

## BUSINESS SYSTEM ASSESSMENT LEADS TO IMPROVEMENT AND INNOVATION

**ABOUT POD PACK INTERNATIONAL.** Pod Pack International is a co-packer and manufacturer for single serve coffee and tea products that was established in 1996 by industry veterans Bill Powell and Tom Martin. Bill and Tom noticed the growing demand in Europe for single-serve espresso pods in the food service industry and recognized the potential need in the United States market.

From a 400 square feet building located in New Orleans, LA, Pod Pack International now operates in 45,000 square feet in Baton Rouge, LA. Pod Pack remains a family owned business and maintains a family culture to provide the best possible service to their customers. Their products include espresso pods, Cups, Cold Brew One™, quick serve restaurant pods, OCS coffee and tea pods, hotel in-room pods, and super pods. Pod Pack grinds and packages every cup and focuses on providing superior customer service and outstanding quality.

**THE CHALLENGE.** The Business Development Director at the Manufacturing Extension Partnership of Louisiana (MEPOL), part of the MEP National Network™, reached out to Pod Pack's plant manager to discuss MEPOL's resources. Pod Pack showed interest in a Competitiveness Review Assessment, a new MEPOL service.

**MEP CENTER'S ROLE.** MEPOL's Business Development Director Scott Uffman and Director Mike Wolff conducted the Competitiveness Review Assessment at the Pod Pack facility. The Competitiveness Review Assessment is a comprehensive on-site operation evaluation that appraises the capabilities and gauges the effectiveness of the company's business systems. It brings in a set of qualified, outside eyes to take a high-level look at the operation and assists in bringing focus, setting strategic direction, and identifying opportunities for improvement and innovation.

As a result of MEPOL's Competitiveness Review Assessment, Pod Pack International has been able to obtain a cost savings of \$10,000 and a new investment of \$10,000. More impact will be forthcoming as the company sees the results of the assessment play out within their company.

**"The Competitiveness Review 4.0 Assessment allowed us to see how we stacked up against industry standards. The list of recommendations from the assessment are items that are needed at Pod Pack. Pod Pack now has a resource to assist in implementation of those items. Without having a resource to tackle these items, they may never happen."**

-Mark Modenbach, Plant Manager

## RESULTS



\$10,000 in cost savings



\$10,000 in new investments

## CONTACT US



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