

Coopers Brewery release impressive Booklet to Celebrate and Outline 10 Years of Continuous Improvement

Coopers Brewery in collaboration with CTPM set out to create a booklet to celebrate the 10th year of their Continuous Improvement journey which commenced just after building their new Brewery in Regency Park Adelaide.

Since beginning their CTPM journey in 2003, Coopers Brewery has accomplished a number of significant achievements. They have increased their annual productivity from 33 million litres of beer to approximately 70 million litres over the last ten years, with plans to increase these numbers to 75 million by the end of this financial year.

As a result a 48 page colour booklet titled ***"10 Years of Continuous Improvement at Coopers"*** was released in November 2013 covering the activities of over 88 teams along with comments from many of the employees regarding their involvement.



This booklet is a great testament to the value of keeping their people engaged in on-going improvement as they have been able to rapidly introduce new equipment and new products

resulting in the on-going growth of the business while the rest of the main beer makers in Australia have faced a declining market.



The booklet starts with an executive summary from Dr Tim Cooper – Managing Director, followed by a Continuous Improvement overview from Nick Sterenberg – Operations Manager. It then goes on to detail how each facet of the business has been engaged either through TPM & Lean (TPM³) Improvement Activities supported by several 6 Sigma Activities and Maintenance Systems Activities, to improve operations at the plant.

*"The ability for **engagement to create ownership** amongst the employees through tasks as simple as clean and tidy work areas or as complicated as tackling high technical problems is a testament to the process,"* says Dr Tim Cooper, Managing Director.

Over the 10 years, Coopers have witnessed an increase in employee engagement and skill development whilst nurturing a culture of Excellence. As a result, operators now have a greater understanding and sense of ownership over their equipment and processes.

It is this employee engagement that enabled Coopers to take significant steps towards an improved workplace, based on the team's ability to identify problems and solve them to help increase productivity, decrease downtime and enhance changeovers.

“As we work harder, the quality of the problems get better,” says Nick Sterenberg, Operations Manager.

According to Dr Tim Cooper, it is these intangible results that provide the motivation for people to be empowered to put forward suggestions and make the necessary changes to achieve excellence. As a result, Coopers have been enjoying one of the longest periods of growth in their history. Despite the decline in beer sales nationally, Coopers’ sales volume has **risen 9.8% on average annually** for the past two decades.

Coopers’ expect even further sales growth with the introduction of the much-anticipated second Bottling Line opened on 6 December 2013. Valued at approximately \$16.5 million, the line delivers 1,200 bottles per minute and makes up more than 70% of production.



To learn more about how Coopers Improvement Teams have achieved success and how they have had a remarkable impact on the business, please feel free to download the booklet from CTPM’s website www.ctpm.org.au, or contact CTPM Head Office on +61 2 4226 6184 or ctpm@ctpm.org.au for a hard copy, and enjoy the read!