

AIRBUS Illescas: Lean manufacturing on SCAVA processes (high-value short runs)



AIRBUS factory in Illescas (Toledo) is designed as an Excellence Centre in carbon fiber material, focusing on the technologies and products development for HTP (Horizontal Tail Plain) of all Airbus programmes.

In the last years, as well as the quality, the delay reduction and the production costs decreasing have become extremely important. The plant managers were in a complicated situation: from one side, the important growth observed in the last years, and from the other the complex handling of big pieces, implied the main difficulties for improving the productiveness (crossed flows, complex handlings and space saturation).

In this horizon, AIRBUS Illescas' people in charge decided to contact Sisteplant in order to reduce movements and to simplify the pieces and tools (big sized) handling operations.

The project started by a deep analysis of the plant's value chains, using the Value Stream Mapping tool.

The process mapping has guided the team work focus, that went in depth into the process design and optimised flows, eliminating crossings and interferences that prolonged the lead time, what resulted in a pieces number reduction, and in a considerable space releasing.

The project has also considered the alternative handling means design (pneumatic roller system improvement, turning installations, tools that permit a vertical use, etc.)

As a result, AIRBUS Illescas has reduced its processes lead-time over than 50%, managing to save a considerable amount of money in the handling costs.

Sisteplant has spread its collaboration to other AIRBUS plants, using a specific Lean Manufacturing focus for high-value short runs (SCAVA).

