

Case Study: Guhring



"Before we were introduced to Visual Factories, our goal was to find a way to receive real data about our manufacturing process. We were looking for and found an accurate and real-time method to get insights into the machines on the factory floor."

Gary Field, Production Supervisor Guhring

THE CUSTOMER

Guhring Limited (UK)

CUSTOMER URL

<https://www.guhring.co.uk>

OBJECTIVES

- Guhring wanted to get insights into the most efficient use of their tooling machines to achieve continuous production

SOLUTION USED

- Needed an accurate solution to increase machine efficiency that would comply with their parent company regulations and not interfere with the control unit of the machines. Selected Visual Factories plug and-play solution

RESULTS

- Guhring's machine uptime was increased by 10% monthly

GUHRING

The Tool Company

Our customer

Guhring Limited is a world class manufacturer of precision cutting tools and allied tooling for the engineering and manufacturing industries. Founded in 1973, it was the first subsidiary of the Guhring Group with the capability to manufacture customized tools quickly and offer a regrind/recoating service. With a range of 1620 standard products in over 44,000 sizes, the company aims to provide the ideal tooling solution in the fastest possible time.

The measuring productivity conundrum

Guhring wanted to keep the machines in its factory in Birmingham running around the clock to optimize production. However, it did not have a method in place to measure productivity.

The parent company was developing its own solution to measure productivity running on SAP ERP. Since the UK subsidiary did not use the SAP platform, it had to look for another solution that could collect real-time data from their machines for analysis and optimization.

The parent company was adamant that such a solution would not be able to interfere with the control unit of the machines.

Case Study: Guhring



How Visual Factories helped

Guhring heard about Visual Factories through a distributor that was already using its solution. Within 8 hours, Guhring's maintenance team had connected 10 out of its 16 machines. By using cellular network infrastructure external to the LAN, they were able to comply with the parent company's regulations regarding the control units. The very next day, Guhring's management was able to observe and analyze the factory production process in real-time. The reports and insights generated by Visual Factories showed where and when the machines were idle, enabling Guhring to address these issues. The machines real-time performance presentation encouraged the staff to take immediate actions to ensure continuous production, resulting in immediate and substantial increase to productivity.

Conclusion

Shortly after installation of the Visual Factories solution, the inefficiencies of Guhring's machine production were brought to light. It enabled Guhring to solve the issue of machine idle time by allocating tasks to machine operators and reorganizing staff when machines are down.

As Gary Field, Production Supervisor Guhring concluded: "Thanks to Visual Factories, we were able to identify that our machines were offline during shifts. Our employees welcomed the chance to make improvements to ensure continuous production. Overall, Visual Factories enabled us to increase our machine uptime by approximately 10% per month."

After the initial success, Guhring installed Visual Factories solution on the rest of their machines, and in the future Guhring will install it on their manual machines as well. The company is currently using Visual Factories monthly insights and reports to identify more areas to improve.

ABOUT VISUAL FACTORIES

VF's Digital Performance Monitoring™ platform is the easiest solution for discrete manufacturers, from any industry, to see what's going on in their factory's operations. When you know what's happening at every stop in your production line, you can address challenges immediately! VF's cloud-based solution analyzes the activities of each machine so that everyone – from machine operators to floor managers to top management – can see the specific information that they need to optimize productivity and set and achieve attainable goals.

©2019 Visual Factories. All rights reserved.