

FACILITY LAYOUT AND FLOW IMPROVEMENT

ABOUT C & D ASSEMBLY, INC. C&D Assembly, Inc. was founded in 1992, and is a privately-owned company employing 30 people in Groton, New York. Through their dedicated workforce embracing a "Do Whatever It Takes" attitude, the loyalty of their customers, and support from their vendors, they have steadily grown into a full-service contract manufacturer equipped to perform automated surface-mount technology (SMT) and through-hole assembly and offer a variety of board testing services.

THE CHALLENGE. C&D Assembly, Inc. specializes in rapid-prototype and low to mid volume, high-mix contract manufacturing. The current layout constrained the process flow in the final steps in the production process leading to increased inventory (WIP) and excess handling (motion and movement). To remain competitive and accommodate increased volume, C&D requested AM&T's assistance with identification and implementation of facility layout changes to optimize the use of the current facility space and increase product flow through production.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. AM&T, part of the New York MEP and the MEP National Network™, created and executed a customized approach by conducting project planning and preparation activities. This included creating a project charter and collecting and reviewing process information (including the existing facility layout and current process performance information and data). AM&T provided training for the project team on Lean principles and tools focused on flow, best batch sizing, WIP caps and waste reduction. AM&T also conducted a multi-day flow improvement event focused on selective solder through pack and ship to identify facility changes, and equipment moves needed. An implementation plan was created as a result. AM&T also performed monitoring of the implementation plan, coaching, and consulting support. As part of this, support was provided during implementation activities. The Center also participated in monitoring implementation activities to ensure an on-time completion of identified changes.

"We have worked with AM&T for many years, on many projects. Great people great service! Would not be where I am without this team!"

-Jeff Cronk, President and Owner

RESULTS



20% increase in throughput



Identified & implemented layout changes to facilitate flow & integrate new equipment



Decreased WIP to minimum required levels



80% decrease in excess motion and movement

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