

OPTIMIZING SUCCESS

ABOUT THRUPORE TECHNOLOGIES LLC. ThruPore Technologies, Inc., is an innovative materials company that developed a unique carbon manufacturing platform. ThruPore was spun out of The University of Alabama in 2012. In 2014, ThruPore re-located its' headquarters to New Castle, DE and has been awarded over \$1.7 MM from the National Science Foundation to develop various technologies. ThruPore has developed over 50 customized catalysts for various chemical processes over the last three years.

THE CHALLENGE. ThruPore was experiencing significant variation in the manufacturing process making it challenging to produce within specification. For help, they turned to DE MEP, part of the MEP National Network™.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. ThruPore attended a Lean Six Sigma Green belt training program which included a hands-on project on a real-life challenge at ThruPore. Lean Six Sigma is a structured problem-solving methodology to identify and optimize variables within a process. "We were able to find some inconsistencies in the process and tighten up our specification," said Dr. Sayler, president and CEO of ThruPore.

"DEMEEP can find other companies with similar training needs and put together classes focused on a specific topic. They give you connections you just can't get in other states."

-Dr. Franchesca Sayler, President & CEO

RESULTS



Pivoted product projections are expected to exceed the original product by **200%** in 2023.



Increased process Cpk to **2.0** from a process that was considered incapable.



Process improvement allowed for a product pivot that has saved the company during **2020**

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