

Machine move – Adoption of effective techniques to minimise loss of production

- Change in manufacturing flow, resulting in a need to reposition a wide variety of machines.
- Machines such as CNC mills, CNC lathes and Shot blasters were decommissioned, repositioned, installed and re-commissioned.
- Strong safety culture was in evidence.
- Bespoke programme designed to minimise loss of production and disruption.

“Xm Engineering successfully completed the move with minimal disruption to production, on time and to cost.”

Problem

Today's demanding market is severely pressurising the manufacturing industry. Changing a product or production line through machine moves or repositioning to optimise product flow causes major concerns over lost production time and so many organisations shy away from such projects.

However, facing this problem, Wood Group Heavy Industrial Turbines decided to change their product flow in one of their manufacturing sites. This forced them to undergo a major machinery move and relocation on their site. Machines to be resited included CNC mill, CNC lathes and shot blasters, with barriers and office partitioning also to be relocated.

Issues regarding the time needed for this change, loss of production, cost of disruption and safety were the major challenges to be overcome by Xm.

Solution

Wood Group Heavy Industrial Turbines contracted Xm Engineering to carry out the re-layout of their manufacturing plant and equipment. A team of four Xm engineers (3 Mechanical, 1 Electrical) planned and carried out the project over a four week period.

Bespoke programmes were devised for each machinery move in order to minimise the loss of production and the cost of disruption. Adoption of these programmes resulted in nominal stoppages in the production process whilst the project was carried out.

“Xm had a very strong safety culture”

Exceptional safety standards were used throughout the delivery of the project. This demonstrates that, by good planning, the challenges before any manufacturer considering a layout change can be solved effectively.

Benefits

- Adoption of bespoke solution resulting in continuous production, minimising the loss of production
- Strong safety culture
- On time completion, giving cost effectiveness to the project

“I would happily use the services of Xm Engineering in the future and am in discussion about future machine move projects”

