions with 80 years of experience as innovators in the industry. Formed in 1999, the company has worldwide production facilities and sales in more than 70 countries.

Infineum embarked on a global manufacturing excellence program with the objectives of increasing capacity through improved manufacturing efficiency index (MEI) performance, improving data quality through standard processes for data collection and management, and improving the efficiency of tools available for performance analysis.

To achieve their business objectives, Infineum selected Aspen InfoPlus.21 data historian as the key to their manufacturing execution system. Since implementing Aspen InfoPlus.21, Infineum has seen a 0.25 percent increase in their MEI and increased production by 2,000 tons per year.

Challenges to Manufacturing Excellence

The challenges Infineum faced in their drive toward manufacturing excellence were similar to those faced by many manufacturing companies. Lack of common work practices and production performance tools among a global workforce contributed to increased complexity in managing performance. This resulted in missed production-related targets, affecting Infineum's capability to serve customers.

Targeting Project Objectives

Infineum established a global manufacturing excellence program to address these challenges. The goal was to improve unit performance, data quality and personnel efficiency. A key objective to achieving those benefits included establishing electronic batch sheets (EBS) as the basis for an MEI and overall performance index calculations.

Other objectives included enabling site and global data roll-up based on a common data structure for production losses and providing global reporting from the unit. Infineum also sought to improve data quality and analytical capabilities to facilitate efficiency improvements in collecting and manipulating data and evaluating process performance.



Utilizing the System

Infineum selected Aspen InfoPlus.21 to meet their project objectives, using the product to manage the separation of continuous operations into "dummy" batches aligned with operating shifts. The system also captures and reports critical information such as actual and theoretical production, consumptions, operating variables and equipment operating windows.

Data is collected at the end of a shift. The data is validated by the operator, and the EBS is captured for electronic filing and supervisor confirmation so that no further changes are made. An end-of-shift report is generated, capturing operating information such as loss of operated batch, top three reasons for delays, key process variable violations and current batch phases. MEI calculations and other KPI information are also available. In combination, these functions reduce the amount of process workflow variability and provide consistent data handling, a strong foundation for manufacturing excellence.

Improving Manufacturing and Increasing Production

The Aspen InfoPlus.21 solution with EBS has helped establish a consistent workflow process and allows for improved loss data capture. The infrastructure delivers significant improvements in MEI, increases production and serves as a platform for continuous improvement efforts.



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