



Indirect Labor Costs Reduced By Eliminating Forklift Drivers.

IET helped a client remain competitive in the high volume / low profit margin consumer packaging market.

The Customer

B-Way is a manufacturer of metal cans of various sizes for a variety of paint, varnish and stain manufacturers.

The Challenge

Currently there were 37 forklift drivers across three shifts. The goal was to reduce the number of forklift drivers in the manufacturing plant to increase worker safety, reduce forklift equipment costs and reduce indirect labor costs.

The Solutions

IET engineers used work sampling to measure the different activities performed by the forklift drivers on all shifts in all production, warehouse and dock areas. By making changes to:

- Work assignments and better balancing
- Travel routes
- Empty fork travel
- Double handling loads
- Driver communication
- Storage area locations

The number of forklift drivers was able to be reduced to 27 across all three shifts. That equals a savings of 10 drivers. Three leased forklifts were able to be removed from the fleet and safety was improved for production operators.

iet

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How can IET help you?

Any way you need us to.

Productivity

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Current production performance

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Detailed plan for improvement

Goal-setting, accountability

Capacity planning

Key capital resources

Direct and indirect labor

Salaried personnel

Facilities

Support

New manufacturing

Detailed process map

Layout

Facilities

Labor

Plan for improvement

Indirect labor design

Standards

Material handling

Supervision

Maintenance

Horizontal integration

Total value analysis

Make vs. buy

Site selection

Consolidation

Vertical integration