



# NIXOR

## SOLUTIONS

### BRINGING LEAN TO LIFE

World-class organisations are using Lean principles and Industry 4.0 data techniques to identify and eliminate waste in their business processes. They are achieving faster cycle times and improved quality at lower cost.

Nixor provide an innovative and user friendly approach to transforming business processes. We take out cost, improve productivity and reduce cycle times, providing predictable process completion and project delivery.

Our unique data driven process improvement engages your teams, with 'line of sight' visualisation informing decisions. We embed Lean principles, changing actions and habits to develop a sustainable improvement capability.

### Fast Pass®

**To improve, we must first measure.** Users record the start and finish of each task using our unique Fast Pass® App. As one task finishes the 'ball is passed' to the next user, providing automated low level task scheduling, removing waiting time and improving resource utilisation.

Should a problem occur the user stops the task and records the reason, giving immediate 'loss logging' of down time, stoppages or plant failures.



### Instant Insights®

Instant Insights® provides real-time visualisation of task and process status, with resource requirements and utilisation. Using Industry 4.0 techniques, the data collected is analysed statistically and used to predict task and process completion.

Evidence based prediction of future performance provides improved project planning, better risk mitigation, removes surprises and allows early intervention to prevent problems and delays.

**By focusing on reducing the mean times for tasks and processes, we promote a culture of continuous improvement with the emphasis on root cause analysis, effective corrective action and sustainable solutions.**

### CASE STUDY

#### SITUATION

Sellafield has led the development of the UK's nuclear industry, from the production of plutonium for the country's nuclear deterrent programme through to the development of nuclear power generation. As reprocessing operations end, Sellafield are committed to accelerate the high hazard mission by 25% and make savings of £1.4bn by 2020, with further savings beyond.

The Sellafield Transformation team invited Nixor Solutions to run a pilot within Flask Inlets on the Magnox East River Fuel Handling Plant to identify lost time and improvement opportunities when processing flasks.



## TEAM ENGAGEMENT

The plant operates 24 x 7 and we led a project definition and communication process to ensure everyone understood the project Why, How and What. Training sessions with each of the 5 shifts ensured a clear and consistent understanding of Lean combined with practical familiarisation with the Fast Pass® App and demonstration of Instant Insights® to show how the data collected is used to identify waste and improve processes.



Understanding the process and tasks is fundamental to improvement, so we led the plant team in mapping their processes and identifying the stoppage and loss codes for each task. We then ran table top simulations using the Fast Pass® App to refine and verify the process with the users themselves.

## SECURITY

With the stringent security requirements at Sellafield we were not permitted access to their internal computer networks for data capture. We installed a stand alone Wi-Fi network on plant, connecting robust mobile handsets running the Fast Pass® App to our Microsoft Azure cloud over 4G or dedicated broadband lines. Access to Instant Insights® and reports was provided to authorised users via the internal network.

## OPERATION

Following team training and simulation, the pilot commenced running in 'data capture' mode when we provided hands on support to supervisors and users to ensure the effective operation of the system. After several weeks of data capture to establish an accurate baseline, we switched to 'predictive running' to show predicted task and process completion.



## OUTCOME

Flask Inlets is a harsh environment with work carried out behind concrete barriers where progress is difficult to monitor. Instant Insights® provided local and remote real-time visualisation of the process and accurate loss logging of problems and downtime. Our analytics and reports clearly identified significant lost time and variations in process performance with the opportunity for a 4 fold reduction in flask cycle times. Following a presentation to the CEO, Sellafield have adopted the approach and are rolling it out across 12 areas of the business.

## WHAT WE DO FOR YOU

- Take out costs and improve productivity •
- Complete processes faster with more predictable delivery •
  - Engage teams to change their actions and habits •
- Provide you with a sustainable improvement capability •

**Right People** | **Right Place** | **Right Time**

## CONTACT US

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