

Case Study: Fuel Cell Manufacturer Sunnyvale, California

Opportunity

- This hi-tech green energy start-up company invented a revolutionary hydrogen fuel-cell technology that provides green power to buildings and residences at low cost. The company was founded by ex-NASA scientists who converted technology that was developed to assist the Mars program. Having spent their first five years developing the product and market, our client was prepared for the production and distribution phases. The management asked The Productivity Team to assist them in setting up their production processes from the ground up

Scope

- Production plant design, layout and implementation.
- Material handling strategies and part traceability.
- Development of standardized work and work instructions.
- Assist in the development of automation equipment.
- Set up lean manufacturing environment with Continuous Improvement as a key objective.

Successes

- Created an effective production plant design to handle projected capacity and coordinated with contractors to implement the plan.
- Developed standard work that increased pre-production levels of 3.5 systems per week to desired capacity of 9 per day.
- Assisted in the development of a production system which included continuous improvement, training programs, 5S and Metric reporting.

