UNIVERSITY OF UTAH MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP (UUMEP) CENTER

The University of Utah Manufacturing Extension Partnership (UUMEP) Center is the statewide manufacturing assistance center funded by NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership. The UUMEP Center’s mission is to deliver customized services to improve all aspects of manufacturing—from the production floor to the front office. Key areas of focus are in food manufacturing, operational excellence, workforce training, advanced manufacturing, growth & innovation, and investment access. The UUMEP Center staff visits clients on-site to discuss their needs, develops a customized solution or project, delivers and manages the custom project, and continuously ensures the project meets the client’s desired outcomes. The UUMEP Center is committed to improving and supporting manufacturers success by becoming and remaining Utah’s #1 trusted industry resource.
LV SWISS STANDARDIZES THEIR COMMITMENT TO PRECISION

ABOUT LV SWISS. LV Swiss, located in rural LaVerkin, Utah, is a Certified As9100D, ISO 9001:2015, and ITAR registered high-quality precision CNC machining, milling, and turning manufacturer for simple to very complex high tolerances. They can produce down to a tolerance as small as +/- 0.0002 inches. You can find their products in small assemblies, electrical components, or anywhere precision manufacturing is used.

THE CHALLENGE. LV Swiss sells to automotive and aerospace companies that expect a Gauge Repeatability and Reproducibility (Gauge R&R) to be completed regularly. Repeatability and Reproducibility are two important factors that show how capable you are at measuring specifications; Gauge R&R is a statistical tool that measures the amount of variation in the measurement system arising from the measurement device and the people taking the measurement. LV Swiss wanted to standardize their measurement evaluation process to ensure they were maintaining best practices and meeting customer expectations. Without a standardized measurement process, a company cannot rely on the data they are collecting. If you cannot repeat or reproduce measurements your data will never be reliable.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. The University of Utah Manufacturing Extension Partnership (UUMEP) Center conducted a two-day, hands-on training course around measurement system evaluations, also known as gauge repeatability and reproducibility. UUMEP worked with LV Swiss to customize the course curriculum, identify practical examples, and develop a future state for their data collection. Their quality team now follows a standardized process for assessing their measurement systems. The training was particularly beneficial to LV Swiss because it allowed them to continue their daily operations and rely on outside expertise to broaden their organizations knowledge. They were also able to leverage and implement the industry best practices shared by the MEP.

RESULTS

- $230,000 annual cost savings due to improved productivity
- Gauge R&R Process training paves way for new standard work processes.

The MEP National Network™ is a unique public-private partnership that delivers comprehensive, proven solutions to U.S. manufacturers, fueling growth and advancing U.S. manufacturing.