

## VAPOR APPAREL INCREASED JOBS AND CREATED NEW INVESTMENTS WITH HELP FROM SCMEP'S PLANT LAYOUT SERVICES

**ABOUT VAPOR APPAREL.** Headquartered in Hanahan, South Carolina, Vapor Apparel is an industry leader in blank performance apparel for digital sublimation printing and print on-demand services. The company also operates a 50,000-sq-ft digital apparel manufacturing and warehousing facility in the historic textile town of Union, South Carolina. Vapor Apparel offers a vertical suite of apparel and decorating services that appeal to wholesalers, consumer brands, and premium events. The company also owns and operates a group of retail performance apparel brands focused on outdoor retailers, online marketplaces, coastal and resort markets, all of which benefit from the firm's rapid retail replenishment services.

**THE CHALLENGE.** Vapor Apparel was moving to a new facility at the end of 2018 and looking for assistance in designing the plant layout for their new location. The company desired a lean plant layout that would organize and streamline operations as much as possible to help eliminate wasted space, motion, and cost.

**MEP CENTER'S ROLE.** SCMEP, a NIST MEP affiliate and MEP National Network member, provided a subject matter expert in lean methodology to assess the current process flow and assist with the creation of a new layout. This produced a more effective production flow and increased focus on value-added activities which also saved time and money for the company, including \$3,000 in avoided unnecessary investment. The new layout also created a smoother transition into the new facility.

**"SCMEP is very professional with excellent follow-through. They care about benefiting the company and task at hand. I would definitely recommend them to other companies for their expertise and services."**

-Brandon Barber, Vice President

## RESULTS



\$42,000 in new investment



\$11,000 in new or retained sales



13 jobs created



\$6,000 in total cost savings

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