



OEE software increases packing efficiency

For Gumlink, which produces millions of pieces of chewing gum every year, profitability and competitiveness depend on optimizing its packing machines.

To increase packing productivity, Gumlink has installed Proficy OEE software to measure the efficiency of the chewing gum packing and streamline the packing process. In just a few months, overall equipment efficiency (OEE) has risen 10%, saving Gumlink millions of kroner and resulting in an ROI in less than one year.

OBJECTIVE OVERVIEW

With its many different packing machines, degrees of utilization and stoppage causes for each machine, Gumlink's production management lacked an objective perspective from which to improve operational efficiency. Now, efficiency data is

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Michael Jensen Project Manager,
Gumlink, Denmark

displayed on screens by the packing lines and updated every five minutes to ensure that productivity levels are visible to all employees. Graphs show the employees whether the packing efficiency is on target.

MINIMAL DOWNTIME

Gumlink's packing lines consist of interconnected machines that sort and pack the chewing gum, put it into cartons and then onto pallets.

An inbuilt buffer capacity has been added in the form of a rising over-capacity for each packing step down the line. This limits the effects of a stoppage of one machine and means that packs can be diverted onto a sidetrack until the fault is corrected. The belt can continue running, minimizing downtime and the effect on OEE.

STRONG OPERATIONAL STABILITY

Operational stability requires a high degree of uniformity, both in production and data collection. For this reason, Gumlink uses the thoroughly tested Proficy technology, with sensors that maintain the greatest possible throughput in the packing process. To achieve uniform functionality for machines with different technological profiles, Gumlink has identified common data classes, which are collected and channeled to the Proficy OEE server.



QUICK PROBLEM-SOLVING

Data validity is fundamental to OEE calculations and is secured by sensors that count the number of boxes and cartons passing through the system. Greater validity has also improved the packing quality, as accumulations of irregularities in the number of products packed are prevented. Visible OEE data means Gumlink can identify causes and quickly distinguish between planned and unplanned shutdowns. When a machine shuts down or productivity falls, Proficy automatically sends SMS alarms, which ensures fast problem-solving.

FREELY SCALABLY DATA

Gumlink has fully exploited the advantages of processing data tailored to its own information needs. Apart from savings on licenses, the scalable Proficy data gives Gumlink enormous opportunities for calculations and visualizations, as well as access to data 24/7 regardless of where the operator happens to be. And as Proficy is backward compatible, it can use signals from packing machines that are 20-30 years old but still well-functioning – an important advantage for Gumlink.

EMPLOYEE ACCEPTANCE

Not only does Proficy OEE give Gumlink's production management an extremely precise decision-making basis for increasing production machinery performance, visible OEE data has significantly increased the organization's productivity moni-

toring and given all employees a welcome measure of the effect of their work performance.



Michael Jensen,
Project Manager,
Gumlink.

"In Proficy OEE packing lines, machine performance has risen rapidly by 10%, which has immediately increased efficiency and savings and resulted in an ROI in less than a year."

"The openness and flexibility of the Proficy software makes it easy to scale and tailor data to meet the company's needs, and the visible productivity monitoring has been warmly welcomed throughout the organization."



SUMMARY

COMPANY

Gumlink A/S Denmark

SOLUTIONS

Production Management

- OEE
- Process control
- Increasing production and machinery performance

PRODUCTS

- Proficy Plant Application Efficiency

BENEFITS

- Objective overview
- Minimal downtime
- High operational stability
- Quick problem-solving
- Reliable validity
- Better packing quality
- Operational savings

For more information on our smart solutions, please visit our website www.novotek.com