



Excelling at Database Analysis

IET converted Mueller Plastics Microsoft Excel templates to a relational database for an improved analysis model.

The Customer

Mueller Plastics is the plastics division of Mueller Industries and is a leading manufacturer of plastic drain waste and vent fittings, pressure fittings and valves used in the housing industry.

The Challenge

The customer was building a unique piece of equipment to improve their injection molding process. The capabilities of this new platform were based on an Excel analysis model that they had developed in-house. They needed the flexibility for more in-depth analysis with the additional ability to identify the appropriate products for this new platform.

The Solutions

IET developed a software model to simplify the variable data entry effort, replace generic data with variables for actual data when it became available, provide analysis capability for all candidate parts for a variable number of stations, allow the user to add or eliminate candidate parts, and to provide consistent and pre-defined reports.

This model improves the efficiency and integrity of the data entry and reporting effort and allows a variety of scenarios to be evaluated in order to identify the optimal number of stations required. The requirements are based on the number of cavities per mold, cooling times per inch of wall thickness for a range of part diameters and individual part parameters.

The reporting functions allow the user to identify the appropriate number of stations required for a given scenario, the capital available for the multi-station platform based on the current traditional platform, and to evaluate the cost impact for a variable number of stations based on sensitivity input changes to part removal time, mold transfer time and part cooling time.

iet

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Any way you need us to.

Productivity

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Direct and indirect labor

Salaried personnel

Facilities

Support

New manufacturing

Detailed process map

Layout

Facilities

Labor

Support

Indirect labor design

Standards

Material handling

Supervision

Maintenance

Plan for improvement

Total value analysis

Make vs. buy

Site selection

Consolidation

Vertical integration

Horizontal integration