

\$91 million in new and retained sales
\$37.8 million in new investments
2,154 jobs created or retained

Indiana Manufacturing Extension Partnership (Indiana MEP), provides high value, affordable solutions to help businesses increase profitability. As advocates for Indiana's thousands of manufacturers, Indiana MEP staff leverage resources in both the public and private sectors to help identify areas of improvement, streamline processes, and ultimately increase competitiveness.

Providing high value, affordable solutions for manufacturing challenges, Indiana MEP offers the following services through on-site training/analysis projects and workshops:

- Leadership Development
- Lean Manufacturing
- Lean Office
- Quality Improvement
- Six Sigma Certification
- Top Line Business Growth
- Training Within Industry (TWI)
- Energy Efficiency & Sustainability
- Green Enterprise Development

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* Impacts are based on clients receiving service in Federal FY2010

CLIENT SUCCESS: NISHIKAWA STANDARD CO.

“Purdue TAP’s Training Within Industry (TWI) program has given NISCO a solid foundation on which our associates may be developed into thinking members of the team in the fastest possible way. Through the Purdue-NISCO partnership, we connected with other Indiana businesses on similar TWI journeys. This is providing NISCO with a competitive advantage in our industry.”

Bob Kuenning, Vice President of Manufacturing
Nishikawa Standard Co.

Nishikawa Standard Company Benefits from Purdue TAP Training Within Industry Program

Nishikawa Standard Co. (NISCO), a joint venture between Cooper Standard Automotive in the U.S. and Nishikawa Rubber Co. in Japan, supplies dynamic sealing systems for foreign and domestic automotive customers. Based in Novi, Michigan, NISCO has facilities in Topeka and Bremen, Indiana. The company employs 294 people at the Bremen facility.

Situation:

Facing tough economic conditions, NISCO’s leadership realized a formal training program was key to maintaining quality, safety standards and reducing turnover. Their goal was to create a “standard work” training program for its team leaders to help new workers be more productive sooner, thus eliminating waste and quality issues. NISCO contacted the Indiana MEP Purdue Technical Assistance Program (Purdue TAP), a NIST MEP network affiliate, for help.

Solution:

Purdue TAP conducted the Training Within Industry (TWI) program at NISCO. TWI is a dynamic program which uses a learn-by-doing approach, teaching essential skills for supervisors and team leaders regardless of their industry or business. TWI’s core programs are Job Instruction (JI), Job Relations (JR), and Job Methods (JM). Each of these modules follows a proven four-step process: preparation, presentation, application, and testing. NISCO utilized two of the TWI programs, Job Instruction (JI) and Job Relations (JR), to enhance their new-hire orientation process.

Through the Purdue TAP TWI program, NISCO was able to develop a more hands-on, new-hire orientation process utilizing the principles of TWI. NISCO’s utilization of TWI has been of benefit to one of its client’s supply chain development efforts. The Supplier Development Team at Honda adopted and refined TWI’s Job Instruction for use by its other suppliers. NISCO, along with the TWI Institute, were instrumental in developing this tool for Honda. In addition, NISCO has served as a benchmark for other Purdue TAP clients interested in adding TWI to their Lean tool boxes.

Results:

- * Reduced training time by 67 percent.
- * Improved turnover rate by 52 percent.
- * Created 178 jobs.

Created 178 new jobs