

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, part of the MEP National Network™, 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

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