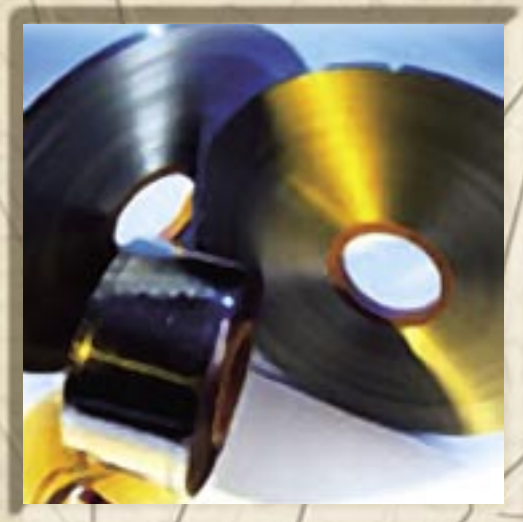
innovation Insights



NRC · CNRC

Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters

Manufacturiers et Exportateurs du Canada

KT Industries

Bottom Line Improvement

$1,000,000

Initiated by: **Standard Aero Event**





Participant

Since 1968, KT Industries provides specialty tapes for the packaging, graphic arts and wire and cable industries and specialized services slitting, spooling and combining services for filtration, medical and packaging industries. With over 50 patents and facilities in Canada and the U.S., including its ISO 9001:2000 certified, printing, laminating, winding and spooling facility in Winnipeg, KT Industries is committed to quality and continuous improvement.

For more information visit ktg.com

Host

Standard Aero is one of the world's largest independent small gas turbine engine and accessory repair and overhaul companies. With operations around the globe, Standard Aero provides a unique mix of management and maintenance, repair and operating equipment services to regional airlines, business aviation, helicopter, government/ military, marine and industrial customers.



Host Standard Aero

Return on Investment

We always believe we have more to learn and do

As a leader in continuous improvement manufacturing, Standard Aero has been hosting Innovation Insights events for a number of years, passing on their expertise and experience in advanced manufacturing to companies across Canada.

As a company that regularly offers their prospective customers the opportunity to visit their facilities to see their quality operation first-hand, they value the opportunity to keep their presentations polished, receive feedback on their operations and contribute to Canadian companies' understanding of continuous improvement. "We're very interested in feedback from tour participants, and while we may be farther along the path of implementing continuous improvement than some companies, we always believe we have more to learn and do," said Ralph Eschenwecker, Divisional Director of Quality Assurance.

"One visitor noticed our parabolic safety mirrors, and identified an infrequently used corner that should also have one. Adding that mirror contributes to our operation, and demonstrates the value a visitor's perspective offers."

Conducting tours of their facilities also motivates Standard Aero employees. Visitors' interest in the work Standard Aero employees do to ensure quality and efficiency is reward for a job well done, and recognition that they work for a manufacturing leader. As Mr. Eschenwecker puts it: "There's nothing like 'company' coming to make sure your shop shines. And our guys value the opportunity to demonstrate what they've achieved. I find acting as an Innovation Insights host regenerates us."



ROI

Participant KT Industries

Return on Investment Bottom Line Improvement

$1,000,000

KT Industries is committed to the lean journey, and has improved its overall efficiency and productivity and their bottom line. KT Industries credits their commitment to lean manufacturing and continuous improvement with a company turnaround. By reducing their inventory by 30% in one year, they converted approximately $1 million to cash, significantly improving the company's indebtedness and competitive position.



ROV

Participant **KT Industries**

Return on Value Bottom Line Improvement

Helping to Build Employee Morale and Customer Loyalty

KT Industries credits participation in a series of Innovation Insights events as an important part of their lean journey. The events help train and motivate staff, and gather new ideas. Perhaps most importantly, KT management and staff saw lean practices and waste elimination at work, not just in theory. Jeff Thomas, Operations Manager likes to explain their inventory reductions and lean thinking to staff this way "It's like using the groceries in your fridge before payday – you don't spend any money, yet you eat well."

Committed to Continuous Improvement

KT Industries' continuous improvement activities include:

- inventory reduction
- kanban practices
- kaizen blitzes
- 5S practices

The long-term value of Innovation Insights events in motivating and retaining employees is seen as an investment in the continued improvement of the company. In addition, KT Industries production savings have enabled them to pass on pricing advantages to key higher-volume customers, and create customer loyalty in a price-sensitive market.



Phillips & Temro Event – October 22, 2003

"This training/visit is a very valuable way to gain and share knowledge in a global market. This is essential for Canadian companies."

***Gordon Jack**, 3M Canada*

CGL Manufacturing Event – May 14, 2003

"This was an excellent exposure to a strong lean manufacturing program right at the plant operating level."

***Harry Foster**, Barber Glass Ind. Inc.*

Standard Aero Event – November 20, 2003

"Was very impressed with the professionalism of all presenters and tour guides alike. Commitment at Standard Aero to lean manufacturing is very obvious throughout."

***Mike Bielert**, Custom Castings Ltd.*

