

MASTERING EFFICIENCY: HOW CARTAMUNDI TURNED PROCESS CHALLENGES INTO SIGNIFICANT SAVINGS

ABOUT CARTAMUNDI EAST LONGMEADOW LLC. Cartamundi, located in East Longmeadow, Massachusetts, is a global leader in the Card and Board game manufacturing sector. With a focus on innovation, quality, and sustainability, Cartamundi continuously refines its processes to deliver top-notch products to its global customer base. The company remains committed to improving operational efficiency and minimizing waste, while respecting the confidentiality of its partners' brands.

THE CHALLENGE. Cartamundi faced challenges with inefficiencies on one of its high-volume production lines. Recognizing the need for enhanced process control and employee development, the leadership team engaged MassMEP, part of the MEP National Network™, to explore strategies for process improvement and waste reduction. Cartamundi's Director of Operations Peter Letendre championed the initiative, emphasizing the importance of equipping staff with advanced skills to tackle production inefficiencies head-on. The company identified Lean Six Sigma as the ideal methodology to achieve these goals.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. MassMEP facilitated Cartamundi's participation in a Green Belt Certification Training Program, supported through grant funding. Three team members from Cartamundi enrolled in the 80-hour training course led by a MassMEP certified Master Black Belt. During the program, the participants applied Lean Six Sigma principles to analyze and optimize their manufacturing processes. Using tools such as cause-and-effect analysis, statistical process control, and waste reduction strategies, the team targeted key inefficiencies in their production line, achieving measurable improvements.

"The training not only equipped us with actionable skills but also gave us the confidence to challenge the status quo and drive impactful changes," said one program participant.

"Cartamundi's close working relationship with MassMEP has significantly enhanced our competitiveness as a Massachusetts manufacturer. The unique approach of MassMEP's training programs equips our employees with essential skills needed in today's manufacturing landscape. These programs have empowered our team to identify cost-saving opportunities, improve product quality, and implement impactful changes that drive workforce engagement and innovation."

-Peter Letendre, Director of Operations

RESULTS



\$330,000 per year from optimizing production workflows



\$230,000 in cost savings realized in 2024 through precise adjustments in the manufacturing process



200,000 lb. annual reduction in scrap materials



Enhanced accuracy in production metrics, ensuring optimal material utilization and cost control

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