

PURDUE MEP HELPS REFINE PROCESSES AND ELIMINATE WASTE, LEADING TO IMPROVED EFFICIENCY AND CAPACITY

ABOUT ARCAMED, LLC. Arcamed, based in Indianapolis, IN, has established itself over the past decade as a leader in medical manufacturing, specializing in sterilization cases and trays. Launched in 2012 as a start-up, it has since grown into a cutting-edge organization at the forefront of innovation, technology, customer service, and operational excellence. The company's dedication to innovation, efficiency, and precision ensures it remains a trusted partner and industry leader, delivering exceptional quality and value to the medical manufacturing sector.

THE CHALLENGE. Faced with challenges to increase operational efficiency and address a workforce skills gap, Arcamed identified the need for formal training in Lean manufacturing and Six Sigma methodologies to equip its team with the tools and knowledge to drive process improvement and sustain operational excellence. With a plant expansion on the horizon, they needed to integrate advanced manufacturing practices to ensure efficiency in the facility layout as they expanded their capabilities.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. Purdue MEP provided targeted training in Lean manufacturing and Six Sigma principles. Through these courses, the Arcamed team gained a deeper understanding of waste-reduction strategies, value stream mapping, process standardization, and data-driven problem-solving. This training built the skills needed to identify inefficiencies, eliminate waste, and implement sustainable improvements across Aracemd's operations. By equipping the workforce with these methodologies, Purdue MEP played a critical role in advancing Aracemd's culture of continuous improvement. The team has successfully applied Lean and Six Sigma tools to streamline processes, improve quality, and reduce variation. Value stream mapping (VSM) helped identify and eliminate non-value-added activities, while Six Sigma training equipped the team to reduce defects and interpret process variation data.

"The training provided by Purdue MEP has been instrumental in helping Arcamed bridge critical workforce skills gaps and drive operational excellence. Their lean manufacturing and Six Sigma classes empowered our team with the tools and methodologies needed to identify inefficiencies, eliminate waste, and sustain improvements across our processes. The impact of their support is evident in the measurable gains we've achieved in productivity, quality, and efficiency. Purdue MEP has been an invaluable partner in advancing our culture of continuous improvement and innovation."

-Aaron Kane, Continuous Improvement Manager

RESULTS



Lead times decreased by **33%**
- Reduced from 12 weeks to 8 weeks



Return rates reduced from **7%** to 2%



Improved capacity by **30%** using waste reduction strategies



Reduced pricing by **25%** on some product lines due to lights out manufacturing capabilities



Reduced the skills gap and raised wages by \$4/hour by adding technology and training

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