

Case Study: FISA



“We wanted a more trustworthy and real-time method to follow up on production in our plant. With the Visual Factories solution, we are now able to identify weak links in our production which allows us to solve problems and increase productivity.”

Elihai Radzinsk, Director FISA Peru

THE CUSTOMER

Fibras Industriales SA

CUSTOMER URL

<http://www.fisa.com.pe/en>

OBJECTIVES

- FISA wanted to identify gaps in its production process to increase and optimize machine uptime

SOLUTION USED

- Cloud-based solution for continuous performance improvement management

RESULTS

- Machine uptime was increased by 12% an hour
- VF already identified issues a few hours after installation
- Substantial cost savings, especially in energy costs



Our customer

Fibras Industriales SA (FISA) is one of the world's largest manufacturers and suppliers of fishing nets. The company offers ropes, twines, floats, fish cages, and lantern systems and also provides fishing operations consultancy, service center, laboratory, and research and development services. It caters to aquaculture farming, fishing, agricultural, and mining industries. Fibras Industriales is based in Lima, Peru with additional offices in Chimbote, Peru and Puerto Montt, Chile.

Bridging the gap in the finishing nets production line

FISA's finishing nets production line is part of the process for finishing the nets. It includes a heat setting procedure that involves running the nets through a continuous heat setting machine. This machine must run smoothly and continuously at a constant speed and temperature for a given product. Although this procedure is not a bottle neck in FISA, it has a high energy consumption. When the machine was stopped for tying the next net, it was still consuming energy and maintaining the adequate heat which made the process more expensive. As Elihai Radzinsk, Director FISA Peru explained, “We wanted a more trustworthy and real-time method to follow up on production in the plant. We have hundreds of machines and it's important to identify the bottle necks that are not so easily visible by the naked eye. We knew they existed but it's difficult to know what happens in every location 24 hours of the day 7 days a week. We wanted to go beyond the obvious.”

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



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How Visual Factories helped

Visual Factories provided FISA with its cloud-based solution to help identify weak links in its production process. The initial phase consisted of testing 12 machines which was completed within a few days independently by the FISA team with support from Visual Factories.

After running for just a few hours, the solution alerted that the machine was stopping for a few minutes every given hour. The production was meant to be continuous, since each net is tied to the next net. The solution detected that workers were not instructed properly about the importance of having each net tied to the previous one, which resulted in the machine being stopped each time a net was produced. This accounted for the production cost being 10% higher than it should be.

After completing the initial phase successfully, the solution was integrated into dozens of additional machines in less than a month, including FISA's 50 weaving machines, its knotless raschel machines and its twisted knotless netting machines. Being an easy to install solution, the installation was done by FISA's in house maintenance team and electricians, with support from FISA's IT team.

Conclusion

By introducing the VF solution, FISA was able to bridge the gap in its finishing nets production line resulting in improved efficiency and cost reduction.

The benefits of the VF solution were already noticed within a few days. Once the full solution was installed, FISA was able to quickly identify the gap in its production process. As Elihai Radzinsk of FISA concluded: "Thanks to Visual Factories, we were able to identify that workers were unaware of the importance of having the following net tied to the previous net. By informing them, we were able to increase our uptime by 12% an hour."

FISA plans to install the VF solution in its finishing line machines including FISA's dyeing machines, drying machines, and depth stretching machines. Furthermore, FISA will also use VF to analyze and compare production efficiency between similar machines and actual operators in all its production lines.

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.