King Nut cracks the productivity challenge with Redzone

Redzone has been deployed at King Nut to ensure their continued growth is matched with improved efficiency and margins.

CUSTOMER BRIEF

KEY PROJECT GOALS

• Increase throughput to support growth

• 5% efficiency uplift

• Performance transparency to drive action

• Reduce Waste

• Improve communication throughout the plant

• Empower the shop floor with real-time information, skills and structure

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We are growing rapidly but we need to make sure that this is not at the expense of efficiency. Redzone's hybrid approach of technology and coached-in continuous improvement support makes us confident we will become significantly more efficient very quickly.

– Marty Kanan, CEO, King Nut

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Privately held and based in the Cleveland, Ohio area, King Nut produce nearly 500m bags annually to the world's leading airlines as well as to food service and retail organizations. Their products include fresh roasted nuts and peanuts plus gourmet snack mixes, pretzels and dried fruits Mixes. King Nut has their own brands under the King's, Peterson's and Summer Harvest labels, but they also private label and contract manufacture for many major brands.

Producing nuts is a competitive business with tight margins and set prices. Despite this, King Nut has grown rapidly and consistently – sometimes at the expense of efficiency. Having established a consistent growth trajectory King Nut are now keen to maintain this pace but with greater efficiency and improved margins.

Pinpointing where significant manufacturing improvements can be made amongst a myriad of products and concurrent processes has led King Nut to deploy the Redzone initiative – a combination of iPad technology and continuous improvement services. The program is designed to shine a light on where opportunities lie for improvement through real-time data deployed on iPads out to the shop floor. Armed with this intelligence including OEE, these teams will then be guided on how to engage, react and improve these challenges. They will learn new continuous improvement techniques and establish new working practices to ensure these step changes in productivity are sustained.

The Redzone technology is a mobile Continuous Improvement system that merges online kaizen management and manufacturing data intelligence with action and alert capabilities designed to improve performance. Deployed on iPads, Redzone is live in under a week and requires minimal or no infrastructure costs and production disruption.

The project will focus on:

• Addressing minor 'hidden' downtime stoppages, speed loss issues and improving changeovers

• Eliminating overtime and waste to maintain/expand margins

• Empowering the shop floor with information and skills for quick action

• Performance transparency across all lines that is based on facts