13 December 2013

The book the goal is an excellent example of lean manufacturing and the waste associated with lean manufacturing. A great example of non-utilized talent is on page 192. This is when Mike the third shift heat treat manager which as we know was a bottle neck for the plant, Came up with the new system for running and managing his department.

They way Mike eliminated this waste was he was fully loading the heat press by mixing in parts from different batches that ran for the same time at the same temperature. Also Mike had his workers load up another rack while waiting for the batch that was currently in the heat treat oven. Then to top it all off he and Alex the plants manager had the engineers design new pallets so the guys in heat treat could remove the pallet and place in the one they already had loaded versus loading one running through un-loading it and then reloading it.

I believe that this one act of taking not only pride but innovative by Mike showed he was a hard worker who had a good head on his shoulders as it's been said. This showed mikes not only willing to make the plant better but he wants and cares for his job so hell do anything he can to make the heat treat as successful as possible. As for his dependability if you continue to read from 192 on it will revile to you that that Mikes shifts were the most productive in the plant showing he was there every night to push his guys and makes sure they were doing their jobs. I consider this as an act of a true leader who has a great and positive attitude. He also showed his great attitude when the plant manager Alex asked him to teach his new system to the rest of the plant, which he did so cheerfully and the plant went on to bring in huge profits based on the elimination of this waste.