GENEDGE

GENEDGE is the Commonwealth of Virginia's management and technology consulting enterprise. Our mission is to be Virginia’s best public resource to help manufacturing and industry innovate, compete, and grow. We deliver consulting based expertise and technology transfer to nearly 200 companies each year.

Our team helps clients strategically expand, diversify, improve top & bottom line results, create jobs, and sustain employment. GENEDGE is part of the MEP National Network™, which provides access to industry-wide services and proven, results-based solutions. GENEDGE affiliates include the Manufacturing Technology Center (MTC) in Wytheville, VA and a premier network of over 50 partners and service providers. For more information please visit www.genedge.org.

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.
PACKAGING AND CONTAINER MANUFACTURER IMPROVES EFFICIENCY THROUGH PRESS MOLD CHANGEOVER TIME REDUCTION

ABOUT RADVA CORPORATION. RADVA Corporation is an industry leader in the design and manufacture of protective and temperature-sensitive packaging and shapes. Applications include electronic equipment, furniture, mail-order fresh food, and heat-sensitive medical and pharmaceutical shipments. RADVA has maintained operations in Radford, Virginia, for over 57 years, and currently employs 67 people.

THE CHALLENGE. Based on a press area site visit, GENEDGE proposed documenting the current press mold changeover process and incorporating new steps to reduce the changeover time. Having an effective mold changeover would help RADVA in achieving their overall objectives of cost reduction, order fulfillment, competitiveness, and profitability.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. GENEDGE partnered with Virginia Tech (VT) to provide access to student resources for specific project work that would provide value to clients and real world experiences to students including career opportunities. Project Manager James Smith led the VT Industrial and Systems Engineering Senior Design Team in helping RADVA to reduce changeover times on their molding presses, which were responsible for a majority of their operation. This was accomplished through organizational improvements, process changes, and new equipment.

“In August 2017, RADVA set a new monthly production record of 86 mold changes. This would not have been achievable if we had not revamped our entire mold change process with GENEDGE’s assistance along with the assigned Virginia Tech ISE Senior Design Team.”

-Jeremiah Spence, Safety/Operations Manager

RESULTS

- Significant reduction in the amount of time it took to change out a mold
- $135,000 in cost savings
- Overall dollar impact of $450,000
- 5 new or retained jobs