

A LEADING GLOBAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY IMPLEMENTS PAS-X KPI TO SUPPORT LEAN SIX SIGMA INITIATIVE

Deployment of Werum's PAS-X KPI across packaging and bulk areas enables visibility of production processes and major OEE improvements



To drive growth, pharmaceutical and biotech companies often implement Lean Six Sigma initiatives (LSS) in order to improve their manufacturing processes and reduce waste. An important part of LSS in manufacturing is tracking and improving Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE) through digital solutions.

A leading global pharmaceutical company has introduced LSS for their worldwide network. As part of the Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) pillars, the operations team focused on capturing and driving OEE improvements throughout the plant. Consequently, the company decided to use Werum's PAS-X KPI solution.

"We opted for Werum's KPI solution because it provides seamless connectivity to PAS-X MES. All the batch data is acquired from PAS-X automatically, resulting in accurate KPI measurements with minimal input from operators."

Senior Manager Operations Excellence of the customer

PAS-X KPI also enables the customer to leverage the existing hardware and PAS-X Manufacturing Execution System (MES) to create an autonomous OEE tracking system.

AT A GLANCE

Challenges

- Digitize paper-based OEE measurement and cumbersome Excel reporting
- Improve accuracy of collected data
- Automate report generation and shift handovers

Solution

- Use Werum's web-based PAS-X KPI solution in combination with sensor toolkit
- Establish a standardized KPI formula and time account model to measure OEE across the plant
- Use global reporting for shift handover and Lean Six Sigma process

Benefits

- Improvement of production efficiency and reduction of waste in manufacturing
- Substantially faster collection of reliable shop floor information
- Standardization of reports and OEE measurements
- Visibility of production data to all stakeholders – from shop floor to top floor

KEY WORDS

Digitization, Efficiency, Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), Key Performance Indicator (KPI), Lean Six Sigma, Manufacturing Execution System (MES), Monitoring, Operational Excellence, Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE), Packaging, PAS-X KPI, Production, Reporting, Shop Floor, Standardization, Visibility



Start of implementation

Initially, the project started with a few pilot packaging lines only. The scope was soon expanded to include the complete packaging area as well as large parts of the bulk production area. This involved connecting more than 40 production lines and equipment. Werum worked with partners to offer a solution allowing legacy equipment to be interfaced to PAS-X KPI. In addition, the KPI solution was linked to the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) to provide status information and labor time information for the cost accounting ERP function.

Together with the customer, standardized reports were defined in order to facilitate daily direction settings and shift handovers. These reports contain valuable production data as a basis for deriving operational improvements.

Out-of-the-box solution for the entire enterprise

PAS-X KPI is the natural choice for the customer as it aligns with the enterprise goal of having a standardized software that is in line with their global MES approach and can connect with both new and legacy equipment. The standard but flexible adapter to the PAS-X MES enables accurate KPI capturing for various processes. The ERP interface easily replaces the outdated system of manually reporting machine times and provides timely and accurate information back to the ERP.

“This is the first time that we throw light on the operation processes which, until now, was a black box to us.”

Senior Manager Operations Excellence of the customer

PAS-X KPI does not require any customizations to fit operational excellence initiatives for improving OEE. The flexible reporting allows accurate analysis dashboards to be generated for each step on the journey to operational excellence. Additional visibility is achieved through regular reports that are sent to various stakeholders by e-mail.

Further rollout to multiple sites

Based on the success of PAS-X KPI in improving operational efficiency and bringing visibility to manufacturing processes, the pharma company is rolling out the solution to multiple sites. Their aim is to establish a standardized approach for operational improvement and KPI measurement. PAS-X KPI has been implemented at six sites throughout Europe and Asia with further sites planned in the coming years. In parallel, the scope of PAS-X KPI has been expanded to include additional equipment, covering areas such as granulation, blending and coating.

Future-proof investment

Due to its easy upgrade capability, Werum's PAS-X KPI allows the customer to always operate the latest software version, thus benefiting from new features and performance improvements. The upgrade process has become very intuitive: the upgrade and the migration of data are handled automatically with very little downtime – typically less than 20 minutes. Thus, the company was able to perform the upgrades themselves at numerous sites, proving the simplicity of the process.



ABOUT PAS-X KPI

Werum's PAS-X KPI is a lean, standalone software product for live monitoring of production and packaging lines to improve the shop floor performance of pharma and biotech facilities. PAS-X KPI generates real-time Key Performance Indicators (KPI) to optimize processes or equipment. It is the only KPI/OEE tool dedicated solely to the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industries.

Werum's solution is capable of seamlessly integrating data from both ERP and machine level. By enabling comparisons and evaluations of operational data at production lines in different facilities, PAS-X KPI provides an enterprise-wide, single source point of data.

PAS-X KPI is browser-based and supports multiple delivery methods, including site installation and enterprise cloud. It allows for easy scale-up of MES functionality, e.g. Electronic Batch Recording (EBR).

ABOUT WERUM IT SOLUTIONS

Werum IT Solutions is the world's leading supplier of manufacturing execution systems (MES) and manufacturing IT solutions for the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industries. Its PAS-X software product is run by the majority of the world's top 30 pharmaceutical and biotech companies as well as by many mid-sized manufacturers.

Werum is part of Medipak Systems, the Pharma Systems business area of the international technology group Körber.

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